



Autumn 2023

Greengate Lane Academy Newsletter

We have had a wonderful start to the school year, all children have settled into their new classes and are in uniform, ready to learn every day!

Thank you to all Y4-Y6 parents/carers who have supported our new approach to wearing PE kits to school on PE days. We have seen a positive impact on the amount of time spent participating in PE lessons. Some children are still struggling to wear the correct kit, please see our expectations below

- ✓ **Plain white T-shirt or with school logo**
- ✓ **Black shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms (no logos)**
- ✓ **Black trainers**
- ✓ **A school jumper for outdoor sessions**

We do have spares for those of you who are struggling to get the correct kit.



Our uniform supplier, Vortex, has now started providing a green PE t-shirt as

part of their uniform offer. Here is the link to their site

<https://www.vortexschoolwear.co.uk/Priary-Schools/Greengate-Lane-Academy/>

Thank you to those of you who attended parents evening this week, it was lovely to catch up with many of you and hear your thoughts on how the school continues to move forward and develop.

Staffing Update

Joining the EYFS team as SEND Teaching Assistant will be Mrs Naomi Carter. I am sure you will join me in welcoming her to our school.

Mrs Gemma Stacey starts her maternity leave this week and we are currently advertising for this role.

Attendance

This year we are focussing on improving attendance across school. Our target for the year is 94.7%. Children's attendance will be celebrated weekly and half termly. You will receive an attendance newsletter this week.

Persistent Absentees

Children whose attendance falls below 92% will now receive a weekly attendance monitoring certificate. Last year this had a positive impact on improving many children's attendance and impacting on their academic outcomes. The letters will start to come home the first week of next half-term.

90% attendance may look impressive... but it means your child will miss 19 days of school.

***over a whole school year**

Governance

As members of Greengate Lane's local Governance Committee (LGC), we wanted to take this opportunity to celebrate the school's continued improvement and success over the last year and to give you more information about our work. As part of the Astrea Academy Trust, the school has a dedicated local committee, which is chaired by Dr. Simon Merrywest. As an LGC, we have several responsibilities, but primarily our role is to be a critical friend and supporter of the school. You can find out more about us and our work on the school's website, but in particular we have just published an annual summary of our work through this Impact Statement [<https://www.astraeagreengatelane.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Impact-Statement-2023.pdf>]. The statement sets out our approach in more detail and explains how we have sought to achieve this. Above all, it continues to be a great privilege to work with Mrs. Robinson and her team to support the success and further development of the school.

Snack

Some children have started bringing snacks that are not suitable for break times, these include crisps, chocolate and sweets. Below is our expectation of snacks for children, we appreciate your support with this.

EYFS snack is available throughout the day, a contribution of 50p each week should be given to EYFS staff.

Key Stage 1 will continue to receive a fruit or vegetable snack each day. Key Stage 2 children will also be offered a free piece of fruit or vegetable (where available).

Key Stage 2 children can bring a **healthy snack** from home, (fruit, vegetables, cereal bar, raisins).

On Fridays, we will have our 'Tuck Shop Treat Day' where children can purchase a treat from the trolley for 50p.

Clubs

Breakfast Club is open for all children and the cost remains the same, £1 per session per child, and no charge for those families who receive Pupil Premium funding. **This must be paid weekly in advance** to ensure your child secures their place. This week all children have received a letter that explains our offer of clubs for the following half term. Children must return the form and any payment. The office staff will let you know if your child has a place. **Our afterschool clubs always run for five weeks.**

School Values

Our school values area:

- Tenacity
- Scholarship
- Curiosity
- Aspiration
- Kindness

We will focus and celebrate one value each week. Children showing high expectations within their learning, behaviour and attitude may be selected as one of our 'Stars of the Week' for celebration assembly on a Friday at 9am. Parents/carers will be invited into school; we aim to let you know if your child is one of our stars on Thursday.

We also like to celebrate achievements that happen outside e.g. swimming certificates, gymnastics medals, reading challenges, etc. If your child has any new achievements that they would like to share with our school community, they can bring them into assembly on a Friday.

Greengate Lane Uniform

I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of our uniform policy. The school dress code remains the same as in previous years:

- ✓ White polo type shirt (No slogans, except for school logo)
- ✓ Bottle green school sweatshirt/cardigan/fleece or plain bottle green sweatshirt/cardigan (No slogans)
- ✓ Dark trousers or skirts/dress
- ✓ Green and white check summer dresses
- ✓ Appropriate black footwear, such as trainers, flat enclosed shoes
- ✓ Only stud or small sleeper earrings are to be worn. Watches are the only other jewellery items that should be worn.
- ✓ Book bag

Please ensure your child is in school uniform every day and help us keep our standards high. Full details of our uniform policy can be found on the school website.

Communication

Please can you speak to **class teachers** if you do not have access to your child's SeeSaw page. This is where teachers will upload learning and any homework tasks.

All newsletters are also uploaded to our website.

All communication and payments will be done through the **My Child at School** (MCAS) app. It is important that you sign up for this app as this is where you will be able to access your child's school profile and access notifications and messages. If you are struggling to access the MCAS app, please see a member of the office staff for support.

A schedule of dates is attached to this letter for the full year to inform you of

events in school. New dates will be added throughout the course of the year.

Calendar of events

Autumn 2

October

30th - INSET day, school closed to all children
31st - Children return to school
31st - Halloween Disco (after school)

November

3rd - Open day for Reception starters 2024
6th - School photos
9th - Crucible visit (Y1 & 2)
14th - Magna visit (Y5)
15th - Weston Park Museum, Habitats (Y2)
17th - Children in Need day
21st - Weston Park Museum, Ancient Egypt workshop (Y3)
23rd - SWFC, Show Racism the Red Card visit (Y6)

December

4th - Christmas Fayre
7th - LKS2 Carol Singing
8th - Disney on Ice visit (Y1/2)
12th - M&M Productions, Snow White (Whole school)
14th - KS1 Nativity
15th - EYFS Nativity
19th - UKS2 Carol Singing
21st - Last day of school
22nd - INSET day, school closed to all children

Spring 1

January

8th - Children return to school
30th - Weston Park Museum - Weather workshop (Y1)

February

5th - Parents evening, 3:30pm - 7pm
6th - Parents evening, 3pm - 5:30pm
8th - Valentine Disco
9th - Last day of school

Spring 2

February

19th - INSET day, school closed to all children
22nd - 1st School Swimming session (Y4)
22nd - Thornbridge Residential (Y3)

March

7th - World Book Day
11th - St Saviour's Church visit (Y3)
19th - White Post Farm visit (EYFS)
28th - Easter Bonnet Parade/Egg decorating
28th - Last day of school

1st - 2nd - Transition days
1st - 2nd - Meet the Teacher events (Y1-Y6)
2nd - Magna visit (Y2)
3rd - Sports day
5th - Y4 Class Assembly
5th - Cleethorpes visit (EYFS)
8th - 12th Support Plan meetings
10th - Y6 Production
12th - Y5 Class Assembly
12th - Reports sent home
15th - Summer Fayre and Art Gallery
16th - End of year disco
19th - Y6 Leavers assembly
19th - Last day of school
22nd - INSET day, school closed to all children
23rd - INSET day, school closed to all children

Summer 1

April

15th - Children return to school
18th - Weston Park Museum - Picturing Sheffield workshop (Y5)
24th - Ewden Water Works visit (Y4)

May

6th - Bank Holiday, school closed
13th - 16th - Y6 SATs
16th - Spring Disco
20th - 22nd - Kingswood (Y6)
24th - Last day of school

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Summer 2

June

3rd - INSET day, school closed to all children
4th - Children return to school
5th - Weston Park Museum - Adaptation workshop (Y6)
7th - Leavers photos (Y6)
12th - St Saviour's Church visit (Y5)
14th - Year 1 Class Assembly
21st - Year 2 Class Assembly
28th Y3 Class Assembly

July

1st - 2nd - Ecclesfield Transition (Y6)

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