

The Greysbrooke Grapevine



The fortnightly newsletter that keeps you up to date with what is going on at Greysbrooke.



www.greysbrooke.staffs.sch.uk

SUMMER TERM NEWSLETTER NO.6

Dear Parents

11 July 2018

We reach the end of another academic year and our final Grapevine. The children have worked extremely hard and should be proud of their achievements in and out of the classroom. I would like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to all children, staff, governors and parents for their hard work and support this academic year. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday. Please stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Reception Class 2018 Induction

On Thursday 28 June, Mrs Wharton held a most informative session for new parents to Greysbrooke. It was lovely to see a number of familiar faces amongst the audience, as some of the new reception children currently have siblings in school. This session provided details of practical arrangements governing admissions for children joining the Reception class in September 2018 including lunch arrangements, school uniform, pre-school tasks, etc.

This is the beginning of our annual induction process and Mrs Wharton has already visited the children in their current nursery setting. Parents who were unable to attend this meeting should have received an information pack from school. Particular thanks to Mrs Sheehan (Parent Governor) for the compilation and production of the new Induction pack. The youngsters visited our school on Monday morning.

Summer Reading Challenge

On Monday 2 July a member of the Staffordshire library team visited Greysbrooke to launch this year's summer reading challenge. The event can be joined at Shenstone library. Sign up, then read 6 library books of your choice, collecting stickers and other rewards along the way - all FREE. This is an event which always receives tremendous support from our children and usually results in the awarding of numerous certificates of achievement in the autumn term so, happy reading everyone! This year, previous participants were rewarded with a special afternoon ambassador's afternoon tea at Shenstone library.

If you can complete the challenge you will help our school towards winning the school's trophy! The nearest libraries are:

Shenstone Library, Main Street, Shenstone, WS14 0NF - 01543 480915

Lichfield Library, The Friary, Lichfield, WS13 6QG - 01543 510712

Burntwood Library, Sankeys Corner, Rugeley Road, Chase Terrace, WS7 2BX - 01543 682447

Facebook: [staffordshirelibraries](https://www.facebook.com/staffordshirelibraries)

Twitter: [@staffslibraries](https://twitter.com/staffslibraries)

Mrs Hibberd is always pleased to receive a photograph from children or families who find the chance to read in 'unusual' places over the summer holidays. Please forward these to Mrs Hibberd at

the start of the new academic year so that we can celebrate Greysbrooke children reading in unusual situations, places and even all over the world!

Sports Day

A very successful Sports Day was held on 3 July and this year followed a changed format with a carousel of sporting activities operating in the morning, a picnic lunch and then more traditional races in the afternoon session. It was lovely to see the children enthusiastically participating with older pupils supporting the younger ones and there was a real community event surrounding the shared lunchtime. Thank you to all staff and FROGS who helped with the organisation of the day and in particular, to Miss Callahan who arrived at school at 6.00am that morning to arrange the playing field according to her operational plan. We received many positive comments about the day and hope to repeat this in the future.

A Musical Performance

Following on from Sports Day, KS2 children were treated to a keyboard performance by pupils under the guidance of their tutor, Mrs Cooke. The children told a story through music and the progress that many of them had made in a short time was evident. Several of the children are taking exams over the next fortnight and we wish them every success with these.

The Creative Curriculum was evident in abundance as Y4 participated in American Independence Day on Wednesday 4 July. The children wore fantastic themed costumes with Donald Trump, Elvis, The Statue of Liberty, Yellow Cabs and Minnie Mouse amongst them! The children have incorporated all aspects of the curriculum into this study and this date saw them cooking pancakes and hot dogs. They also made totem poles and dream catchers which will be on display at our forthcoming Open Evening.

A Community Event

On Thursday 5 July, representatives from Y6 enjoyed singing for the residents of Shenstone Care Home. The children always enjoy these occasions which are greatly appreciated by the wider community. Well done, children!

A Week of Celebrations

Friday 6 July saw the culmination of a week's focus upon everything 50 to commemorate Greysbrooke's very special birthday year. Thank you to Gary and Kate Sheehan for producing our very special 50th logo and for our birthday cake baked by Mrs Darlaston. A tree was donated by The Plant Plot Garden Centre in Lichfield and a time capsule buried in the school grounds. We would like to express particular thanks to Mrs Puzey for co-ordinating school events and also to FROGS for funding the school picnic which was enjoyed by all. All pupils decorated a stone to commemorate the 50th birthday and these will become part of a permanent display.

Isle of Wight 2018

The Y6 children departed from Shenstone on Monday for their four day visit to the Isle of Wight. They will spend the majority of their time outdoors engaged in a range of activities, which includes a visit to HMS Victory & the Mary Rose at Portsmouth, a visit to Robin Hill Country Park and a walk along Shanklin Chine. They will explore life in Victorian times with a visit to Queen Victoria's summer residence at Osborne House, a falconry display and a fun day at Blackgang Chine in Chale. The last day will see the children visiting Amazon World in Newchurch where they will become aware of some of the ecological problems facing these threatened areas of our world.

Judging by previous visits, accompanying staff look forward to witnessing the children exploring new environments to broaden their horizons whilst taking on new challenges and achieving goals. My sincere thanks to Mr Storer, Mrs Puzey and Mrs Grainger for accompanying myself and the children on the visit.

Congratulations to all children who received certificates at the recent Ruby and Sapphire Celebration Assembly.

Well Done!

To all children and staff who participated and actually completed the annual Shenstone Fun Run. There were some tired legs in school the next day but also some very proud medal recipients. Thank you for those who volunteered to help as marshals or overseeing drinks stations on the day.

Dogs

For health and safety reasons, please do not bring your dog onto the school site or tie it to any of the school fencing or gates. Four dogs were left tied to the carpark gates on Tuesday 10 July at the end of the school day and staff members and the school taxi had difficulty driving into the carpark. Some children are also afraid of dogs and this makes it difficult for them to walk past the gates. Thank you for your co-operation.

Pupil's Annual Reports

Reports will be sent home on Thursday 12 July (pupils in YR-Y5) and on Monday 16 July (pupils in Y6). This enables Y6 statutory assessment details to be released within the report following the children's return from their residential.

Y2 Parents Transition Meeting

We are holding a transition meeting for current Y2 parents on Thursday 12 July at 2.30pm in the Y3 classroom. This will provide information on changes e.g. homework, modern foreign language delivery, etc as the children progress from KS1 to KS2.

Celebration Assembly

On Friday 13 July (9.10am) we will be holding a certificate assembly for children in all four houses. If your child is receiving a certificate (including 100% Attendance), they will be given a slip to bring home. There will be no outside achievements during this assembly. We kindly request that you do not arrive any earlier than 10 minutes before assembly is due to start. For health and safety reasons, hot drinks should not be brought into school. Please note that places are restricted to a maximum 2 adults per family due to space restrictions. Please leave pushchairs in the bicycle shelter. Thank you for your co-operation.

Guitar Lessons

The last guitar lesson is on Monday 16 July.

There will an additional lesson taking place on Tuesday 17 July (am) for Y3 and Y5 pupils only, due to the cancelled session on Monday 9 July.

Reminders...

Swimming

The last swimming session for Y6 is on Monday 16 July.

Textiles Club

Please remind your child to bring their Textiles work into school in a named bag by Monday 16 July at the latest.

Rocksteady Concert

A performance will be taking place on Wednesday 18 July at 2.30pm in the school hall for the parents of Rocksteady children.

Y6 Water Fight

This is taking place on Wednesday 18 July between 3.10-5.15pm, followed by fish and chips. If you haven't already done so, please return the consent slip by Monday 16 July.

Open Evening

We look forward to seeing many of you at our Open Evening on Tuesday 17 July between 6.30 - 8.00pm. This evening is an opportunity for staff, children and parents to celebrate the success and achievements of the children in a relaxed atmosphere.

Friday 20 July

Children are invited to bring in games and toys on this day to share and experience with their friends. Please send in a strong bag4life so that we can send some of the children's work home. A selection of children's books will be retained in school for moderation purposes. **School will close at normal time on this date.**

Dinner Money

Could all outstanding arrears be cleared by Friday 20 July (am) at the latest please. Thank you.

Y6 Leavers Assembly

This will take place at 9.30am on Friday 20 July and will enable us to share special memories and no doubt a combination of laughter and tears with this year's leavers. A box of tissues is always advisable as we prepare to send the children on to the next stage of the educational journey.

ParentPay Account - Y6

If your ParentPay account is in credit at the end of the term, the credit will be refunded to you via ParentPay. If there are siblings in school, we will transfer the credit to their account.

Any outstanding arrears are to be cleared by Friday 20 July (am) at the latest - if the amount outstanding is less than £5.00, please send cash into school by this date.

ParentPay Communication Reminder

Please ensure you check your emails regularly as all school communication is sent by email via ParentPay. Hard copies of letters are only sent home if a slip is to be returned to school and texts are only sent for urgent messages. If you change your email address or mobile phone number, please remember to update your new details on ParentPay.

KITCHEN CORNER

Menu Changes:

Friday 20 July - Y6 Leavers Lunch

Due to popularity throughout the year and to say goodbye to Y6, the menu will be:

Fish & Chips or Pizza & Chips (vegetarian option available)

Chocolate ice-cream

The whole school is encouraged to join in and say goodbye!

Tuesday 4 September

When we return from the summer holiday we will be on **week 3** of the menu cycle, and due to changes in the delivery schedule, we will be offering the Monday menu which will be pizza with wedges and vegetarian bolognaise instead of chicken curry and vegetable lasagne.

Free School Meals

The second year of the Universal Free School meals has been a huge success. We hope the Year 2 parents continue to purchase school meals as their children move into Year 3. We have an excellent popular menu starting in September, which I'm sure you will agree is worth the £2.30 per day school meal cost. We are also looking forward to meeting the Reception children in September as they join us for lunch. Thank you to all the parents who have supported us this year!!

Break Sales

A polite reminder...children need a minimum of **25p** at break time to make a purchase.

Menu Cycle

W/c 04/09/18 - Week 3

W/c 10/09/18 - Week 1

The catering team hope you have a fantastic holiday and look forward to seeing you at lunch times in September!

Yours sincerely

Mrs T Holmes
Headteacher

School closes at 3.10pm on Friday 20 July and re-opens at 8.45am on Tuesday 4 September