



Thoughts from the Head

We have had a very successful first half term. The children have settled well into routine, making a smooth transition into their new year groups. Thank you to all parents who attended our welcome meetings and parent consultations. As always, if you would like to discuss anything with your class teacher during the school year, please make an appointment via the school office.

Thank you for your continued support with home reading, spellings and times tables – your support is much appreciated!

We look forward to another busy half term when we return to school in November.

Online Safety training session for parents

We are holding an online safety training session for parents in school on

Thursday 7th November 2024 at 2.30pm

The session is aimed to support and educate parents around online safety.

It equips parents with the tools to effectively support their children when it comes to the online world, prepares parents for what their child may be subject to/accessing as they get older and provides them with the skills and understanding to reduce the risks around this. The session is interactive; parents will have the opportunity to ask questions, and the session includes videos to support the delivery of the key messages.

It is suitable for parents, carers, grandparents and relatives.

Children in Need

On Friday 15th November 2024, school will be raising money for Children in Need.

The theme this year is “**the great spotacular**”

Children can come to school wearing something spotty, Pudsey bear related or general non-uniform for a £1 donation.



Non-uniform day

School is holding a non-uniform day on Friday 29th November 2024. In return, we ask that your child brings a donation of a tombola prize to school for our Christmas Fair, which will help to raise money towards taking all of our Reception to Year 6 children to the Pantomime at Billingham Forum.

Poppy Appeal

Poppies can be purchased for a minimum of 20p from the school office. There are also stickers (10p) snap bands (£1) reflectors (50p) and bracelets (50p).

Early Years Drop Off and Collection

Following comments made on the parent/carer questionnaire, we have taken on a suggestion to improve the dropping off and collection of Early Years children. After October half term, children should be dropped off at the front entrance next to the main office.

Designated Safeguarding Leads

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are Nicola Dunn, Sarah Richardson, Chloe Inman and Gillian Minton. you have a concern about a child, please contact school and speak to a DSL.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Monday 4th November 2024	School re-opens
Thursday 7th November 2024	Online Safety - training session in school for parents 2.45pm
Monday 11th November 2024	Class 4 worship – 9am - parents and carers welcome
Monday 11th November 2024	Reception children – audiology tests
Monday 11th November 2024	Class 4 (Year 5 & 6) Body changes and personal hygiene talk with school nurse
Tuesday 12 th November 2024	Class 2 dental hygiene talk with school nurse
Tuesday 12 th November 2024	School Nurse drop in session - 8.45am to 9.45am
Thursday 14th November 2024	Flu Immunisations - Reception to Year 6
Friday 15 th November 2024	Children in Need
Friday 15 th November 2024	Movie night – Mrs Minton's after school club (£6.50)
Monday 18th November 2024	Class 3 worship – 9am - parents and carers welcome
Monday 25th November 2024	Class 2 worship – 9am - parents and carers welcome
Friday 29 th November 2024	Non-uniform day in exchange for a tombola prize for Christmas Fair
Monday 2nd December 2024	Class 1 worship – 9am - parents and carers welcome
Thursday 5th December 2024	Pantomime at Billingham Forum - Cinderella
Friday 6 th December 2024	Carols around the Christmas tree – 2pm in the main School hall
Wednesday 11th December 2024	Christmas Fair – 4.30pm – 6.30pm
Friday 13th December 2024	Celebration Worship - 2.45pm - parents and carers welcome
Monday 16th December 2024	Nativity Performance 2pm
Tuesday 17th December 2024	Nativity Performance 9.30am
Friday 20th December 2024	Christingle – Church Service - 9.30am
Friday 20th December 2024	Last day - school closes for Christmas holidays
Monday 6th January 2025	School re-opens
Monday 6th January 2025	Class 4 (Year 5 & 6) Smoking & Vaping Awareness (in school)
Monday 20th January 2025	Class 4 (Year 5 & 6) Drug & Alcohol Awareness (in school)
Friday 21st February 2025	Last day - school closes for half term
Monday 3rd March 2025	School re-opens
Monday 11 th March 2025	School Nurse drop in session - 8.45am to 9.45am
Friday 14th March 2025	Class 1 worship – 9am - parents and carers welcome
Friday 21st March 2025	Class 2 worship – 9am - parents and carers welcome
Friday 28th March 2025	Class 3 worship – 9am - parents and carers welcome
Monday 31st March 2025	Parent Consultations 3.30pm to 6.30pm
Tuesday 1st April 2025	Parent Consultations 3.30pm to 5.30pm
Friday 4th April 2025	Class 4 worship – 9am - parents and carers welcome
Friday 4th April 2025	Celebration Worship - 2.45pm - parents and carers welcome
Thursday 10th April 2025	Last day in School
Friday 11th April 2025	PD Day - school is closed to children
Monday 28th April 2025	School re-opens
Wednesday 30th April 2025	Silent Disco - Smile Day
Monday 5th May 2025	Bank Holiday Monday

Monday 12th May 2025	KS2 SATS Week
Thursday 22nd May 2024	Year 6 Team Building at Summerhill
Friday 23rd May 2025	Last day – school closes for Whitsun
Monday 2nd June 2025	Multiplications Check Week
Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3 rd June 2025	PD Days - school is closed to children
Wednesday 4th June 2025	School re-opens
Monday 9th June 2025	School Nurse drop in session - 8.45am to 9.45am
Monday 9th June 2025	Year 6 puberty refresher - School Nurse
Monday 9th June 2025	Phonics Screening Check Week
Thursday 19th June 2025	Sports Day Class 1 - 12:45pm – 1:15pm
Thursday 19th June 2025	Sports Day Class 2, 3, 4 - 1:15pm – 3:15pm
Thursday 10 th July 2025	Year 6 Leavers Church Service – 9.30am
Friday 11th July 2025	Celebration Worship - 2.45pm - parents and carers welcome
Monday 14th July to Thursday 17th July 2025	Transition week for Hartlepool schools
Friday 18 th July 2025	Leavers service in school – time TBC
Friday 18 th July 2025	Last day – school closes for summer holidays

Safeguarding update

Online safety is an important part of keeping children safe at Greatham C of E Primary School.

It is important that we work closely with parents to ensure that children know how to keep themselves safe and behave appropriately online.

Please visit our website for links to help support your child:

<https://greathamceprimary.org.uk/e-safety>

Please see the link below to step by step guides for setting up parental controls on all devices:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

After School Clubs

Mrs Minton's clubs are changing after half term. The clubs will be as follows:

Monday	Lego Fun
Tuesday	Badminton/bat and ball games
Wednesday	Harry Potter activities & play doh fun
Thursday	Paintastic (painting fun activities)
Friday	Indoor or outdoor play (weather dependant)

Activity Clubs

Our free activity clubs will continue to run and will remain the same after half term. They will run from Monday 4th November until Friday 13th December 2024. You do not need to sign any new consents.

Cycling club is now finished.

Please note: Story club will be moving to a Tuesday after half term. The first club will be on 5th November 2024.

Absence procedures

Parents/carers are required to contact the school office via telephone no later than 20 minutes after the start of the school day on the first day of their child's absence. Please report the absence via our voicemail option. You are expected to provide an explanation for the absence and an estimation of how long the absence will last, e.g. one school day. **This should not be via email.**

Parents will be contacted by phone as soon as is practicable if a child's absence has not been reported by 9.05am. If we are unable to get hold of you, staff will carry out a home visit. This is in line with our safeguarding procedures.

Harvest Festival



Thank you so much to everyone who donated to the Food Bank this year.

We received lots of donations which are greatly appreciated.

Parent/carer Questionnaire

Thank you to those of you who have already completed the questionnaire. If you have not already done so, we would love to gather the views of our parents/ carers to find out what is working well and if there are any concerns you have.

<https://forms.office.com/e/ADvwzbtVRb?origin=lprLink>

Movie Night

On Friday 15th November 2024, Mrs Minton is having a movie night. The movie is The Wizard of Oz (original version, rating U).

The cost is £6.50 and children will receive a cupcake, sweets and a drink. It will start at 3.15pm and run until 5.15pm. Children can be collected from the main school office. Please ring 01429 870254 and choose option 1 to notify the staff that you have arrived to collect your child.

Please book onto this via ParentPay using the 2-hour after school club item by Thursday 14th November 2024.

If you have never used ParentPay to book onto any of our clubs, please contact the main school office.

ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME.

Traffic Safety

It has been brought to our attention that cars are driving on the inside of the trees and along the footpath where families were walking and dropping off children at Breakfast Club. The safety of our children is paramount, including before and after school. The private road outside of school is an access road for Northumbrian Water vehicles and this can be congested at certain times of the day with heavy goods vehicles which narrows the road further. Please be aware of this when dropping off and picking up your children.