

GOODRINGTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

28 MARCH 2018

Issue 87

Dear Parents

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

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.

Governors

A Full Governor's Meeting was held on Tuesday 20th February where important school matters were discussed. The meeting members give wholly of their time voluntarily where they are a great asset to the school, ensuring that all areas and aspects run smoothly.

Safeguarding

I have received the following information from the ISA:

Joining the growing list of applications gaining popularity with children and predators alike is the gaming application Roblox. Within the game there is the option for players outside of a personal contact list to join. In online safety education children learn at school that they should never 'follow' or 'add' strangers to their online contacts - but many still do it. We know that schools encourage children to report anything they see as inappropriate, or if anyone they don't know attempts to contact them, but please do hammer home the danger of this particular gaming platform. If you would like to find out more about Roblox please see the web links below.

https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/roblox/?dm_i=JAQ,5HBIK,F9GUPJ,L8TD2,1#

https://i.emlfiles4.com/cmpdoc/0/1/0/5/2/files/487204_useful-websites--parent-inset.pdf?dm_i=JAQ,5HBIK,F9GUPJ,L8T4V,1

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.

Snow/School trips/Visitors

The snow at the beginning of the month put paid to a number of pre-planned events, needing them to be rescheduled. Years 1/2 were able to visit the Hornchurch Library on the morning of Monday 19.3.18. The Years 5/6 trip to the Houses of Parliament has now been booked for Wednesday 9th May. The Blue Cross visitor was unable to come on the scheduled date in March and we are waiting her to rebook.

World Maths Day

This special event was noted and held on Wednesday 7th March. Staff organised extra maths activities for the day and was a splendid success.

World Book Day

World Book Day needed to be postponed until Thursday 22nd March, again due to the snowy weather. I do hope you were able to see the amazing costumes worn by all the pupils on the Goodrington School Facebook page. We held the usual parade in the hall and this year, and our guest judges were Mrs Williams and Mrs K Patel.

The overall winners were:

- Pre-school: Isla
- Reception: Theo
- Years 1/2: Eburn
- Years 3/4: Ishy
- Years 5/6: Sadia

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

Sport Relief

So that Mrs Cappi could assist, this year we held our Sport Relief on Tuesday 20th March and what an eventful day it proved to be. Pupils had another 'dress down' day with £59 being raised to help those in need. Thank you to one and all for your contributions.

Mrs. Cappi and the staff organised sporting activities where the pupils had a chance to showcase their skills. This proved to be great fun and all those pupils who participated were applauded for their fantastic efforts.

Parents Evening

Parents Evening will be held on Wednesday 25th April for classes Reception 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.

ISA AGM

I attended the ISA AGM on the afternoon of Thursday 15th March at Braeside School in Buckhurst Hill. There were 20 other Head Teacher's from across North London at the meeting, where current issues were discussed, with an added excellent opportunity to share good practice.

Viewings

I am pleased to say there has been a great increase in the number of viewings at the school from potential new parents. Clearly our excellent ISA Inspection Report from June last year has played a good part in this, but I want to also thank the current parents who are also making recommendations to their families and friends.

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 scooter 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 scooter 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 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.

F.O.G

The Friends of Goodrington continue to be active with fundraising activities, the latest of which was the Easter Chocolate Raffle. Thank you to all who purchased tickets. The final amount raised will be confirmed shortly.

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, full summer uniform will be required to be worn UNLESS the weather is particularly cold or inclement. I am taking this opportunity to attach the school uniform list to this newsletter.

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 19th April 2018. 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 Tuesday 27th March with pupils from each year group giving their perspective on a religious 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

With effect from 19th April 2018 our early morning fees will be increasing to £4 per session or part thereof.

All pupils from Reception to Year 6 may be dropped at school from 8.00am to 8.45am when the school day begins. 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 no longer needs 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.

Fees for 2018/19

The main school fees for the academic year, commencing on 1st September 2018, will be £2,305 per term including Personal Accident insurance. Refreshments will continue to remain at £25 per term.

Our Pre-school fees for 2018/19, for any additional hours above 15 funded hours per week, will be £7.50 per hour.

Term Dates 2017/18

Summer Term 2018

May Bank Holiday
Half Term

Term Ends

Starts 9 a.m. Thursday 19th April
Closed all day Monday 7th May
Break-up 3 p.m. Friday 25th May
Return 9 a.m. Monday 4th June
Break-up 12.15 p.m. Wednesday 11th July

TERM DATES 2018/19

Autumn Term 2018

Half Term

Term Ends

Starts 9 a.m. on Thursday 6th September
Break-up 3 p.m. Friday 19th October
Return 9 a.m. Monday 5th November
Break-up 12.15 p.m. Wednesday 19th December

Spring Term 2019

Half Term

Starts 9 a.m. Thursday 10th January
Break-up 3 p.m. Friday 15th February
Return 9 a.m. Monday 25th February

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

Finally.....

Everyone was informed last Friday about Miss Andrews, but felt it appropriate to add the information sent out on ParentMail here.

It is with sadness that I must advise you that Miss Andrews will be leaving Goodrington School today (Friday 23rd March). Miss Andrews has been a great asset to the school and has enjoyed working with our Year 1 and 2 pupils, as well as our Year 3 and 4 pupils during Mrs Smith's maternity leave.

However, since Mrs Smith has returned from maternity leave, Miss Andrews has been looking for a full-time teaching role and has now been offered a new post which requires an immediate start. While Miss Andrews' departure is sooner than we all anticipated, we understand that she cannot afford to miss out on this opportunity.

As a result, after the Easter break, I will be teaching the Year 1 and 2 children on a Thursday and Friday, while Mrs Asare will continue to teach them on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. I will, of course, also continue my job share with Miss Smith teaching our Year 3 and 4 pupils on a Monday and Tuesday.

Lastly, I am sure that you will all join with me in wishing Miss Andrews every success in her new role.

I hope you all have a relaxing break, and look forward to seeing you all when we return on **Thursday 19th April at 8.45am with prompt registration at 9.00am.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J.R. Ellenby
Head Teacher