

GOODRINGTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

19 October 2018

Issue 90

Dear Parents

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

Late Pupils/Morning arrangements

A number of staff recently expressed concerns to me about the numbers of pupils who are arriving late each morning. Pupils who are not in class for the 9am registration are given a 'late mark' (unless the pupil is off for illness or prior notified reason) **the totals of which are put into the end of year report in July.** Younger pupils need to be in school on time as the staff settle and prepare them for the working day. Older pupils have small working tasks to do before the official start of morning school. Pupils who arrive late are often unsettled as they are trying to 'catch up' with their peers. Please do try to arrive on time so your child has a good settled start to their school day. Staff are asked to monitor pupils who are consistently late.

Staff wished me to pass on their thanks to parents for helping the independence of their children when coming into school in the mornings. The difference this has made has been an extremely positive one, with pupils and staff being able to settle very quickly into the start of the school day. Please remember that parents are most welcome to speak to staff at any time, but the first port of call should be with the office to make an appointment. Should the matter be urgent in the morning, do still go to the office first and Mrs Williams will access the member of staff as soon as possible.

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 **immediately** upon their return to school. This request is only applicable if a telephone call has been made to the office and not if you have sent an explanation via email.

School Fees

Parents are requested to make sure they are familiar with the terms and conditions, regarding school fees, which are printed on every invoice that is sent out. Please speak to Mrs Williams in the office if clarification is required on any point. The payment of fees by cash must always be made in the office with Mrs Williams to avoid any misunderstandings.

Jeans for Genes

Another dress down day was held on Friday 21st September with £82 being raised for the Jeans for Genes Charity. Thank you to all pupils and parents for their donations.

Summer Reading Challenge 2018

The following pupils were awarded certificates for participating in the Summer Reading Challenge. Well done!

- Emmanuel
- Noah L
- Hannah O-A
- Damiana

I do hope more pupils will take part next year. Reading with understanding and fluency is such a great skill.

Christmas Raffle

Mrs. Smith will be organising a raffle following the Half-Term Break. Further details are to follow.

School Photographs

The individual and siblings photographs were taken on Tuesday 2nd October and all orders have now been sent to the photographers. Thank you to all parents who purchased photographs as every purchase helps to raise valuable funds for the school.

Collecting Stamps

As often mentioned the Royal Mail still collect used stamps for charity. Whilst many letters these days do not have stamps, please do collect the ones you do receive so they can be sent to their depot. This is ongoing, so do keep collecting and sending them into school and Mrs. Williams will forward them on approximately every half-term.

Parking in Walden Road

I would like to respectfully remind you once again to park courteously in Walden Road, when dropping off and collecting your child. I have recently had some difficult calls to deal with from residents concerning parking issues. As Walden Road is a public highway, I can only request that you park considerately, and with due care and attention especially as any problems arising do reflect negatively on the school.

Registration numbers given by neighbours for inconsiderate parking will be highlighted on ParentMail.

School Car Park

Once parents have collected their children from school or have younger children in their charge, please do not let them through the barrier into the car-park and allow them to run around or play on their bicycles. The staff often need to manoeuvre vehicles at all times of the day and it is not acceptable to compromise everyone's safety or have the possibility of damaging cars in this potentially dangerous area. Thank you for your co-operation.

Poppy Appeal

Remembrance Sunday is on Sunday 11th November. Poppies and the donations canister for The Royal British Legion will be available by the side entrance after half-term.

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 in the office, who will then ask you to complete and sign a Medicine 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.

ParentMail

ParentMail is continuing to be a very successful way of contacting and updating parents via regular emails and occasional texts. However, this service can only be fully operational if parents check for messages on a daily basis. Please do check regularly as important information is sent out to parents in this way.

Please remember to advise Mrs Williams of any changes to your mobile numbers, home phone numbers, address or email addresses, so that both our school records and Parentmail records are updated.

Harvest Assembly

Reverend Mark Davison, from Upminster Baptist Church came to address the pupils at our Harvest Assembly yesterday morning and delivered a most entertaining talk. The theme this year was 'The Harvest from the Earth'. We had a wonderful display of produce, which again this year was donated to the Trussell Trust Foodbank at Harold Hill, a most worthy cause, I'm sure you will all agree. You were very generous with your contributions and we know that this charity will be most grateful for your kindness. Apologies to parents were extended in a previous ParentMail as we are unable to invite parents. This is due to a lack of space in the hall,

Firework Danger

Forthcoming firework events will be held during the half-term break and more especially on Monday 5th November. Whilst pupils will be reminded about the dangers of fireworks prior to the holiday, I would also ask all parents to continue to support the school by also reinforcing this very important subject at home.

Bulb Planting

Thank you to all those parents who donated bulbs for the school grounds which will make a colourful display in spring.

School Uniform

Please ensure that pupils wear their full winter uniform is worn on our return after half-term and that items are purchased from Havering Schoolwear in Hornchurch Road.

It is vital that **all** items of clothing are **clearly labelled/named** so if they are mislaid they can be quickly returned to their rightful owner.

P.E. Kit

Please ensure that your child has the full winter PE Kit after half-term, otherwise they will not be permitted to participate in the P.E. lessons which take place outside. The full PE kit should include grey jogging bottoms, grey sweatshirt, and yellow polo shirt. This kit is available from Havering Schoolwear in Hornchurch Road. It is essential that pupils also have suitable trainers (any brand) to wear for their P.E. lessons.

Homework

Homework is set every evening and, unless specified, needs to be completed and returned the next morning. It is important that your child is fully prepared for the next working day, so do please help them check that they have everything ready the night before, including any pens and pencils that may have been brought home to complete the homework. Being organised is a vital part of Goodrington school life and being so lessens the impact on the interruption of staff teaching time. Thank you for supporting your child in this matter.

Holidays

Please *avoid* making holiday arrangements during term time. Your child will miss vital work which often cannot be covered with them once they return to school. Only under special circumstances will holidays be authorised, once the relevant form has been completed from the office. Unauthorised holidays will be logged in the daily register and then entered into the end of year report.

You are required to send in the Holiday Request Form *at least* 14 days prior to the requested absence.

Pantomime

Just to let you know that all the monies for the Queen's Theatre pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk" on Tuesday 11th December have now been paid and all seats have been booked. We're all looking forward to this exciting annual event!

Term Dates

Half Term	Return 9 a.m. Monday 5th November
Term Ends	Break-up 12.15 p.m. Wednesday 19th December
Spring Term 2019	Starts 9 a.m. Thursday 10th January
Half Term	Break-up 3 p.m. Friday 15th February
	Return 9 a.m. Monday 25th February
Term Ends	Break-up 12.15 p.m. Thursday 4th April
Summer Term 2019	Starts 9 a.m. Thursday 25th April
May Bank Holiday	Closed all day Monday 6th May
Half Term	Break-up 3 p.m. Friday 24th May
	Return 9 a.m. Monday 3rd June
Term Ends	Break-up 12.15 p.m. Wednesday 10th July

Have a most enjoyable half-term holiday. Again, should you be invited to, or indeed have a firework party, please keep yourselves safe. **I look forward to seeing you all when we return on Monday 5th November at 8.45am with prompt registration at 9.00am.**

Yours sincerely

Mrs J R Ellenby
Head Teacher