

THE GREENFIELD GOSSIP

Newsletter by pupils of Greenfield Primary School, Countesthorpe, Leicestershire

Issue 7 : January 2017

Hello and welcome to the first edition of The Greenfield Gossip in 2017 ... a year that promises to be exciting, challenging, thought provoking and inspiring. The children have been sharing their hopes for the year ahead as well as their resolutions and for all of us, no matter what our age or position, a new year brings us an opportunity to re-focus, re-connect and try new things and new approaches in order to make our lives richer and more positive.

As you will see and read in this edition of The Gossip, there are new faces at Greenfield as well as new equipment, spaces and ideas. Change can bring new life and fresh opportunities and here at Greenfield, we are always looking to try new things if it brings about meaningful and relevant experiences for our children. We introduced a new curriculum for R.E and PSHE across the school at the start of this academic year and both are having a positive effect in terms of learning and teaching in those subjects. We have also embraced many new ideas in terms of learning and understanding in mathematics and every year group has worked so hard in terms of supporting the children to master key skills and have the ability to reason, think and problem solve by using and applying these skills. As always, we thank you for supporting the children at home with their maths ... especially those aspects of maths which need so much repetition such as times tables and telling the time.

We have also added some new members to our writing team here at The Greenfield Gossip. We were so impressed with the quality of writing from our Y5 children last term, that six of the very best will be joining our team of journalists for the rest of this year ... and we are always on the look out for talented writers across the school to contribute and use their skills. So we look forward to the year ahead and to making great memories ... we all have the opportunity to make 2017 a very special year.

Mr N Quinn

Head of School



Growing Greenfield

A New Year means new features for Greenfield! The school is excited to have new gym equipment in the playground, as well as a newly located library.

The library is now in a more convenient place – at the heart of the school on the stage – so that everybody can enjoy using it in a more open space. The teachers have been kind enough to purchase many more magnificent books for us all to read. As well as that, there are some new chairs, so that a whole class can sit down comfortably and benefit from the great joy of reading.

You may have seen that there is new outdoor gym equipment on the Year 3, 4 and 5



Photo: New library area and some of the exercise equipment ready for action!



playground; it is an amazing new feature because it is fun to play on, but also keeps you extremely fit and healthy at the same time! Younger

children (brothers and sisters) are welcome to try out the equipment before and after school – they are situated near the adventure playground.

Many thanks to the parents and children who have helped to raise money towards these new features, including contributions from; The PTFA, the Ready-Steady-Read Challenge, Friday morning toast fundraising. All these efforts have made new things possible and provide new opportunities for the children at Greenfield.

By Libby Sturgess, Layla Bosley and Alex McPeak

Library Competition

To promote the library, Mrs Watkins has invited all children to enter an art competition. All winning entries will have their art work displayed in the library.

Draw/paint/collage/make a 3D model of your favourite book character.

All entries by Friday 3rd February



CAN YOU ANSWERS THESE RIDDLES?

What has a face and two hands, but no arms or legs?

What has to be broken before you can use it?

What lives in winter, dies in summer and grows downwards?

What starts out tall, but the longer it stands, the shorter it grows?

THINK ABOUT THEM . . . ANSWERS OVERLEAF





Mrs Aitken spills the beans. . . .

Before joining Greenfield, where did you work?

Mrs Aitken: I have come from Maplewell Hall School which is a secondary school for children with special needs. I was there for nearly three years, but I have worked in schools across the county for eleven years ... this is my first job in a primary school though!

Do you enjoy spending time with your family?

Mrs Aitken: I do – they all keep me very busy! I have four children – Callum (21), Dominic (20), Megan (17) and Ted who is one ... and they all live at home! We all get on well and we make the time to sit down and eat together and talk every single day!

Are you a Leicester City fan?

Mrs Aitken: Yes and no ... if that makes sense! I am from Leicester and I am really proud of what Leicester City achieved last year, but I don't really follow football. I love watching Formula One – my dream would be to travel all over the world and go to every Formula One race in a single season!

What were your favourite subjects at school?

Mrs Aitken: I had two favourite subjects ... firstly, English because I love reading! My favourite author is Peter James who writes crime thrillers. I also loved music at school; I played the violin from when I was nine up to the age of seventeen and I got up to grade 6! I used to play for the Leicestershire Schools Orchestra on a Saturday morning.

What's your favourite season and why?

Mrs Aitken: I would probably say Spring – firstly because the weather is starting to get warmer without being too hot and also because I like to see all the flowers coming out, as well as the blossom. I also like the Spring because my birthday is on April 6th!

If you could have just one super power, what would it be?

Mrs Aitken: That's easy for me ... telepathy! The reason is that in my job you really do need to be able to read people's minds sometimes ... it would be great to always know what is really going on! My favourite super-hero is Batman ... a good guy with a bit of a dark side!

Now that you are here ... what do you like about Greenfield Primary School?

Mrs Aitken: Well I've only been at Greenfield for a couple of weeks, but I can see that it is a really happy and friendly school and everybody I have met has been incredibly helpful. I don't know all the answers yet ... but I am learning where to find them!

Interview by Charlie Hornbuckle, Joe Glover and Seb Pope



New Year, New Clubs

As it's now 2017, some of you may have decided to have a fresh start and get active. How better to do so than to join one of Greenfield's many clubs?

Gymnastics Breakfast Club is on a Monday morning before school, and is fit and fun for you and your friends. This is recommended for children who love to keep fit whilst having fun, and you'll be able to show off your new skills during P.E!

Another fabulous club is Multi-Sports Club: this is a fitness group run by Si-Sports. It's on a Monday after school, 3.30 until 4.30, and is for anyone from reception to Year 4, involving numerous exciting sports. Alongside this, there is also Football Club, which is straight after school on Tuesdays.

Ever fancied street-dancing? Try this cool club, on every Thursday after school. You'll be showing your friends up on the dance floor in no time.

If you want to join a club that is fun and free, Mrs Turner's djembe club is the one for you! It's for children of all ages, and it's on Wednesday after school for KS2 and Thursday before school for KS1. There is also a samba club, choir, orchestra and steel pans group for anybody musical out there.

By Katy Cobley, Lara Monk and Emma Broadhead.

RIDDLE ANSWERS

What has a face and two hands, but no arms or legs? Answer: a clock

What has to be broken before you can use it? Answer: an egg

What lives in winter, dies in summer and grows downwards? Answer: an icicle

What starts out tall, but the longer it stands, the shorter it grows? Answer: a candle

What's Happening?

Tuesday 31st Jan
Y1 and Y5
Leicestershire Fire & Rescue

Thursday 2nd Feb
Whole School Science Day

Week Beginning 6th Feb
▶ Parents Evenings ◀

Wednesday 22nd Feb
Caythorpe Meeting for Y2
Parents 6.00 p.m.

Mon 13th - Fri 17th Feb
Half Term Break

Friday 24th March

“Red Nose Day”
Comic Relief



Sunday 26th March
Mothering Sunday

Friday 7th April
Last Day of Spring Term