



## *Green Lea First School Newsletter – October 2018*

### **Harvest Festival**

The Harvest Festival will take place on the morning of Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 9:30am. Donations to the local foodbank at Stone Community Hub are welcome. If you would like to donate, please bring non-perishable food or toiletries into school the week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> October ready for delivery.

### **INSET**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October is an INSET day and school is closed to pupils. Staff will undertake safeguarding training on that day.

### **Forest School**

Please remember Friday is Forest School day and we will go outside whatever the weather. Children should have warm, waterproof clothes now the weather is getting colder.

### **Violins**

Many children have expressed an interest in violins and details have been passed to Entrust who will organise the lessons in school. I will let you know as soon as I have a confirmed date/time from them and how much the cost will be.

### **After School Clubs**

Please note, that in order to safeguard our children, parents/carers will not be let onto the playground when outdoor sports clubs are on after school. I know this will be disappointing for parents who like to watch, so I will organise for parents to attend the last session in a half term if they want to see what their children have been doing in the club. This way I can properly staff the gate/door/nursery door/toilets. If you are collecting a child from Lollipops during this time your child will be brought to the gate. Please advise other family members of this arrangement if they are collecting from either Lollipops or the sports club. I would appreciate support with this as the safety of the children is paramount at all times.

### **Cross Country – Stafford Grammar**

On 26<sup>th</sup> September Ruby and Reuben from year 3 represented Green Lea at the annual cross country race. Both ran exceptionally well on the challenging course. Well done to both children and thank you to parents for taking them to the race. Hopefully, they will agree to do it again in year 4!

### **Play Area**

I have consulted with Staffordshire Wildlife trust and we will have a new play area to replace the climbing frame. The play area will be made from trees and logs and will be very natural with a trim trail, stepping stones and a large “tree” animal.

### **Car Park**

The council have visited the site several times recently to advise about the carpark. The situation is ongoing but, hopefully, the council will approve a bid for funding to extend and resurface the whole playground/carpark next year. I know some parents are keen to approach the council to get signs erected in the lane – I should hope that the council would listen to parents and their concerns. In the meantime, I would like to thank everyone for their patience at the beginning and end of the school day.

### **School Money**

There have been a few teething problems with School Money. These all seem to have now been ironed out and you should find it working. Please contact us if you are still experiencing problems.

### **Email/Texting Service**

FOGL have agreed to pay for an emailing system as well as a texting service. I will be sending out a weekly update by email on a Friday for the following week. All parent/carers emails are in the system, so if you change your email please make sure you let school know. This also means we can send out longer messages than the texting service allows. Many thanks to FOGL for this.

### **Nursery & After School Club**

All vouchers can be used now to pay for nursery places and after school club if you receive them through your work. Children are enjoying dance, funtrition, forest school, yoga and cooking in nursery. There are lots more activities planned for the future. Staff are putting together a weekly menu for snacks and light teas at the after school club - so you can then see what you child will be offered for the week.

### **After School Clubs**

After half term the following clubs will be available:

Monday – (no club until after Christmas)

Tuesday – multi-skills

Wednesday – craft and football

Thursday – film

Friday – yoga

### **School Visit**

All children enjoyed their visit to Stone with Oulton school to attend the schools' conference last Tuesday (2<sup>nd</sup> October). The children behaved excellently and the younger children coped very well with the change in routine. Thank you to Mrs Davies for organising the morning.

### **Purple Mash**

All children now have a log in for Purple Mash. You can access this from home and information has been sent out. Please have a look at the site with your child/ren – there are lots of safe and interesting activities on there, for all ages.

### **Residential – Future date for the diary**

The Standon Bowers visit has been booked for 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Year 3s attend for the day on the 28<sup>th</sup>. This is a late finish (around 8pm), and children need to be collected from Standon. Year 4s stay overnight and enjoy a second day of activities. They are then brought back to school on the Friday afternoon. More details will follow nearer the time.

### **E-Safety**

Please ensure that if your child is playing games online with school friends they do not use their full name and that the games do not allow other unknown members to join in. If you would like more information about keeping your child safe online the NSPCC ([www.nspcc.org](http://www.nspcc.org)) have information or [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents).

### **Year 4**

Year 4 children were given a talk and information by Christchurch Middle School this week. It was lovely to see Tane, Rayna and Aliza back at school and they are clearly enjoying their new adventure. A very warm welcome to Daniella who has joined Green Lea and settled in well.

### **Dates**

Harvest	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 9:30am
Return to school	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> November
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November
Christmas Play	All children, Tuesday 11th December (1:30pm and 6:00pm)
INSET	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January
Children return to school	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January

### **Last Term**

Thank you to everyone who supported the World Cup sweepstake organised by Class 1 – it seems a long time ago now! All the money raised paid for the pyjama party for the whole school and paid for a new portable CD/Music player for the class.

### **Cleaner**

We have a vacancy for a school cleaner from Christmas. If you know anyone who may be interested please ask them to contact the school. The working hours are 2 x hours a day.

***K Wilson, Headteacher***

Mrs K Wilson  
Headteacher