

THE GREENFIELD GOSSIP

Newsletter by the pupils of Greenfield Primary School, Countesthorpe, Leicestershire

Issue 17: April 2018

We are marching through the summer term at quite a pace and as we head towards May and June, thoughts for teachers inevitably turn towards assessment; trying to get an understanding of what has worked well during the year and where every child within your class is against the benchmark of national expectations.

The educational bar in 2018 is set quite high but the bar is very reachable with good teaching every day and support at home with key skills such as reading, spelling and the practise of key number facts. Over the next six weeks, all children, in every year group across the whole of England, will be tested in some way to see how they are progressing against key targets in their own age group. We pride ourselves here at Greenfield in terms of assessing our children carefully, thoughtfully and intelligently; considering the individual needs of every single child in the year group in order to come up with a fair and accurate reflection of learning and progress so that we can meet their needs as best we can the following year. We do not test for the sake of it here and we always ensure a healthy balance at our school – in preparing children for the process of assessment, but also continuing to deliver a creative, full and exciting curriculum.

I noticed with my own seven year old son recently that he didn't really understand fractions very well – he couldn't explain what a half or a quarter actually meant and he certainly couldn't work out a quarter of a number! We have worked for about half an hour every weekend recently, talking about fractions, drawing pictures, sharing toys/stickers/balls into piles (each one a quarter!) and his understanding has developed enormously. This is not because I want him to do well in a Year 2 test, but because I want him to have that deeper knowledge and understanding as he moves into Year 3, where he will need to build on that platform of understanding.

Learning is not about passing a test ... success and achievement are very relative terms ... but when school and home work in partnership and help to plug and fill in the gaps in our children's knowledge or understanding, the picture can become much clearer for the child. And our vision and aim here at Greenfield remains the same – 'to inspire with the joy of lifelong learning'.

Mr N Quinn

Head of School



Attention, Attention Safety Alert!

Recently, Year 6 went on a wonderful trip to Warning Zone where they discovered many important safety messages. In this article, you will learn how to stay safe online and in the real world.

The aim of Warning Zone is to keep children in the local area safe. It's an incredible place that is run by volunteers. Year 6 visited various "Zones" including, Online, Water, Fire, Road and Train. Here are some tips from the Online Zone on internet safety:

- Never use your full name or your hobbies in your username
- Never ever post pictures online of you in your school uniform because it could be dangerous,
- Never give out your phone number, address or any more personal information.

So now you know how to stay safe online, but what about in the real world?

Roads are absolutely necessary, but they can be dangerous too - so watch out! Always be careful when you are crossing roads and make sure that you look both ways and listen carefully. Try to cross at zebra or pelican crossings and never play near main roads as it could be very, very dangerous.

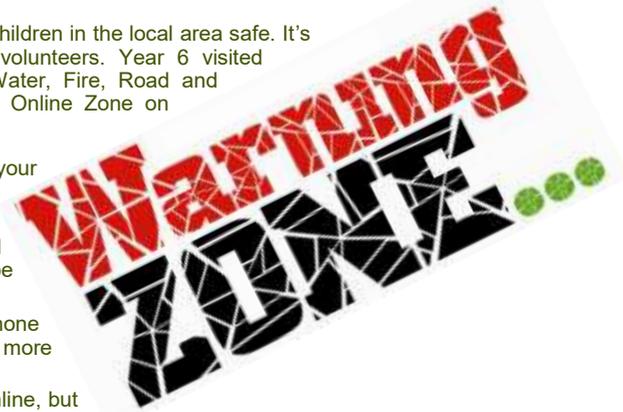
When you are riding your bike, you should:

- Wear a well-fitting helmet,
- Use appropriate lights and reflectors,
- Never listen to music,
- Wear appropriate clothing; including trainers,
- And have fun!

In the Fire Zone, Year 6 practised what to do in the event of a fire. Most importantly, you should check every two months that your smoke alarm is working. If it isn't, you must get it working as soon as possible because it could save your life!

Year 6 had a wonderful day and learned lots of super safety facts. The safety advice here will help you to be safer online and when you are out and about.

Article by Layla Boseley, Emma Broadhead, Lara Monk



Star of the Month
April 2018



FS Max Dexter



Y1 India Griffiths-Brown

Y2 Emarnie-Rae Sperry



Y3 Kruz Malham

Y4 Isaac Lyon



Y5 Amelia Holland

Y6 Daniel Cosby

Keeping in touch with life at Greenfield Primary School



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Photo: Mrs Robinson prefers the warmer weather!

Mrs Robinson spills the beans...

Q: How long have you worked as a dining supervisor in this school?

Mrs Robinson: I've been here for 28 years ... a very long time! I came to work at Linden Junior School in 1990 under Mr Essex and I have always absolutely loved my job to bits! I never, ever don't want to come to school!

Q: How do you enjoy spending your time when you are not at school?

Mrs Robinson: Well I do an awful lot of dog walking. I used to have a dog but now I just walk about six dogs for other people and I look after their dogs when they go away on holiday! I love walking in general and I enjoy visiting tea rooms around the county – morning coffee and afternoon tea is a real treat. I also really love visiting pubs and eating out, even though I don't drink alcohol!

Q3: What are the best and worst parts of being a dining supervisor?

Mrs Robinson: The only bad part of my job is the very cold weather in the winter! I do feel the cold so when it is freezing, I like to play running around or moving games with the children that warm me and them up!

The best part of my job is simply seeing the children every day – watching them play and helping to sort out their problems. It is lovely that so many ex-pupils remember me and come and speak to me as an adult and have nice memories of me being their dining supervisor!

Q4: Do you think schools were better when you were a little girl ... or are they better now?

Mrs Robinson: Oh schools are definitely much better now! When I was at school, we hardly dared to even talk to our teachers – in fact, we were all scared of our teachers which is not a good thing. Nowadays, the children can talk to adults in the school about anything – there is much more of a relationship there which is important. In general, schools today are just so much more interesting than they used to be and you learn more when you are interested!

Q5: Are you a good cook? What do you like cooking the most?

Mrs Robinson: I absolutely love cooking ... I'm not a fancy cook but I do enjoy trying new recipes ... and my son-in-law says that I make the best roast dinners! I also love making cakes as I do have a sweet tooth – I make a delicious cheesecake and a lovely lemon and pistachio cake!

Q6: We know you love the talent show ... what is the best act you have ever seen at Greenfield?

Mrs Robinson: I do love the talent show because I like to see the children enjoying themselves and I can't believe some of the amazing talent on show every year! Two acts stand out to me in recent years – Eleanor Tipler moved me to tears when she sang a couple of years ago ... and of course who could forget Nina the ballerina who performed such a graceful, elegant and beautiful routine! But I love them all – each and every act!

Q7: If you could be any character from a book, who would you be and why?

Mrs Robinson: Well I would definitely be Mary Poppins! I always have a big bag with me anyway, but I would love a magical bag filled with everything I need. Anyway, who wouldn't want to be Mary Poppins – spending time with children every day as a nanny and able to do magic as well ... just one click of the fingers and all the housework would be done!

Interview: Matilda Carter, Isabel Harwood & Alessia Stokoe

What's Happening?

Wed-Fri 2nd-4th May

Y4 Edale Trip

Monday 7th May

May Day Bank Holiday

Thur-Fri 10th-11th May

Y2 Caythorpe Trip

W/B Monday 14th May

Y6 SATs Week

Thursday 17th May

Rice Bowl Final

(King Power Stadium 7pm)

Mon 21st May & Wed 23rd May

The Big Show

Thursday 24th May

Active Arts Music Concert

Friday 25th May

TEACHER DAY

25th May-3rd June

HALF TERM - Closed on

Fri 25th and following Mon-Fri

Thursday 7th June

Music Show (2pm & 7pm)

Tuesday 19th June

Saffron Lane Athletics

Thursday 21st June

KS2 Sports Day

Friday 22nd June

KS1 Sports Day

Friday 29th June

FS Sports Day

Tue-Wed 3rd-4th July

CLCC Transition Days

Wednesday 4th July

Greenfield Transition

Afternoon

Fri 13th July

END OF SCHOOL YEAR

Team Points

Earning team points is Greenfield's way of rewarding those children that work their hardest and go above and beyond the basic expectations. Our four houses, the greens, blues, reds and yellows have a long-standing rivalry and the question that is always posed is...which team will be triumphant this year?

If you're wondering how to earn points for your team, then look no further! You can earn them in many different ways: being polite to your teachers and other children around the school; holding doors open, which shows super manners; helping out around the classroom to collect workbooks or set up P.E equipment; and you can earn lots of points at Greenfield's sports day!

Recently, the scores have been close and everyone has been working their socks off to get those well-needed, last minute team points, and with less than a term to go, the race is on.

The results currently stand that green are in the lead with an amazing 30,526! Close behind is blue with an excellent 30,342! Watch out greens! Next we have red with a red-cellent 29,292! Finally, we have yellow with 28,399 but at this stage the winners are unknown.

If you'd forgotten what the winning prize is, it is an afternoon on a bouncy castle and you will be allowed to spend your time in the woodlands. Not only that, you'll receive an ice-cream! This fun-packed afternoon will be an amazing chance to celebrate your year of hard work. Last year, the reds won and got this grand prize. Who will get the 2018 prize?

Article by Poppy Birt, Azie Lilley, Newton Milner