

Graveley Primary School Newsletter

Newsletter 2 - Autumn Term 2024



Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of a busy and joyful term, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on all the wonderful events and achievements we have celebrated together as a school this half-term.

Sports News

This term, our children have had great fun taking part in a variety of sporting events. Key Stage 2 enjoyed both a **Rowing Competition** and a **Bowling Event**, showcasing their teamwork and determination. Meanwhile, our Key Stage 1 children showed their energy and enthusiasm at the **Athletics Festival**. Well done to everyone who took part!

Charity Events

We are incredibly proud of our children and families for their generosity and support during our charity initiatives. Our **Bake Sale** and **Onesie Day** for Children in Need were a huge success, raising vital funds for this important cause. In addition, our **Reverse Advent Calendar** donations for the Food Shed have made a real difference to families in need this Christmas. Thank you to everyone who contributed so generously.

Enriching Experiences

The children have also enjoyed some exciting enrichment opportunities this term. Badger Class spent a whole day immersed in the **Lego League**, building and problem-solving together. Year 5 participated in a **Growth Mindset Workshop**, where they learned about perseverance, resilience, and achieving their full potential. Foxes Class had a very special treat with a visit from a **virtual author**, inspiring their love of reading and storytelling.

Celebrations and Performances

We were delighted to welcome parents into school for some special events this term. Badger Class led a moving **Remembrance Assembly**, reminding us all of the importance of reflection and gratitude. Our **Christmas Decoration Morning** was a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to come together to spread some festive cheer.

Our children shone brightly in their **Christmas Carol Concerts**, delivering amazing performances that truly captured the magic of the season. We are so proud of their hard work and enthusiasm!

Christmas Day in School

The festive spirit continued with our Christmas Day activities, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all. The children wore their Christmas jumpers, shared a delicious Christmas lunch, and had fun celebrating together in their classrooms. A huge thank you to everyone who made this day so special for the children.

FOG Christmas Fair

A special mention must go to our fantastic **Friends of Graveley (FOG)** team and all the volunteers who worked so hard to organise the annual **Christmas Fair**. It was a magical afternoon, and the children had a fantastic time enjoying the stalls, activities, and festive treats.

This half-term, we have also welcomed Emma London to our staff team in Hedgehogs Class. I'm sure many of you know her as Lily and Leo's mum.

Today we say goodbye to Mr Blanch in Badger Class. Miss Adams will be joining us in January to cover until Miss Potter returns.

Thank you once again for your continued support throughout this term. On behalf of all the staff, I wish you and your families a peaceful and joyful Christmas and Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 6th January for another exciting term.

Best wishes,

Nicky Hand (Headteacher)



Message from the Chair of the Governing Board

Merry Christmas! As we all head off to our own celebrations, I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation to the children for their incredible Christmas Carol Concert. Watching them have so much fun and their faces light up with excitement really brought the Christmas spirit alive. It was clear that they put in a lot of hard work and I want to give a special mention to Mrs Adams for organising this year's show.

The Christmas Fair organised by FOG turned the school hall into a winter wonderland filled with games and cuddly toys. The FOG volunteers put in a lot of hard work and it really paid off. Thank you all! The children had a great time and left feeling even more excited about Christmas. Finally, thank you to the children, parents, carers and of course staff, who make Graveley School the amazing place it is.

On behalf of all the Governors, we wish you all a joyful festive break and a happy and healthy 2025!

Best wishes,

David Marriott

Message from FOG (Friends of Graveley)

Hi everyone!

We have had a super busy and very fun time this half term fundraising for the school. We have enjoyed partying at the Spooky Disco; sold lots of delights on Sweet Treat Fridays; organised a clothing collection; got in the festive spirit with our Christmas photoshoot; rehomed our collection of preloved Christmas jumpers; given away some great prizes in our Christmas raffle and topped it all off with an amazing Christmas fete! We are delighted to say that as a result of all your generous efforts, we have raised £1126.20 this half term. This money will be used to purchase a reading shed that will be placed in the playground for all the children to enjoy!

We would like to say a massive THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed to our fund raising efforts so far this year, our group of FOG volunteers who make all of this possible and to the children and school for allowing us to put on all of these events.

From FOG, we wish you all a lovely Christmas.



Some Key Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
Friday 20 th December	1:15pm - Break up for Christmas holidays.
Monday 6 th January 2025	8:50am – children return to school.
Monday 13 th January	Badger Class trip to the Scott Polar Museum, Cambridge (letters sent out).
Tuesday 14 th January	KS1 Games Festival (more details to follow).
Thursday 16 th January	Spring Census Day (special lunch menu to be confirmed nearer the time). Year 3/4 Indoor Athletics (more details to follow).
Monday 20 th January	2pm – SEN coffee afternoon. To reserve a place, please email admin@graveley.herts.sch.uk
Friday 7 th February	TT Rockstar day (more details to follow).
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day.
Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st February (inclusive)	HALF TERM (school closed).