

# THE GREENFIELD GOSSIP

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

Issue 19 : September 2018

## Greenfield is a 'vibrant place where pupils enjoy learning' OFSTED – July 2018

Welcome back to a new academic year – the children have settled well to their new routines and expectations and are now fully back in the swing of school life as we head towards the end of September.

As many of you are aware, the school enjoyed a little treat in the last week of the summer term ... on Wednesday 11th July, the school was visited by an OFSTED team, who took just a day to acknowledge that the school remains a 'Good' school and that the Leadership Team alongside the governing body '**... identify the main priorities for improvement and work systematically towards them**'. In the end, it was a really good time for an inspection as the inspectors were able to look at our wonderful books, which in all year groups, tell the story of a rich, vibrant and engaging curriculum. More importantly, the inspectors were able to speak to the children and get them to reflect on their own perceptions of school life at Greenfield Primary. The lead inspector was therefore able to write '**... The pupils we spoke with during our visit told us about the varied and interesting topics, the trips to outside locations and their participation in productions and performances. They said they enjoy the sports, music and drama activities. Pupils told us how they play their part in the school community and how they develop respect and tolerance towards others.**'

Our academic results are important to us – after all, we are an establishment based around learning. Our school exit data (Y6) last year was very good – above national expectations in reading, writing and grammar and in line with national expectations in maths. We are absolutely committed to ensuring that when our children leave us at the end of Y6, they are equipped with all the key learning skills and knowledge required to cope with the KS3 curriculum. Results are indeed important, but so is developing an enjoyment of learning, encouraging independent thinking and reasoning skills, having fun and creating memories that will last a lifetime, making friends and thinking positively, showing respect and tolerance towards everyone and recognising what is special about yourself. Childhood is a very

precious thing and a primary school should be a very special place where children feel safe and valued. I believe that we are more than a good school and it was important to us that Ofsted did recognise our strengths, values and core beliefs as well as our commitment to good progress and learning.



Greenfield Primary continues to be a good school.

Below are some of the key inspection findings:

✓ **Leaders thorough evaluation of the curriculum has led to improvements in the teaching of reading and mathematics. As a result, the proportion of pupils at the expected standard and above by the end of Y6 has increased from 2017.**

✓ **Leaders expect staff to consistently teach key reading skills and provide pupils with a rich variety of reading materials. Whole-school training sessions help staff to extend pupils' skills, especially the more able. Staff use extra resources and interesting texts to instil a real enjoyment of reading.**

✓ **Leaders evaluate the extra support and teaching of disadvantaged pupils to ensure it has full effect on improving pupils' achievement. Although some differences still exist, most disadvantaged pupils now make accelerated progress.**

✓ **Changes to the provision for pupils who have SEN and/or disabilities are leading to stronger progress than previously. Staff and leaders pay close attention to pupils' needs**

and regularly check how well individual pupils are doing, personally and academically.

✓ **Phonics standards in Y1 have improved from 2017 and are in line with those seen nationally. Leaders have reorganised the way in which pupils learn about phonics. Staff undertake relevant training in order for them to teach phonics effectively.**

Ofsted did make four suggestions in order to improve as a school – we had already identified all four and put them into our school development plan, so it is good that they agreed with our self-evaluation. Our next steps are as follows:

- 1. All leaders are well informed about the quality of teaching and learning in their subjects.**
- 2. Any differences in performance between groups of pupils continue to diminish.**
- 3. The teaching of mathematics consistently develops pupils' mental recall of number facts.**

**4. Leaders and governors check the attendance of different groups of pupils.**

As parents, you can really help us to achieve targets three and four. Firstly, as I'm sure many of you are aware, a new national times table test is being introduced at the end of Y4 from 2019 – Y4 children are expected to have instant recall of all times table and related division facts. From counting in 2s, 5s and 10s in Y1 right through to practising times tables every single week throughout years 2,3 and 4 – your support at home with the learning of times table facts is crucial – this will help us to achieve target 3. Furthermore, I would request again that holidays are taken during school holiday time as term time absence for holidays really impacts on our attendance data. Your support in these two key areas of development for our school would be much appreciated.

And so we look forward to an exciting year ahead ... together, in partnership – home and school working closely together so that our children make progress and really enjoy their learning.

Mr N Quinn

Head of School



During the first week of term, Year 6 went to Condover Hall in Shropshire. We did many activities including: archery, kayaking, climbing, laser maze, conquest and many more. The evening activities included: Cluedo, campfire and the best of all time SILENT DISCO! Year 6 all enjoyed the whole trip and the food was DELICIOUS!

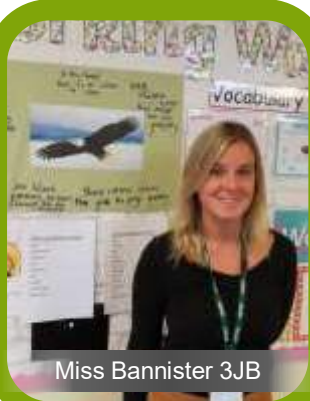


Year 6 had a spectacular time throughout this week long residential and we are all now looking forward to the year ahead.

By Ewan Gillham & Imogen Moore



# WELCOME TO OUR NEW TEACHERS



Miss Bannister 3JB

**Miss Bannister:** I am already thoroughly enjoying my time at Greenfield, getting to know all the staff and working with my lovely class. I have spent most of my life dancing or working in different places around the world - I can't wait to share some of my interests and experiences with the pupils at the school. My favourite subjects to teach are science, English and P.E and I am looking forward to teaching these plus all the other exciting subjects and topics in Year 3!



Mr Dyke 6LD

**Mr Dyke:** I have been teaching for over six years and this will be the second school I have worked in. I am really enjoying getting to know the staff and children at Greenfield. I am a big fan of superhero movies and my favourite superhero of all time is Batman! When I am not spending time with my wife and our two year old son, I enjoy reading and playing sport. I play squash once a week and will often play basketball at the Leicester Community Arena; home of the Leicester Riders. Being on the Year 6 residential was a great way to start the year. I am looking forward to making more fantastic memories and hopefully I can help the basketball team bring home some silverware.

**Miss Cotton:** I am thrilled to be starting my teaching career at Greenfield and can't wait to get to know all the children and staff. I don't have a favourite subject at the moment, but so far I'm really enjoying teaching English. I absolutely love reading, especially to my class. We are currently sharing a great story by Michael Morpurgo called Kensuke's Kingdom. I'm super excited by the topics in Year 5 and cannot wait to get to know my class even better!



Miss Cotton 5EC

## Competition

In November this year, the whole country will be commemorating the 100 year anniversary of the end of WW1. Our competition this month is designed to encourage you all to reflect on WW1 and produce a piece of work that we can use for a special display in school. You could write a poem, a letter or a diary entry ... you could draw/paint a soldier, a poppy field, an aeroplane, a scene from the war.

You could produce a map or a collage or even just write a short prayer ... but whatever you choose to do, please take your time and produce something special.

All entries in to Mr. Quinn by Monday 22nd October so that you have half term if needed!

Prizes include a £10 Amazon voucher, Leicester Tigers tickets ... and a lot of house points!



## What's Happening?

Thu 27th Sept

Team Photo Day 

Fri 28th Sept

Macmillan Coffee Morning (PTFA) 8.45-10.45 Big Hall

Mon-Wed 1st/2nd/3rd Oct  
Parents' Evenings

Week Begin Monday 8th Oct  
Y3 DANCE FESTIVAL

Mon 8th Oct/Tues 9th Oct  
FS Curriculum Evenings

Mon 10th Oct  
World Mental Health Day  
(wear something yellow)

Mon 15th - Fri 19th Oct  
HALF TERM

Thur 1st November  
School Discos   
Y1/2/3 5pm to 6pm  
Y4/5/6 6.15pm to 7.30pm

Tues 6th or Fr 9th Nov  
3KL/3JB New Walk Museum  
3LS New Walk Museum

Thurs 8th Nov  
Women of WW1 Workshop

Mon 12th Nov  
Y1 Cinema Trip Peter Rabbit

Fri 30th Nov  
Non-Uniform Day  
"Chocolate Tombola" 

Tues 4th Dec  
FS/KS1 Christmas Crafts

Thurs 6th Dec  
XMAS FAYRE 6.00 to 8.00 pm 

Fri 7th Dec  
Village Spectacular

Sat 8th Dec  
Musicians at Methodist  
Church Tree Festival 

Friday 14th December  
School Christmas Dinner

Week Begin Mon 17th Dec  
Year Group Christmas parties!

Wed 19th Dec  
Y5 and Y6 Peter Pan at  
DeMonfort Hall

Thurs 20th December  
KS2 Talent Show

Thurs 20th December  
Last Day Of Term, break up for  
Christmas. Restart on  
Tues 8th January 2019

Keeping in touch with life at Greenfield Primary School



[www.greenfieldprimary.net](http://www.greenfieldprimary.net)



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