

Graveley Primary School Newsletter

Newsletter 4 - Autumn Term 2 2022

Dear Parents,

Parking

Can I please encourage all parents to make use of the kind offer we have at being able to park at The George and Dragon and walking up to school for pick-up and drop-off. We have had instances of parents parking in front of neighbour's driveways. You may only think you are just popping to the school and only leaving your car for a few minutes, but it is extremely frustrating for our neighbours who are left not being able to leave their houses during this time. Thank you for your co-operation.

Christmas

Next Thursday (1st December) will see the return of the Christmas postbox. This will be available for children to post their cards at the beginning of the day. Please make sure that the correct class name is written on the envelope. The Christmas elves will then make deliveries during the course of the day. Our whole school carol concert will take place on Friday 16th December. There will be two repeated performances. We anticipate these to be at 9:30am and 2:30pm. Details of ticket allocation will be announced next week.

Impetigo

We have two suspected cases of impetigo within school. This is a very common, but highly infectious skin condition in young children. Please be aware of any new blister like spots appearing around the mouth and nose. Health recommendations are that children should stay away from school until the sores are scabbed over or 48 hours after antibiotic cream has been applied.

FOG

FOG would be most grateful for parents to volunteer at the fete on Wednesday 14th December. Ideally, they need more people to help set up (11:30am - 12:30pm) and run stalls (1pm - 2pm for Infants and 2pm - 3pm for Juniors). Please email fogchairperson@graveley.herts.sch.uk or pop into the school office who will pass on your details.



TT Rockstars and Numbots

Well done to all of those children who have taken part in our TT Rockstar tournament and Numbots this week.

This week's results:

Reception/Year 1 - Jesse, Reign, Rosie

Year 2 - Elodie, Caitlyn, Alfie

Year 3 - Sera, Tom

Year 4 - Roxanne, Reggie, Oscar, Dan

Year 5 - Isla Jayne, Rachael, Nellie

Year 6 - Phoebe, Kirk, Beatrix

School Dinners

If your child is in Y3 - Y6 and they have school lunches, please check their Meal Account in Arbor for any outstanding balances and top-up accordingly. Many thanks.

Attendance

You may be aware that prior to half term, I sent out a letter to remind you of the high priority that children's attendance and punctuality is here at Graveley. Our new Attendance Policy is available on our website for you to read. This will be effective from January 2023. Please do pay particular attention to the introduction of fixed penalty notices. If a pupil has at least 15 sessions unauthorised in the current and/or previous term, then this may result in a referral to the local authority to issue a penalty notice. This is obviously a last resort for us and we hope that you will continue to work with us to reduce term time absence to ensure your children are able to access the best possible education.

Kind regards,

Nicky Hand
Headteacher

At Graveley, our goal is for all pupils to be in school for at least 96% of the time.
This means a maximum of 8 days off in an academic year.

365 days in a calendar year		175 non-school days a year! Use this time for holidays and appointments.					
		0 days absence	8 days absence	19 days absence	29 days absence	38 days absence	47 days absence
		190 days of education a year	182 days of education a year	171 days of education a year	161 days of education a year	152 days of education a year	143 days of education a year
		100% Attendance	96% Attendance	90% Attendance	85% Attendance	80% Attendance	75% Attendance
		Good A child has the best start to their schooling and reaching their potential and having success.		Worrying Below 90% is considered persistent absenteeism and the local authority may become involved and take action. Absence is greatly affecting progress and attainment. Less chance of success.		Serious Concern A serious impact on education. A child will find it extremely difficult to keep up and achieve their best. Results in referral to attendance improvement officer and the local authority may take action against parents and carers.	

Some dates for the diary:

- Tuesday 29th November at 2:30pm - KS1 Parents' Phonics Workshop in hall (to book a place, please email admin@graveley.herts.sch.uk).
- Friday 2nd December - school closed for INSET DAY.
- Monday 5th December - school closed for Occasional Day.
- Friday 9th December - Non Uniform Day in exchange for a chocolate donation for Christmas Fete.
- Wednesday 14th December - Christmas Lunch/Christmas Jumper and FOG Christmas Fete.
- Friday 16th December - Whole School Carol Concert (2 performances - 9:30am and 2:30pm).
- Wednesday 21st December - break up for Christmas holidays (early finish - time to be confirmed).

"With God, all things are possible."

Matthew 19:26