



Green Lea First School Newsletter – April 2019

Mother's Day Assembly

Class 1 performed a Mother's Day Assembly on Wednesday 27th March. The children were confident and happy to read out poems they had written, sing songs and present their mums with a special gift. There wasn't a dry eye in the house and a wonderful afternoon was had by all. Thank you to Miss Dale who was supported by Mrs Fletcher and Mrs Hammond in the production of the assembly.

Fire Engine

Class 1 and preschool enjoyed a visit from the fire service last week. They looked around the fire engine and had a go at using the water hose. They listened to the siren and tried on some of the special firefighting clothes/helmets. The children had lots of fun and were also given some important information about fire safety.

Music Club

Well done to all of the children in the music club who performed for their parents on Monday. The children have learnt some lovely songs and sang (and danced) beautifully! Mrs Lisa Wilson has more music and exciting songs planned for after half term and children will perform at the leavers' service in July.

Standon Bowers Residential

Year 3 and 4 children enjoyed a day visit and residential at Standon Bowers last week. They all had a fabulous time trying new outdoor activities such as caving and bouldering. This visit would not be able to take place without the willingness of staff to work outside their normal hours and I would like to thank Miss Britton who kindly volunteered to help this year. We visited Standon Bowers with All Saints First School at Standon. This is an opportunity for the children to make new friends within our cluster of schools and meet children who may also be going to the same middle school.

School Meals

The price of a school meal has increased to £2.26 (£11.30 per week) with immediate effect.

Game 24

We are entering a team of 4 key stage 2 children into a maths competition called Game 24. This will take place at Pirehill on Thursday 4th April and we wish the Green Lea team lots of luck!

After School Clubs after Easter

Monday	Music/Choir	
Tuesday	Multi-skills	
Wednesday	Craft	Dance
Thursday	Yoga	
Friday	Yoga	Football (Mr Cranson)

Staffing

We are pleased to advise you that Mrs Annie Britton has taken over the role of caretaker, alongside her cleaning duties. We wish Mr Hine all the very best in his retirement and would like to thank him for all of his years of dedication to the school. He is judging the Easter Bonnet competition next Wednesday – so has a very important role before we let him leave altogether. This will also be a chance for the children and staff to say goodbye to him.

September 2019

As many people already know we have had 20 requests for places in reception from September. This is excellent news for the school and, at a time when many rural schools are closing down, secures the future of Green Lea for years to come. It is anticipated that 20 will be a one-off spike in applicants and that the following year we will return to our pupil admittance number (PAN) of 12. To cater for the additional numbers it is proposed to split children into 3 classes rather than 2. This means we will have 3 classes of around 20 children.

We await the results of a bid from Staffordshire County Council any day now to let us know if we have been successful in our application to extend, resurface and add lines to our car park. We are also hoping to have a new building to house the nursery and before/after school club – planning permission permitting.

All of these plans are work in progress and are reliant on budgets and funding available from various sources. I will keep you informed of developments throughout the summer but the governors and I wanted to let you know the good news and thank you all for the positive comments and recommendations shared throughout the community. Green Lea is a unique school and will still remain one of the smallest in the county with around 60 pupils in total.

Standard Assessment Tests (SATs)

After Easter the year 2 children will be sitting their SATs. These will take place throughout the month of May – as this is a very short half term it is essential that children arrive at school ready to learn by 9am.

Swimming (years 2-4)

Swimming will start on the first Tuesday morning after the Easter holidays. Please remember to send children with a swimming hat, trunks (not boxer shorts) for boys, a once piece swimming costume for girls and a towel. Children must not wear ear-rings or other jewellery.

Dates

3 rd April	Assembly (Derek from the church will lead)
4 th April	Team of 4 (mixed year 3 and 4) Game 24 at Pirehill 9.30am
8 th April	No music club
10 th April	Friends of Green Lea Easter afternoon - £2 cost
10 th April	No dance after school club
11 th April	Yoga is on
12 th April	Yoga is on & Break up for Easter
29 th April	All children and staff return to school – music club is <u>on</u>
30 th April	Swimming starts for years 2, 3 and 4 –multiskills is <u>on</u>
1 st May	Dance starts
2 nd May	Reception children have height and weight check (information sent out by the nurses) Yoga starts
3 rd May	Football club and yoga starts
6 th May	Bank Holiday – school closed to staff and children
9 th /10 th May	<u>There is no yoga on this week as Mrs Blaize is unavailable</u>
MAY	Y2 SATs
24 th May	School breaks up for the half term – <i>NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS ON THIS NIGHT</i>
3 rd June	Children and staff return to school
10 th June	Phonic check week for year 1 children

Holidays

A polite reminder that holidays in term time cannot be authorised and you may face a fine if you choose to take your child/children out of school – this is in line with the Staffordshire County Council Code of Conduct which is available on our website (see under policies – attendance and the link to SCC) – and also in line with all the other schools in the Stone area. If a request for absence form is required, in the case of exceptional circumstances, this can also be downloaded from the website. Thank you for your support with this matter.

K Wilson - Headteacher