

Greenfields

Community Primary School,
Nursery & Pre-School



North Tyneside Council

Address: Taylor Avenue, Wideopen, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE13 6NB

Telephone: 0191 643 2801

e-mail: greenfieldscommunity.primary@northtyneside.gov.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Taylor B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

NEWSLETTER ~ 8th November 2019

PERSONAL BEST CERTIFICATES

This week's 'Personal Best' certificates go to:
Ellie-May, Harvey and Skyla

Well done to all of them ~ they should be very proud of their achievements.



LOVE READING!

Here are this week's reading recommendations from staff and children ~ books that they enjoyed so much that they just couldn't put them down . . .

Aurora recommends: **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** by **Eric Carle**

"I like the Hungry Caterpillar, because he eats the apple, he eats two pears, he eats four strawberries, he eats five oranges. He eats lots of food and gets stomach ache! When he turns into a butterfly, that's my favourite bit."



Mr Halliburton recommends: **Mr Messy** by **Roger Hargreaves**

"I have always adored the Mr Men books. I will always remember listening to my Reception teacher Mrs English reading them to us on a Friday afternoon. The expression and voices she used when reading them influenced the way I read stories now. My favourite has got to be Mr Messy - just like me! Did you know that the books only cost 20p each when they were first published in 1971?"

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

The Royal British Legion created the Poppy Appeal to help those returning from the First World War. A century on from the start of that conflict, they are still helping today's Armed Forces families in much the same way, whether coping with bereavement, living with disability, or finding employment.

Poppies and Poppy Appeal items have been for sale in school all week. Last chance to buy will be Monday 11th November, Remembrance Day.



AUTUMN II 2019 'GOING FOR GOLD' ATTENDANCE MEDAL TABLE

Class	🏆 99% to 100% 5 points	🥈 97.5% to 98.9% 3 points	🥉 96% to 97.4% 1 point	Points Total
Rec	🏆 8/11			5
1DC	🏆 8/11			5
2CP	🏆 8/11			5
4WB	🏆 8/11			5
6AH	🏆 8/11			5
5JI		🥈 8/11		3
1AC			🥉 8/11	1
2AW				0
3DL				0
3JS				0
4RA				0
5KC				0
6GR				0



241 children had 100% attendance this week. Well done to them all!

Congratulations again to Class 2AW, who were at the top of the medal table last half term with 30 points.

The children chose to watch the Toy Story 3 film for their Attendance Treat and Mrs Wilson said that they all had a great time.



PARENT/CARER FORUM

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 21st November** at **2:00 p.m.**

The focus will be:



SCHOOL & PARENTS WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

One of our main school priorities this year is to create more opportunities to engage with parents and carers so that they can be more involved in their children's learning and in school life. We need your thoughts and suggestions about how we can do this, so if you have some time to spare, please do come along.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK: CHANGE STARTS WITH US

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week and the theme for 2019 is: Small change ~ Big difference.



Whether it's verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well in to adulthood. By making small, simple changes, we can break this cycle, because together, we can challenge bullying.

Change starts with a conversation. It starts with checking in. It starts with working together.

- ~ Change starts here.
- ~ Change starts now.
- ~ Change starts with us.

This anti-bullying week we will be taking part in Odd Socks Day on Tuesday 12th November. Odd Socks Day is an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique.

All you have to do to take part is wear your school uniform, but with odd socks, it couldn't be simpler!



SEESAW REMINDER

Seesaw is a brilliant way for parents and carers to find out about their children's learning. Thank you to everyone who has already linked up with their child's Seesaw account and sharing all those memories to treasure.

We are now using Seesaw throughout school to:

- To give parents and carers regular updates about what their child is learning in school, so that they can be further involved in the life of the school.



- To support and encourage parents and carers to discuss child's learning with them at home, so that learning opportunities can be extended for children.

Please note that class teachers have a secure login to SeeSaw using their school IPad. Seesaw updates by teachers will only be sent during their school working day and any SeeSaw notifications or messages that are sent back will go to the school Ipads, so they can only be accessed during teachers' working day.

If you're not sure about how to sign up, we have two parents (Suzanne Bell and Karen Adamson) who have volunteered to be 'Seesaw Ambassadors'. Suzanne and Karen are on the school playground every day and would be happy to help you download the App and set up your account.

CHILDREN IN NEED DAY

To support Children in Need Day on Friday 15th November, School Council would like to invite the children to accessorise their school uniform with something spotty or Pudsey related (for example a scarf, tie, socks, bow or hair band). They have suggested a voluntary donation of £1 and all donations will go directly to the Children in Need appeal.



Inspired by Greta Thunberg, School Council chose for children to still wear their school uniform on Children in Need day, because they want Greenfields to do as much as we can, to work towards the 17 United Nations Global Goals for a better world by 2030. The aim of these Global Goals is to end poverty, fight inequality and address the urgency of climate change.



This also links to our curriculum priority about **Environment** - we want all children to become responsible citizens, so we aim to provide real, meaningful experiences that help them to value their environment and understand their responsibilities towards sustaining their local, national and global environment.

PRE-SCHOOL SPACES

We still have a few spaces available in Pre-School.
Places are free for those 2 year olds who are eligible.

At Greenfields, the 15 hours pre-school provision can be taken as either 5 morning or 5 afternoons:

- 5 mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- or → 5 afternoons from 12:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Please contact the school office to register for a place or to find out more.



ATHLETICS SUCCESS

On Wednesday our Year 5 and Year 6 athletics team went to North Gosforth Academy to compete against other primary schools in the North West area.

All of the children in the team were fantastic ambassadors for Greenfields and we are so proud of them all. There was a brilliant team spirit, with everyone making an excellent contribution and so many of our children winning their events.

Congratulations to the whole team! #GoGreenfields!



WORLD OF WORK ~ NEWS REPORTERS

One of our curriculum priorities is about **Aspiration** - we want all children to achieve their potential, so we aim to provide experiences that show them the wide range of possibilities available for their future, including further education and the World of Work.

Linked to this, yesterday our Year 6 pupils took part in a workshop provided by NewsWise, which focussed on being able to spot fake news and to create a news bulletin. The children worked in small groups as reporters, editors and sub-editors, to write their own news reports based on true events.



Everyone worked together really well in their teams, and their finished news bulletins were slick and professional.

Rosie, the journalist, who delivered the workshops was extremely impressed at the attitude to learning and fantastic behaviour displayed by our children.

Well done Year 6 ~ possible journalists of the future!

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

If you would like to put yourself forward to be a parent governor, nomination papers are available from the school office and must be returned to the school office before the end of the school day on Friday 22nd November.

You can find out more about the expectations of the role by talking to one of our existing governors about their experience of being a governor, or contacting Harry Corlett, the Chair of Governors, via the school office.

Please note - if there is more than one candidate, the new Parent Governor will be decided by election.



FINALLY . . . OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN EARLY READING

As you know, we want all of the children at Greenfields to develop a love of reading that will last a lifetime. One of the steps on that journey is making sure that our teaching of early reading and phonics is highly effective.

The school's outstanding achievements in early reading and phonics have been now been recognised by the Department for Education and we were absolutely delighted to receive this letter from the Minister of State for School Standards this week:



Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Mrs Linda Taylor
Greenfields Community Primary School
Taylor Avenue
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE13 6NB

/ November 2019

Dear Mrs Taylor,

I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on your school's outstanding achievements in the 2019 phonics screening check. Your excellent teaching of phonics is something I hope to see replicated across the country: decoding skills are the foundations for pupils to progress to reading fluently, for purpose and for enjoyment.

There is a substantial body of evidence that demonstrates that systematic phonics is a highly effective method for teaching children to read. We want to ensure that every child develops a firm grasp of phonics, which is why I was delighted to see your results. With 97 per cent of pupils at Greenfields Community Primary School reaching or exceeding the pass mark in the check, your school is in the top five per cent of all primary schools in the country.

This year's figures show that 88 per cent of pupils who achieve the expected standard in the check go on to achieve at least the expected standard in key stage 1 reading teacher assessment, which underlines the importance of teaching pupils to decode words effectively at an early age.

Your success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation in literacy, from which they can develop excellent vocabulary and cultivate a love of reading that can last a lifetime.

Thank you for your commitment and success in teaching the next generation to read so effectively.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,