



December 2017

## Gravel Hill Primary School Newsletter

I would like to make all parents/carers aware of a few pieces of information.

### REMINDERS/NOTICES:

We say goodbye to Ms Fennemore and Mrs Hall this term, we thank them for their hard work and dedication to the school. We welcome Mrs Ailey who will be covering Year 6 Tigers until July 2018. Mr Boulton will be our new HLTA and Miss Burton and Mr Thomas will be joining us as TA's.

#### Reading Record Books:

Can we please remind all parents that children need to bring in their reading record book daily. Please ensure that they read every evening, it is then recorded in the book and brought into school every day. If your child has lost their reading record book a replacement can be bought from the school for £4.00.

#### Afterschool Clubs:

Gym, art, football, and homework clubs will all start again in January. A letter has been sent via email today outlining all the clubs available to each year group. They will start on the week commencing Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Please print off (if you can) the letter and complete the slip at the bottom ticking which club you wish to sign up for and enclose the money and hand in to the office by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January. If you need a copy of this letter please ask at the small office.

#### Paper-Free – Letters

All letters are now sent out electronically via email.

- We will aim to send all letters on a Monday or Friday (in an emergency we may have to send out on Tues/Wed/Thurs).
- The letters will also be put on the website

#### Early Years (Nursery) Open Mornings:

If you have pre-school children or know anyone who has and would like to visit the school with view to starting in Nursery in September 2018 we will be holding 4 open mornings: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February and Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Please contact the office if you would like to attend any of them.

#### Lost Property - School Uniform:

We have had a few items of lost property already that have no names in. Please put names of all items that your child brings/wears into school so that they may be reunited with their owner as quickly as possible. Thank you.

**Friday "Shop":** We will continue to be sell a few items in the playground at the end of the school day such as – sweets, school caps, hats, coasters, pens and second hand school uniform. All proceeds will go into the School Fund.

#### Gravel Hill Road Works:

The roundabouts outside the Marriott Hotel and the Civic Offices will be built over the next 2 months so please take care using the surrounding pavements as crossings will be temporarily closed.



#### Lunch Arrangements:

Unfortunately we are still having children changing their meal arrangements without telling the office. This is causing issues with the dinner numbers as the kitchen will only order enough food as per the number of children who usually have school dinners on any particular day. If you wish to change your child's meal arrangements, please notify the school office, in writing, **at least one week in advance**. Please be aware that we will not be able to change anything last minute unless it is an emergency as the cook needs to know exact numbers at the beginning of the week, (for example you will not be able to come to the Small Office and ask for your child to have a school meal unless your child has forgotten their packed lunch). If it is an emergency we need to know at the start of the day, by 9.00am.

Could I please remind all parents that dinner money **MUST** be paid by the Monday for the week ahead, preferably using the School Gateway system [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com). If payment is not received, your child **will not** be able to have a school dinner – they will not go without food completely as on the first day of non-payment they will be given a roll and salad from the salad bar. It will be your responsibility to provide a packed lunch (or payment) from the following day. If your child is off sick, a credit will be carried over to the following week.



### Appointments During School Hours:

We have had quite a few children leaving during the afternoon to attend medical appts recently. Please arrange for all non-emergency appointments to be after school or during school holidays as this can impact on your child's learning. Obviously there are some hospital appointments that cannot be rearranged easily – this we understand.

### Term Dates:

If you would like to check all term dates and any up-coming events please go onto our Website [www.gravelhillschool.co.uk](http://www.gravelhillschool.co.uk) and click on Term Dates and Events.

## EVENTS:

### Yr5 / Y6 Positively Mad Workshop:

This workshop proved very useful for the children as they learnt new techniques for improving such things as memory.

### Christmas Plays:

I am sure you agree that all of the Christmas Plays were amazing. I would like to thank all the parents/carers for their patience while we swapped year groups in the main hall. This worked very well this year and every parent who wanted to see their child/ren managed to do so.

### Christmas Jumper Day:

Thanks to all who donated some money on this day and the Christmas jumpers provided a burst of colour in the school last week.

### Christmas Craft Workshops: EYFS/KS1/KS2

The last couple of Fridays we have run Christmas Craft Workshops during Family Golden Time where parents/carers joined their children in the hall. They made various Christmas themed items such as snow globes.

## FUTURE EVENTS:

**Theme Days:** Alan Murphy will be coming into school in January to run workshops for the following:

Yrs 6: WW2 - 11<sup>th</sup> January

Yrs 3: Egyptians – 18<sup>th</sup> January

Yrs 6: Anglo-Saxons – 25<sup>th</sup> January

Yrs 4: Victorians – 8<sup>th</sup> March

## KEY DATES AND EVENTS:

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January		<b>Inset Day</b>
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January		<b>Inset Day</b>
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January		<b>First Day of Spring Term 1</b>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January		WW2 Workshop (Alan Murphy) – Year 6
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January		Egyptians Workshop (Alan Murphy) – Year 3
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January		Anglo-Saxons Workshop (Alan Murphy) – Year 5
<b>Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>		<b>Half Term</b>
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> March		Victorians Workshop (Alan Murphy) – Year 4
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March		<b>Last Day of Term</b>