



Greatham
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Primary School

<https://greathamceprimary.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/greathamcofe>

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Thoughts from the Headteacher...

Dear parents and carers,

We have had a very busy half term since November and the children have taken part in so many fun events. We had a fantastic time at the pantomime, enjoyed singing Carols on the Green, our EY children loved meeting Santa and Class 3 sang beautifully at Stichell House. We all had a lovely time at the Christmas discos. Thank you to everyone who joined us in church for our Christingle service- it was lovely to see so many family and friends join us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and I hope you all have a very happy and holy Christmas. I look forward to another successful term beginning on Monday 8th January 2024.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a pupil, please speak immediately to a designated safeguarding lead.

Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Dunn

Deputy Safeguarding Leads:

Miss Finnigan, Mrs Richardson and Mrs Minton

Safeguarding Governor: Mrs C Brown

Greatham CE Primary School vision:

Life and learning at Greatham School is firmly rooted in the message:

Love each other, just as I have loved you (John 15:12)

Central to our school ethos is love and respect for God, each other and all of creation and we value the positive partnerships with the Church, families, governors and the wider community. We love each other because we believe that each person, from youngest to oldest, is unique and created in God's image and likeness (Genesis 1.26).

We aim to provide a loving and nurturing environment that enables pupils to fully develop their skills and talents. We encourage children to take risks, make mistakes and through perseverance, learn from these to achieve in a loving and supportive environment.

We support pupils to become independent, resilient and reflective learners through a creative, broad and balanced curriculum tailored to their needs. We are dedicated to making the school a loving and caring community where all children can interact, learn and pursue academic excellence together so that they may lead responsible and fulfilling lives.

We support all our school family to live out the message Love each other, just as I have loved you (John 15:12)

through our core Christian values of love, hope, peace, forgiveness, and trust, which are deeply rooted in all aspects of school life.

Key Dates

Monday 8th January 2024 – school re-opens
Tuesday 9th January 2024 – swimming resumes class 3
Thursday 25th January 2024 – school nurse drop-in
Friday 16th February 2024 – last day in school before half term
Monday 26th February 2024 – school re-opens
Thursday 7th March 2024 – World Book Day
Thursday 21st March 2024 – school nurse drop-in
Wednesday 27th March 2024 – Last day in school before Easter holidays
Monday 15th April 2024 – school re-opens
Thursday 25th April 2024 – school nurses drop-in
Monday 6th May 2024 – Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday 13th May 2024 – Year 6 KS2 SATS week
Wednesday 22nd May 2024 – Last day in school before Whitsun half term
Monday 3rd June 2024 – school re-opens & Multiplication Tables Check week
Monday 10th June 2024 – Phonics screening check week
Friday 21st June 2024 – Feast Church Service 9.30am
Thursday 27th June 2024 – school nurse drop-in
Thursday 18th July 2024 – school nurse drop-in
Tuesday 23rd July 2024 – last day – school closes for summer

Attendance

Being in school is the best way for children to learn and reach their potential. Time in school is important to your child's achievement, well-being, and wider development.

We have had some great feedback about attendance certificates. Children are keen to achieve these for their class or year group, which is having a positive impact on attendance. Please ask your child about these.

Class 1: 92.10%
Class 2: 95.18%
Class 3: 94.76%
Class 4: 94.36%

Reading

Thank you for all the reading you have been doing at home. Please ensure your child reads at least three times a week at home and record this in their reading record book. We would love to see more children reading on Bug Club. If you have problems accessing this, please speak to your child's class teacher.

www.activelearnprimary.co.uk
School Code: LQT3

Seesaw

Please ensure your Seesaw account has been activated so you don't miss anything! Important messages, reminders, homework tasks and weekly spellings are uploaded to Seesaw, as well as examples of children's work.

Homework

Thank you so much for all your efforts with this half term's homework. I am so impressed with the creative and research tasks we have received. We have had some wonderful work and photographs about celebrations; fabulous models of Pudding Lane; fantastic posters and superb pieces of writing about entertainment through the 20th century and Greece. The children should be very proud of what they have submitted!

Christmas Fair

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our Christmas Fair. We raised a magnificent £1,472! The money raised at this event enables the school to fund the panto trip every year, which is an incredible experience for the children. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes, cakes, clothes, toys and crafts. A massive well done to our amazing staff and volunteers in the lead up and during the event!

Nativity

Well done to all our children who were involved in the Nativity performances- we are incredibly proud of them all. They acted, sang and danced brilliantly and it was a fantastic show! The choir were absolutely fantastic and we received many positive comments about how good the children were. Thank you, Mrs Macaulay, Mrs Morrison, Miss Finnigan, Mrs Scorer and Mrs Minton. What a fantastic way to portray the true meaning of Christmas!

ParentPay

Our online booking system is now up and running and is working well for booking breakfast and after school club. After the holidays, all children will need to be booked in to breakfast and afterschool club by the **deadline of midnight the night before**. There will be **no option to add them in on the day**. This is because we need to know exact numbers to ensure we have the correct ratios of wrap around care staff to children.

Mrs Minton's After School Clubs from January 2024

Starting Monday 8th January 2024

Monday – Lego Challenge Night

Tuesday – Drama

Wednesday – Disney theme (games, crafts, dancing, songs)

Thursday – Sports (dodgeball, badminton, table tennis)

Friday – Movie night

Free Activity Clubs from January 2024

Starting Monday 15th January 2024 until Friday 22nd March 2024

Monday – Storytelling – Nursery and Reception

Monday – Art – Year 4, 5, 6

Tuesday – SATS Booster – Year 6 – **all Year 6 to attend**

Wednesday – Sports with Mr Stabler Years 3, 4, 5, 6

Thursday – School Council

Thursday – Multi-sports – Years 1 & 2

Friday – Musical Theatre – Year 3, 4, 5, 6

Friday – Football with Mr Rodgers