

GOODRINGTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

4 APRIL 2019

Issue 87

Dear Parents

Welcome to our latest newsletter with all the news and events of the past half-term.

Firstly, following the sad announcement on 26th March regarding the closure of Goodrington School at the end of the summer term, I would like to thank our parents for their continued support during this difficult time.

I would also like to echo Archie Lauchlan's reassurance that Goodrington will continue to operate as normal until the end of the school year on 10th July 2019, to avoid any disruption to our pupils, whose educational and pastoral needs remain of paramount importance to us.

Along with my dedicated team of staff, I am committed to ensuring that the summer term will provide an opportunity to reflect on all that is good about Goodrington School. The successes and achievements of our wonderful pupils will be celebrated, so that they may look back on their last term with fondness and pride.

Primary Target Tracker/Reading Tests (PIRA)

Staff have recently assessed pupils for Primary Target Tracker and PIRA, the results of which have been updated on our systems. The results analysis will form part of the end of academic year reports which will be sent out in July. As always, your child's progress is of paramount importance. Please rest assured that once this current data has been analysed, any pupil who may need additional support will be identified and a discussion will be held with their parents.

Safeguarding

I am including a link to the parents safeguarding section for the NSPCC, where all the latest updates may be accessed. It is worth looking here frequently, as the pace of safeguarding issues really are escalating on a daily basis.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/>

Practice SAT's

Pupils recently completed their practice SAT's and tests. The results are a very good indicator to see where improvements can be made in time for the main tests next half-term.

You are all aware that Goodrington School does not 'hot-house' pupils for exams, but does strive for every pupil to achieve the very best they can in a relaxed, happy atmosphere. This is a well tried formula which is supported by all the staff. Please encourage your child wherever and whenever you can and of course do not hesitate to contact their teacher, if you feel your child is becoming anxious during test times.

World Maths Day

This special event was noted and held on Wednesday 6th March. Staff organised extra maths activities for the day and it was a splendid success.

World Book Day

World Book Day took place on Thursday 7th March. We held the usual parade in the hall during morning assembly and this year our guest judge was Mrs Ruyten.

The overall winners were:

- EYFS: Rhianne
- Years 1/2: Zahra
- Years 3/4: Noah
- Years 5/6: Jadine

Every pupil had also previously received a £1 Book Token for their participation in the event, which I am sure they have enjoyed spending.

Comic Relief

Since its launch in 1988, Red Nose Day has become something of a British institution. It's the day, every two years, when people across the land can get together and raise money at home, school and work. There was a fantastic night of TV on the BBC on Friday 15th March, with comedy and entertainment to inspire the nation to give generously.

Comic Relief spends the money raised by Red Nose Day to help people living tough lives across the UK and internationally.

We played our part this year with the pupils and staff dressing in their Onesie's/Pyjamas on the day. We raised £56.50 for the charity and I would like to thank all parents, carers, friends and family who made such generous donations.

Parents Evening

Parents Evening will be held on **Wednesday 8th May** for the Reception class up to Year 6 from 3:30pm until 6pm. Further details will follow next term, but ***please be aware the school cannot accommodate pupils or siblings while parents are speaking to their child's teacher, so please make alternative arrangements for them to be looked after.***

School Council

Mrs Lawrence continues to oversee the School Council meetings. It is important that we give pupils a voice in our small community and there are representatives from each of the classes from Years 1-6 who make valid contributions to the meetings.

Cycles and Scooters/Walking to and from School

Please do make use of our wonderful Cycle Storage System by encouraging your child to cycle or scoot into school, even if it is only for part of your journey. However, please may I remind you that pupils are not permitted to cycle to school alone. Year 6 pupils are the only exception to this rule, once a letter seeking permission from the parent to myself, has been submitted.

All pupils must be accompanied by their parent/carer at all times, and they must not be allowed to cycle or scoot ahead down the road. Cycles must be legally roadworthy and high visibility clothing must be worn. A correctly fitted safety helmet is also a requirement. Within the facility are 10 lockers, which pupils may use to store their helmets, but they must provide their own padlocks. We hope to continue to see more cycles and scooters coming into school once the better weather is upon us.

Please remember that you can always park safely and considerately a few roads away and then walk the remainder of the journey to school with your child, or allow them to cycle or scoot alongside you.

Please also note that **all** pupils need adult supervision to walk them to and from school in Walden Road. The **ONLY** exception to this rule is for Year 6 pupils who **MUST** have written permission from their parent/s,

Driving, Parking and Pupil Safety in Walden Road

May I again remind you to drive slowly and carefully down Walden Road when bringing your children to and from school? Please park with consideration and ensure that you do not park across OR IN residents' driveways to avoid me having to mention cars/registration numbers on ParentMail.

As you know, I am always working to stay on good terms with the residents in Walden Road, and I would be grateful if you could all do your utmost to support me in ensuring that this objective is achieved.

At the end of the school day responsibility lies with parents, child-minders and au-pairs that are requested to hold onto the children they are responsible for and not let them run around in the cul-de-sac, on the pavement, in the road OR in the staff car-park. Thank you for your support with this very important health and safety issue.

Stamps

Please do continue to send in your stamps to the office. On our return after the Easter Holiday Mrs Ruyten will send them off once again to the Royal Mail where they help the Barnados Charity.

School Uniform

Each school holiday is a good time to check your child's uniform to see that it still fits and that it is **correctly labelled**. If you have items of clothing that are handed down, please ensure that the name is appropriately altered. Plimsolls need regular checking to ensure that the sizing is still correct for ever growing feet and they are in good condition for walking around the school.

When we return after the Easter break, under the circumstances of our pending school closure, the pupils may continue to wear winter uniform if their summer uniform no longer fits them.

PE Kit

As you know, pupils from Reception to Year 6 have PE on a sometimes flexible timetable. Please ensure your child's full and named PE kit is in school every **Monday**. Despite attempts each week to try and return pieces of unnamed kit to their rightful owners we still have far too many items to sort out at the end of each lesson with precious teaching time being lost. Thank you for your support and, in the meantime, please ensure all kit is named.

Please note that all pupils will need to have their full kit in school on the first day when we return on Thursday 25th April 2019. This will ensure they are ready and prepared for when they have their first lesson of the new term.

Pre-school Pupils

It is essential that all our Pre-School pupils are signed in and out of the hall by the adult who is responsible for bringing them to and from Goodrington. Please note that it is not acceptable for an older pupil to bring them into the Pre-school. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Sick Pupils

Great care and consideration is given when ringing parents to come and collect a pupil who is poorly. Therefore, if you do receive a call, I would respectfully ask that you make arrangements for your child to be collected as soon as possible. They must not be left to suffer in school, where there is the added possibility of germs/viruses being passed on.

Quite clearly some pupils are sent into school who are not well and who should be at home. Please do consider your sick child and the impact on them, other pupils and the school staff.

Pupil Absence

If your child is absent from school, please ensure that you inform the school office by **9.30am**, and then send in an absence letter addressed to your child's teacher upon their return to school.

Medicine in School

May I remind you that if you require your child to be given medicine during school hours, please ensure that you take the medicine to Mrs Williams or Mrs Ruyten in the office who will ask you to complete and sign the appropriate form. Please note that medicine cannot be administered to your child if the Medicine Form has not been completed. Under **no** circumstances, may medicine be placed into a child's book bag or lunch bag.

Easter Assembly

This was held on Monday 1st April with pupils from each year group giving their perspective on a Spring theme. A wonderful assembly was enjoyed by us all. Unfortunately the hall constraints do not allow for parents and family to be invited to this occasion and my apologies are extended to everyone. Thank you to Reverend Ken Wiley who came from St. Andrew's Church to give a most entertaining address to the pupils and staff.

Earrings

In accordance with the health and safety of our pupils, I would like to remind you of the policy stating that earrings are not allowed in school. This policy has been adopted in line with other directives for schools from Havering and Essex. Thank you for your co-operation, it is greatly appreciated.

Front Door

Please do endeavour to bring your child into school, via the side gate, between the times of 8.45 and 9.00am each morning. However, if the side door is locked after you have brought in your child, please leave via the front door. The front door can be opened by pressing the white exit button

and please ensure that you **ALWAYS check to see that the front door is fully closed behind you.**

Early Morning Fees

Our early morning fees continue to be £4 per session.

All pupils from Reception to Year 6 may be dropped at school from **8.00am** to **8.45am** when the school day begins. Please note staff cannot accommodate any pupils before 8.00am. They will be supervised by teaching staff in classrooms, where they have access to appropriate resources. Please note that *breakfast is not provided*, so please ensure that your child has eaten before they arrive in school.

Prior notice does not need to be given and a cash payment can be made on the morning. However, we are happy to continue to accept payment for the whole week if you do know your requirements in advance.

Pupil Achievements

Very many congratulations to the following pupils who have really excelled in their achievements listed below:

Year 5

- Dasia has achieved her brown belt in Karate

Year 6

- Tolase participated in The Stratford Musical Festival and achieved 1st place Bassoon and 2nd place as Young Musician of the Year
- Emmanuel has achieved a place in The England Athletics Squad
- Sean has achieved a scholarship place to attend Felsted School

TERM DATES 2018/19

Summer Term 2019

May Bank Holiday

Half Term

Term Ends

Starts 9 a.m. Thursday 25th April

Closed all day Monday 6th May

Break-up 3 p.m. Friday 24th May

Return 9 a.m. Monday 3rd June

Break-up 12.15 p.m. Wednesday 10th July

I hope you all have a relaxing break, and look forward to seeing you all when we return on **Thursday 25th April at 8.45am with prompt registration at 9.00am.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J.R. Ellenby
Head Teacher