

THE GREENFIELD GOSSIP

Newsletter by pupils of Greenfield Primary School, Countesthorpe, Leicestershire

Issue 9 : April 2017

It is 2017 ... and technology and social media have become a truly integral part of modern British society. It is estimated that the average teenager is spending around 9-10 hours a day consuming social media, while the figure is more like six hours a day of screen time for children aged 8 – 12! Some children are drawn to gaming while others prefer spending time on sites such as YouTube, Instagram and Snapchat! Some of the statistics are very concerning and the trend seems to be towards more and more screen time and a younger and younger demographic becoming all consumed with their various electronic devices.

My twelve year old daughter has been without her phone and without access to social media for the last two weeks – (confiscated of course!) In that time she has read five books, played with her younger siblings and done a whole host of jobs around the house including Hoovering, cooking, cleaning and gardening because she has 'nothing else to do!' Apart from the first two grumpy days, she has been a real pleasure to have around and has really engaged with family life – far more than usual when her mobile phone is certainly her best friend.

Now I suppose I'll have to give it back at some point ... but as we enter the third week without the pressure and addictive nature of social media, I do wonder why I'm returning it at all. As a parent, iPads and phones and tablets are very good at keeping our children quiet – but at what cost? When will they have time to learn how to cook or earn their own money or revise for their exams or even just talk to their parents?

It seems to have become the biggest issue facing parents in 2017 and there are no easy answers ... finding a good balance for our children and our families is the key ... but that is easier said than done. For now, I think I'll just enjoy one more week of watching my daughter interact with the real world ... alive, happy and engaged ...

Mr N Quinn

Head of School



Cycle Safety!

The clocks turning forward means only one thing – spring is finally here! For lots of you, this means you will be playing out for longer after school to enjoy the warmer, longer and lighter evenings. This is great for everybody and means you'll be seeing in the summer having fun, but there are things to think about...

Cycling is a great way to travel around with your friends, whether you are going to the shop or the park! However, you need to make sure you are thinking about your safety. Cycling around means you could be passing people walking on the pavements or driving on the roads; you can make sure everybody stays safe by cycling safely and carefully. It is also important that you wear a helmet to protect yourself, and certainly make sure you have lights on your bike if you are staying out when it starts to get dark.

Cycling (or scooting) to school makes the school journey even more exciting. Unfortunately, there have been a few accidents where children have bumped into each other and hurt themselves in the school grounds. Due to this, it is important that children get off their bikes and scooters when they arrive at the school gates and walk them to the racks! Also, to make sure your property stays safe, it would be useful to use a bike lock.



By Danny-Ray Murdey, Alex McPeak and Libby Sturgess

Staying inclusive in an exclusive world



We all know that Donald Trump has caused quite a stir since becoming president of the United States. His latest ideas have included making a temporary travel ban, which has stopped people from seven Muslim-majority countries from entering America, wanting to build a wall between America and Mexico and now making controversial changes to medical costs. Whatever next? All of this has left many people feeling excluded, scared and alone.

Here at Greenfield, we do the opposite. We believe that everybody should treat each other equally and with the same respect as we would want to be treated ourselves. For example, at playtime, we like to let all children join in with any of our games, so that nobody feels left out. We also have Woodland Buddies, who make sure that children feel safe and included when playing in the woodlands. We also try to embrace all beliefs, ideas and abilities across the school; if a child has a disability, Greenfield children go out of their way to help them, from holding a door open to supporting them in the playground. It is our differences that make us special – it is most definitely not something that anybody should be excluded for. Being kind, friendly and including others is a sure way to make the world a better – more inclusive – place to be!

It is clear from this that Donald Trump and Greenfield Primary School have very different ideas of how the world should be. Do we have any future presidents at Greenfield ready to share their positive inclusive views?

By Joe Glover, Lara Monk and Seb Pope

Star of the Month

March 2017

FS George Eaton

Y1 Neave Haines

Y2 Holly Bennett

Y3 Sam Stark

Y4 Freddie Smith

Y5 Bethan Barford

Y6 Alfie Hill



Mrs Warren with one of her favourite story books

Mrs Warren spills the beans. . . .

What is your favourite fairy tale and why?

Mrs Warren: This is a hard question because I like all stories ... but it is probably between 'The Gingerbread Man' and the 'Princess and the Pea'. I like The Gingerbread man because the ending is just not what you would expect (as he gets eaten up!) But I really like 'The Princess and the Pea' because I love the idea of someone who notices the tiniest of things – just like me – she notices things that are not right ... like a pea under 100 mattresses!

What games did you enjoy playing as a child?

Mrs Warren: I enjoyed playing 'teachers' as well as 'mums and babies' so I suppose I always wanted to either be a teacher or have lots of my own children. I was shy at times but very bossy in my own bedroom!

As a Foundation Stage teacher, what qualities do you most look for in your FS children?

Mrs Warren: I always look for every child's 'uniqueness' – the things that make children be them ... I like to watch and look out for their individual ways of working things out, dealing with things ... and I encourage them all to be themselves, help each other and to make a difference in a good way to other people

What makes you really laugh out loud?

Mrs Warren: I like laughing and I probably laugh out loud every single day! I laugh out loud when I'm watching You've Been Framed ... but I certainly wouldn't laugh if some of that stuff actually happened to me. I love listening to other people's funny stories ... and Mrs Turner has got a lot of funny stories!

What advice would you give to a child who wants to be a primary school teacher when they grow up?

Mrs Warren: If you really care about other people and you are willing to work really hard and do very different things every day ... then primary school teaching is a good job for you. If you want a job where you can make a really positive difference to people's lives, then there is no better job as far as I'm concerned!

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

Mrs Warren: Ooooh – spare time ... that would be lovely! I do like to just sit in an empty room ... all by myself and just think – and have a little quiet moment to myself but it doesn't happen very often! I like doing yoga and taking my dog, Benny for a walk (he's a Bedlington terrier and he's like my naughty third child!) I do follow the football and sometimes go to Leicester City games and I enjoy going to watch the cricket every year!

If you could become any mythical creature just for the day ... which one would you choose and why?

Mrs Warren: Well I would have said a unicorn because I love rainbows but everybody would say a unicorn ... so I'm going to show my age here and say 'She-Ra' (He-Man's sister). I would like to be She-Ra – 'Princess of Power' just for the day ... she sounds like a strong woman and I could make lots of things better for people with those powers!

As we have just enjoyed Easter ... what is your favourite chocolate?

Mrs Warren: Well this is just as tough as the favourite story question because I love ALL chocolate! If pushed, I would say one of my favourites is Ferrero Rocher ... I also like dark chocolate with a berry infusion! My guilty pleasure though would probably be a Double Decker!

Interview by Layla Boseley, Ruby Moore & Katy Cobley

What's Happening?

Monday 1st May
BANK HOLIDAY

Thurs 4th-Fri 5th May
Y2 Caythorpe Trip

Week Beg. Monday 8th May
Y6 SATs Week

Wed 17th-Fri 19th May
Y4 Edale Trip

Wed 24th & Thurs 25th May
"Magical Moments" 7pm
(Performing Arts Club Show)

Mon 29th May-Fri 2nd June
HALF TERM BREAK

Thursday 8th June
Music Show 2pm & 7pm

Tuesday 13th June
Saffron Lane Athletics

Monday 26th June
FS Sports Day 1.30pm

Wednesday 28th June
KS1 Sports Day 9.30am
KS2 Sports Day 1.30pm

Thursday 29th June
Y3/4 Theatre Trip
"Gangsta Granny"

Saturday 1st July
SUMMER FAIR

Wednesday 5th July
Transition Day
(Y6 at CLCC)

Wednesday 12th July at 2pm
Thursday 13th July at 7pm
Y6 Leavers Production To
Parents

COMIC RELIEF THANK YOU



Sale of Red Noses £440.00



Non-Uniform, Games, Cakes and Competitions: £770.93
(A special mention for the LCFC stadium tour raffle which raised £128.00
and a fantastic £55.50 from the "Sweets In A Jar" competition)

GRAND TOTAL: £1,210.93



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Keeping in touch with life at Greenfield Primary School