



## ***Green Lea First School Newsletter - January 2019***

### Happy New Year

Happy New Year to everyone. It's lovely to see the children so enthusiastic about returning to school – they have been very excited to tell us about their holidays and Christmas presents! Many thanks to parents and children for all of the generous cards and gifts received before Christmas. These are much appreciated by all the staff. There is another busy term ahead with many activities planned. You should have received a newsletter from each class teacher explaining the learning that will be taking place in each class for the half term. If you have not received this please see the class teacher for another copy.

### Disco

A huge thank you for Claire and Andrea for organising the school disco before Christmas. A great time was had by all! Thank you to all the staff who stayed to help – the children had lots of fun and £300 was made for school fund!

### Singing at the Rectory

Well done to the year 4 children who entertained the residents of the Old Rectory in Fradswell before Christmas.

### Yoga and dance

During curriculum time, year 2s will have yoga on a Friday morning and year 3/4 children will have dance on a Thursday afternoon. This will allow Mrs Hart to work with the year 2 children who have an important assessment year this year.

### Music and violins

Letters have been sent out regarding violins and the new music club – please contact the office if you require further information. The violin session for one group will start at 9am so it is really important that children arrive on time and are ready to start at 9am.

### World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Children are welcome to dress up as a book character on this day and other reading activities/games will be planned.

### After School Clubs

The following clubs are running this term:

Monday – Choir and music (all children)

Tuesday – Multi-skills (all children)

Wednesday – Craft Club

Thursday – Yoga

Friday – Yoga

Football will hopefully start again after half term, once the nights are a bit lighter.

### Miss Swingewood

We welcome back Miss Swingewood from her maternity leave – she will lead Forest School with Mrs Taylor from this Friday.

### Dates for this half term

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January - Violin lessons start

Week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> January – all after school clubs start

21<sup>st</sup> January – proposed rescheduled multiskills at Alleynes Academy for year 1 (details will be confirmed) 1:45-3:15pm

29<sup>th</sup> January – proposed rescheduled multiskills at Alleynes Academy for year 2 (details will be confirmed) 9:30/11am

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Gymnastics Festival at Alleynes (Years 1-4) 4-6pm (details will be confirmed)

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February Y3/4 Sports Hall Athletics at Alleynes 1:30/3:30pm (to be confirmed)

### Absence

Please take time to read the attendance policy on the school website and also the Staffordshire Local Authority guidance on penalty notices <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/welfareservice/Attendance/Code-of-Conduct-From-1.1.2018.pdf> Absence in term time must be applied for in writing and an exceptional circumstance is considered to be something that is “rare, significant, unavoidable and short”. Staffordshire LA will issue penalty notices for absence that does not fall into the exceptional bracket. The cost of a fine is £60 per parent per child, rising to £120 if not paid within 21 days. This would also apply if there were siblings at another school, such as Christchurch. Please also note that no absence will be authorised for year 2 children during the month of May which is their key stage 1 assessment time. If you would like a paper copy of our attendance policy please ask at the office.

The attendance is strong at Green Lea (around 97%) which is excellent and I appreciate your support in ensuring your children come to school regularly. It really does make a difference to their learning and socialising with other children.

### Dates for after February half term

Half Term 18<sup>th</sup> February to 22<sup>nd</sup> February (children return to school on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February)

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day (dressing up)

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Parents’ evenings to discuss progress and targets

March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> residential at Standon Bowers and Year 3 day visit (details to follow)

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April break up for the Easter holidays. Children return to school on Monday April 29<sup>th</sup> and swimming lessons start for years 1-4 on a Tuesday morning.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – school closed Bank Holiday

Mrs K Wilson  
Headteacher