



Graveley Primary School Newsletter No. 4 Autumn 2 2019



Dear Parents,

Thank you **all** for making yesterday's Christmas Fete so much of a success. There is a huge amount of work that goes on behind the scenes to ensure such a smooth running of such a show. We could not have done it without the donations made beforehand; to those that gave up their time before, during and after and of course all of those that came along and spent their money! These fundraising events play a vital role in providing enrichment to the children's curriculum and enable us to purchase items and experiences that our school budget does not allow. As soon as we know the final total we will let you know.

All children across the school made Christmas decorations that were sold at the fete yesterday. If you were unable to attend and would like to buy your child's decoration, please send in £2.00 in an envelope to your child's teacher or pop into the school office.

It has been a busy half term of fundraising and after all of the Happy Bag donations were weighed out, we are pleased to say that we raised £229.45! Thank you all for the donations.

On Tuesday, the Year 6 House Captains attended the meeting of Stevenage School's Parliament at the council offices. They brought along the shortlisted copies of the environmental posters to be judged along with the other schools and we are delighted to say that Lauren in Class 4, whose poster entry was shortlisted from Graveley will be produced for all schools to use across the town.

On Wednesday, the Year 2 children visited St Hugh's and St John's church to take part in the Christmas Journey provided by Bridgebuilders. They were taken back in time to meet the main characters of the first Christmas story, hearing from each character's perspective and then had a chance to ask them questions.

I have noticed that we have several children coming into school with some very ornate hair accessories and also a number of children wearing trainers. I have attached a copy of our uniform policy as a reminder of what we would expect to see and not see in school. Thank you for your cooperation.

Just a reminder that snack vouchers (10 for £5.00) are available from the office for children in Year 1 upwards to purchase a snack at break-time if they wish.

Kind regards,

Nicky Hand (Headteacher)

Notices and Reminders



We will once again be hosting a **Film Night** (film to be confirmed) for the children on **Thursday 12th December from 3:15pm – 5:00pm**. Tickets are £3.00 which includes a snack and drink. Your child will also be entered into a prize draw with a chance to win a DVD of the film shown. If you would like your child to take part, please send £3.00 into school in a named envelope by Tuesday 10th December. This will not be a ticketed event. Once we have received payment from you, your child's name will be put onto the Film Night list of attendees.

Reminder - School Uniform Policy

Boys and Girls

Grey trousers (short or long) Grey skirt/trousers/pinafore
White shirt with a collar
School tie
Plain black, grey or white socks /Dark grey tights
Dark shoes (not trainers)
Royal blue v-necked jumper or cardigan preferably with school logo
During the summer months, girls may wear a blue gingham/ striped dress.
Should a hijab be worn this must be royal blue.

PE / Sports Kit for boys and girls

Royal blue T-shirt with school logo
Black shorts or skorts
Black jogging bottoms (sweatshirt like material with no piping)
Royal blue track suit top with school logo
Plimsolls or trainers for outdoor activities

Ties, book bags and P.E. bags are available from the school office. Other items are available to order from Kids Connection (www.kidsconnection.co.uk). Most generic items (such as skirts, trousers, jogging bottoms, P.E. shorts) can be purchased from local shops and supermarkets. Skirts and dresses should be long enough to enable the wearer to sit cross-legged without embarrassment.

Jewellery - On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear any jewellery in our school unless it is a medical alert bracelet.

Hair and make-up - The school does not permit children to have extreme haircuts (such as Mohicans) or colouring that could serve as a distraction to other children. Hair bands, clips and so on should be discreet designs in colours compatible with school colours and only used in order to keep hair in place. Long hair on girls or boys should be tied back. Some hair ornaments may need to be removed for P.E. on the grounds of health and safety. No make-up or nail varnish may be worn during the school day. Similarly, temporary transfers or fake 'tattoos' are not appropriate.

Key Dates for Autumn Term II 2019

Wednesday 11th December	<i>2:00pm – Class 2 Christmas performance to parents at St Mary's Church.</i>
Thursday 12 th December	3:15pm Film Night.
Friday 13 th December	<i>2:00pm – Class 1 Nativity to parents at school.</i>
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Jumper Day. Christmas Lunch. 2:00pm – Carol Concert.
Friday 20 th December	1:15pm – Break up for the Christmas holidays.
Christmas Holidays	Monday 23rd December – Monday 6th January 2020 (inclusive).
Tuesday 7 th January 2020	Children return to school. 8:00am - Class 4 trip to Warner Bros Studios (letters sent out).

Please note - The above dates may change and additional events may be added during the course of the term. Please refer to the school's weekly Newsletter for any diary updates.

Recently added events shown in *italics*.

Graveley Primary School Snow Procedures 2019/20

When a decision is made to close Graveley Primary School in severe, snowy weather, it is done to ensure the safety of all pupils, parents and staff.

Snowfall Overnight

The decision is made early in the morning and depends on local factors. **If severe weather is expected to last all day we will close the school at 2:30pm** to enable parents and children to get home safely and avoid the heavy end of day traffic. However, occasionally it does not start snowing until the morning which can delay decisions.

You will be informed that the school is closed in the following ways:

1. **Parentmail PMX** – An email message and text message will be sent via Parentmail at the earliest opportunity. Please ensure the school office holds the most up to date contact details for you.
2. **Everbridge School Notification System** - this notification system has been put in place to enable messages from the school to be sent immediately via text message. Please take 5 minutes to register your details with Everbridge so that you can receive immediate information and updates: <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489#/login>
3. **Twitter**: A tweet will be sent via Twitter at the earliest opportunity.
4. **School Website** – When possible, the website will inform as to whether the school is closed (www.graveley.herts.sch.uk).
5. We will also update our **Facebook page**.

Heavy Snowfall Whilst School is Open

If a significant amount of snow falls and settles, the school will close early. You will be informed as above.

We endeavour to keep school open as we know how much closing impacts on parents' jobs. Please help us by ensuring we have your up to date contact details and your phone with you. When arranging for an earlier closing time we ask that you please adhere to this time and do not come earlier. It is disruptive to learning and classroom organisation when children are leaving throughout the afternoon.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation and support.

November 2019