



Anston Greenlands Primary School



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dates for your Diary

November Wednesday 15 th Thursday 16 th Friday 17 th Wednesday 22 nd Thursday 30 th	Parents' Evening Parents' Evening Children In Need (details to follow) Parent and Carer Workshops *new date* PTA Christmas Fair – after school
December Monday 4 th Wednesday 6 th Thursday 7 th Friday 8 th Monday 11 th Thursday 14 th Friday 22 nd	Y5/6 curriculum event – details to follow Infant Nativity (afternoon) Infant Nativity (afternoon) Christmas Jumper Day (note – this is the day after the national day, due to the Nativity) PTA Christmas Film event – after school Infant pantomime visit Last day – 2pm finish – return to school Monday 8 th January
February Friday 9 th	Last day – half term follows – return to school Monday 19 th February
March Thursday 7 th Thursday 28 th	World Book Day – dress as a book character Last day – Easter holiday follows – return to school Monday 15 th April
May Thursday 2 nd Monday 6 th 13 th – 16 th Thursday 23 rd Friday 24 th	INSET day (elections) – school closed to children May Day – school closed to children Y6 SATs Class photos (and individual Y6 photos) Last day – half term follows – return to school Tuesday 4 th June (after INSET)
June Monday 3 rd WB 10 th	INSET day – school closed to children Y1 phonics screening check
July (to follow) 15 th – 23 rd Tuesday 23 rd	(dates for Sports Day and Performances to follow) Non-uniform – Uniform Swap Shop to take place from Tuesday onwards Last day – 2pm finish – summer holiday follows



The Great Greenlands Conker Championships 2023

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2023 Conker Champions! After some tense opening rounds (and a bit of rock, paper, scissors!) we reached the grand finals, which took place on the outdoor stage. From the semi-finals onwards, rock, paper, scissors was no longer an option – instead, the competitors either had to smash their opponent's conker or score the most hits. This led to some very exciting matches! In the end, we crowned one winner from each class. Well done everyone!



Parent Workshops – Wednesday 22nd November

On Wednesday 22nd, we will be hosting a series of parent and carer workshops, to give you a chance to learn more about the work your child is doing in school this year. These sessions will include information about the maths and grammar expectations in your child's current year group and are highly recommended for all parents and carers who are able to attend. We will be running each session twice, so that families with siblings can attend both. These will take place at 2.15pm and 3.20pm, with each session lasting approximately 45 minutes. A booking form will be sent separately.

Lunchtime Supervisor Job

We are currently looking for a new lunchtime supervisor to join our team. If you or anyone you know may be interested, please contact the school office on 01909 550557.

Earrings

A number of parents have asked us about earrings recently so I thought I'd explain the reasons behind our approach. You may remember from our prospectus that children aren't allowed to wear earrings for PE and that these cannot be covered with tape. To be clear, this isn't something we've decided arbitrarily – as always we follow national guidance wherever it is given. The Association for Physical Education (the national body that guides schools about PE) is clear that children shouldn't wear earrings for PE; they also advise that tape shouldn't be used, as this can fall off. For that reason, we suggest that the best time for children to have their ears pierced is the start of the school holidays, as this allows 6 weeks before children need to start taking them out. Thank you as always for your support with this.

Wildlife Trust Flagship School

Very exciting news! Greenlands has been chosen to be the flagship school for the Wildlife Trust! As you may remember, we're running a rewilding award system for Rotherham's schools and as part of that, we're going to offer training for staff from across the region. To support with this, the Wildlife Trust will soon be carrying out a site survey and advising us on ways to attract more wildlife, further helping our rewilding process. We'll also be planting more trees soon as part of this – something our children will all be involved in. If you'd like to know more about our rewilding or get involved in any way, please get in touch!



**Sheffield &
Rotherham**
Wildlife Trust

Reminder – Arriving Promptly

We'd like to request that wherever possible, children arrive at school ready to come in at 8.40am. Teachers plan morning work that starts as soon as the doors are open, and this learning time really adds up. It might not sound like a big thing, but a child who arrives at 8.50am every day misses almost an hour of learning each week compared to children who arrive at 8.40. Thank you as always for your support with this.

Is your child eligible for the Pupil Premium?

Did you know that your child may be eligible for the Pupil Premium – a government grant provided to schools to ensure all children make the best start in life? To receive Pupil Premium, your child must be **registered for free school meals**. This is where things get confusing, because all children in Wrens, Robins and Chaffinches already receive free school meals automatically! However, if you fit any one of the criteria below and you apply, our school will receive funding which is designed to have a direct impact your child. In the past, this grant has funded:

- Free places at breakfast and afterschool club;
- Specially targeted extra-curricular clubs;
- Educational support;
- Reduced price music lessons;
- Reduced price educational visits and residential etc.

Your child is eligible if you have been granted:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit and you have a gross annual income that does not exceed £16,190. Please note you will not qualify for Free School Meals if you receive Working Tax Credits
- Pension Credits (Guaranteed Credit)
- Asylum Seeker Status

The application process is straightforward and doesn't take very long. The online form can be found by searching for **Rotherham free school meals** on Google. If you'd like any support in applying, or if you have any questions about Free School Meals or the Pupil Premium, please don't hesitate to ask!

Christmas Fair and Santa Dash

This year's Christmas Fair will be taking place on the 30th November, and we're pleased to announce that we'll once again be hosting our Santa Dash just beforehand! Details of both events will follow soon, but in the meantime, save the date!

Children in Need

This year, our Sports Leaders are preparing a family "Bear Crawl" event in honour of Pudsey! They'll be getting a letter to you about this shortly.

INSET Dates for This Year

A reminder that this year's remaining INSET days are:

Thursday 2nd May 2024

Monday 3rd June 2024