

GREENFYLDE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FIRST SCHOOL

Incorporating Cygnets and Sunny Ile Pre Schools

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Newsletter No: 7 Friday 23rd October 2020

FrOGS – We need you!

Please make sure you have read our email from FrOGS this week about the future of this, our parent, teacher and friends' group which we are also attaching to this newsletter. Thank you for the families who have come forward to help but we still need more volunteers to ensure we can keep this group going as they offer so much for our children and without them we would miss out on a number of opportunities. Please try and get involved if you can to support Greenfylde.

Ilminster and Crewkerne Strategic Review of Schooling

A decision has now been taken to go to consultation and we would encourage you to have your say about the proposal to close Greenfylde and create a new primary school in Ilminster for your children. The link below will include the most up to date documents from the Local Authority regarding the strategic review, including details of the consultation when this becomes available.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/crewkerne-and-ilminster-strategic-school-review/>

Coming and going from school

Thank you to all the families who have supported our request for social distancing whilst waiting to drop off/collect children from school. Please can we encourage everyone to ensure they leave 2m between themselves and others who are not part of their household to keep our school community as safe as we can during Covid. Families dropping off should stand in the 'feet square' so that the teacher can see them and please ensure 2m is also maintained from staff whilst you are talking to them.

Safeguarding - medical

Please can we ask families when leaving absence messages to tell us the details and symptoms rather than a general 'not well' as we now have to categorise children's absence daily to the Department of Education and this is based on their symptoms. This is especially true if they have any potential Covid symptoms – high temperature (hot to touch or higher than 37.8°C), new continuous dry cough or loss of taste/smell.

If your child receives a positive Covid test during half term and we hope this doesn't happen for anyone, it is still important you let school know straight away so that we can work with Public Health and the DfE to contact close contacts to self-isolate. This should be reported by emailing the office email greenfylde@educ.somerset.gov.uk which will be checked regularly and someone from school will be in touch with you, please put 'positive Covid test received' in the message subject line.

We would also like to remind families that usual Public Health guidance on diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms still applies and children should remain absent 48 hours from the last occurrence.

Mayor's Q&A session

Well done to our Key Stage 2 children led by the school council for their thoughtful and insightful questions for the Mayor, Cllr Burton this week. We received this response from the Town Clerk which also answers one of the questions that many children were wanting an answer for and hopefully this is the answer they wanted to receive:

'Thank you for organising the Question Time with the Mayor. He really enjoyed it. There was a question one of the children asked about the refurbished of the playpark and they were concerned that the zip wire had been removed. It would great if you could let the child know that a new zip wire is being installed as part of the refurbishment. It won't be part of phase 1 but it is on the plan and should be installed (subject to any change to Covid restrictions) spring next year.'



Mrs House

Congratulations to Mrs House who gave birth to a new daughter last week and we wish her and her family much happiness.



Virtual tour for prospective families

Miss Cresswell has made a brilliant short film to share life at Greenfyld for prospective families and we aim to post this on our website soon. Please let anyone know who is looking to start school next year.

In the meantime, we also have a child's tour through our Greenfyld Dog character books (Reception met him for their induction this year) and his stories, including a new one for our virtual tour are available on the school website.

Parents' Evening

Due to Covid we will be having a slightly different Parents' Evening this year. Class teachers will contact families directly to arrange a telephone call or Zoom to discuss your child's progress and how they have settled in to school. These will be spread over a three week period to fit these in and each class will have a morning, afternoon and twilight session (after school to 5.45pm) when they can arrange meetings. Please look on class dojo for information.



FrOGS' Christmas Cards

Your child will have brought home their Christmas Card design this week. If you wish to purchase, cards etc these orders will need to be back in school by Thursday 5th November so we can ensure delivery back to school by the end of the month. Cheques should be made payable to Friends of Greenfyld School.



Privacy Notice

Our Privacy Notice for pupils and parents has been updated explaining how we use your data in school and this can be read on our website at <https://www.somerset.org.uk/sites/greenfyld/SitePages/Data%20Protection.aspx>

Shoobox collection

We are still trying to support Blytheswood Care's Shoobox scheme this year and your child will have brought home a leaflet about this. This year we are asking for shoeboxes to be delivered direct to The Minster on the 12th, 13th or 14th of November.

Harvest

Please see the thank you attached from the Ilminster Foodbank for the generous donations from Harvest and a reminder that they are there for any of our families without the need for referral vouchers during Covid.



Future Events

Even with Covid restrictions we are trying to keep as many events as possible in the school calendar and we thought you would appreciate advance notice of the following:

Friday 13th November – Children in Need – wear something cheerful from your wardrobe on an own clothes day – voluntary donation of 50p per family.

Friday 20th November – we're still going to dress up in Victorian Clothes to have a fun History Day in school and we'll also be having a lantern display in the Ilminster Emporium.

Thursday 10th and Friday 11th December – Save the Children Christmas jumper days – wear your favourite Christmas/Winter jumper or just a jumper of your choice for a voluntary donation of 50p per family

Half term and Inset Day

We wish all our families the best for the half term break and a reminder that there is an INSET day on Monday 2nd November so school restarts for the children on Tuesday 3rd November. This half term we are having work on site as the Local Authority are paying for the playground and Reception outdoor classroom areas to be resurfaced so we look forward to seeing this when we return from half term.

Lions' Award

Congratulations to our Lions' Award winners for October.

Dove	Charlie L
Pippin	Dove B
Golden	Milo H
Puffin	Elliott O
Camelot	Harriet A
Hook	Darcie S
Dunkerton	Maya B
Morgan	Tighe J
Ashton	Vinnie C
Coker	Isla F
Coopers	Jack P
Gatcombe	Darcie D

Children will have their certificates and shields presented in class on Friday 6th November at 9.30am for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and Thursday 5th November at 9.30am for Years 3 and 4.

Families of the recipients are welcome to attend via Zoom and a link will be sent out to the contact emails we have for our Lions' Award recipients. We encourage all family members to stay until the end of the celebration if possible.

Please note if joining via Zoom no recordings or screen shots should be taken of the sessions for safeguarding.





Dear Families,

This is an SOS from FrOGs (Friends of Greenfyld School) our parent, teacher and friends association. Our numbers have dwindled to the point where we may have to close and we are asking for your help so the children don't miss out.

For years FrOGs has not only raised funds to support the school but also has arranged family and child friendly events to bring our community together. No FrOGs would mean:

- No discos, Christmas/Easter Bingo and Quizzes
- No Summer fair, hamper raffle or cake sales
- No additional funds that in recent years have bought forest school/gardening equipment, outdoor sinks, set up our school library, bought new reading books, funded wet weather games in classrooms and provided resources for Maths and English across the school to name but a few.
- No swimming pool and swimming lessons in school

Volunteering does not take up much time but makes a huge difference to your child's school. We urgently need a Chair of FrOGs and a Treasurer to come forward. School will help these people in their roles but without them we cannot run the committee. We are also looking for volunteers who can help with events.

We've already planned some online events for this term but without support these cannot go ahead.

If you can help in any way please speak to the School Office as we need you!

FrOGs



Sunny-Ile Pre-School Cygnet Pre-School



Newsletter - Friday 23rd October 2020

Sunny Ile and Cygnet Pre School

We hope all our families have a lovely half term break. Remember we have an INSET day on Monday the 2nd November . We will see you all on Tuesday the 3rd November

Safeguarding – Contact details

If you or any family/friends on your contact list have changed telephone numbers, please do tell us so we can update your details. Also if you also change your address or email address please let us know so we can update our records.

Christmas Card Design

Please can you ensure you bring back your Christmas card orders on Tuesday 2 November.

Safeguarding – Parking

Please can we ask that when parking around the school that you do not park on the double yellow lines, unless a disabled badge is showing. Thank you.

Dates for the Diary

Children in Need - 13 November - Children to wear bright and colourful clothes- a voluntary donation of 50p

Christmas Jumper Day - 10 and 11 December – Wear Christmas jumpers to raise funds for Save the children – a voluntary donation of 50p.

Sunny Ile Pre School

The weather this week has been really windy, we have enjoyed watching the leaves blow off the trees; branches swinging side to side and even using ribbons and watching them blow in the air. What can you see blowing in the wind?

STC Signs

The children have learnt our STC signs of "Mummy" and "Daddy" this week. Ask your child if they can remember them. We will be learning two new signs next week.

Tapestry

As part of developing our shared care policy - staff will upload observations each week after half term. We would love for parents to upload activities and observations to their child's journal using their key person's objective for ideas. Adult led focus for week beginning 2/10/20 is 'Being Imaginative'.

Letters and Sounds challenge

As part of our school readiness project, every fortnight the Sunny Ile team will be putting a letters and sounds challenge onto Tapestry.

This time our sound is the letter "S". We would like you to have fun exploring and learning with your children, finding objects that begin with the "S" sound. You can then upload your objects onto Tapestry for us to share with the children.



Sunny-Ile Pre-School Cygnet Pre-School



Newsletter - Friday 23rd October 2020

Cygnet Pre School

Tapestry

We would love it if you could all have a look at tapestry over half term to see what we have been up to this half term at preschool, we have shared lots of photos with you. We would also love to see what you get up to over half term week so please feel free to share any of your photos with us via tapestry. This can be downloaded as an app on your mobile phone.

Shared learning

We always have a focus on a letter each week to encourage our phonics learning. We will begin sharing our 'Letter of the week' with you via tapestry after half term so would love for you to get involved and encourage this learning at home.

Half Term

We would like to wish you all a very happy half term break and also say a big well done to Naomi, Kelly and Sarah for settling in so well this half term with us at Cygnets, as well as, a big well done to all of the children for being amazing and settling back into preschool life so well.

Remembrance Sunday

8th November

Sadly, due to Covid-19 Restrictions there will be no public act of wreath laying or parade this year. Instead you are warmly invited to watch a live streamed 'Service of Remembrance' from The Minster at 3 pm on on The Minster's Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/minsterilminster>





Thank you for your donations to the Food Bank
Your generosity enables food parcels to be given to any in
need making an enormous difference to the
welfare of many affected by the Covid pandemic.

The food bank is available to anyone; families, couples,
individuals who need a little help during this difficult time.
Just come along to the Minster Rooms on Wednesdays or
Saturdays 10.00 to 12.00 and help will be offered.