



Be nice, work hard, never give up

Greenleas Primary School
Green Lane
Wallasey
Wirral
CH45 8LZ

Tel No: 0151 639 1225 / Fax No: 0151 639 4349
Headteacher: Mrs Sharon Edwards

E-mail: schooloffice@greenleas.wirral.sch.uk

Website: www.greenleasprimaryschool.co.uk

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

11th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year, I hope this message finds you safe and well and that you and your family have had an enjoyable Christmas break. It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school. The 'Shake off the Winter Blues' themed day on Monday helped everyone settle back into routines and their learning with ease. A huge well done to them all. A great start to 2024!

This week we have responded to a number of enquiries about Nursery and Wrap Around provision following communication shared by the management of Greenleas Pre-school/Owls Den. Please be assured, we do have plans to extend our provision in September 2024, but are waiting for the Local Authority legal paperwork to be served before we share anything. Our plans include expanding our outstanding EYFS provision into Nursery and building on the success of our current in-house Wrap Around Care provision for our school community. Further details will follow, however if you want to express an interest in places for either please contact us.

I am aware that there is a rumour that our Wrap Around Provision is full, this is not the case. As numbers have grown we have increased our staffing accordingly, which we will continue to do so. However there are times/sessions when we have had to cap our numbers and been unable to accommodate late bookings i.e. on the day / day before etc. due to staffing ratios.

Census Day 18th January 2024

Did you know that the Government calculates part of our school funding on the number of pupils that have a school meal on Census Day? Please help us to maximise our funding by signing up for your child to have our Pizza and Pasta Fantasia Themed lunch on Thursday 18th January 2024.

Instead of the usual meal (chicken korma) on Thursday we will be offering the children the popular Italian dishes of pasta bake or pizza with ice cream for dessert- a Greenleas favourite!

Please order your meal in the usual way. Please note, if you have already booked in a meal for Thursday 18th, you will need to reorder it as when Edsential change the menu it removes all pre orders. Any queries or difficulties, please contact the school office.



Fundraising

A message from St John's Hospice... *Thank you so much to everyone at Greenleas Primary School once again for taking part in our Rudolph Run.*

We have counted all your sponsorship money and I'm delighted to tell you that you have all raised an amazing £1,365.31. You are all hospice heroes!

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of our hospice, we really do appreciate it
Wow this is tremendous, thank you for your generosity!

Attendance

This week you may have seen the DfE press release on their National Drive to Improve School Attendance.

Good attendance and punctuality underpin good progress: if children are not at school or miss parts of lessons, they cannot successfully access the curriculum offered and this can lead to them feeling anxious and out of touch with school life. It is your responsibility to ensure that a child of compulsory school age attends school both regularly and punctually. The diary dates below include all the school holidays and Staff Development Days for the remainder of this school year. National tests and teacher assessments take place in the months of May and June - family holidays should be avoided during this time.

Families who take children out of school during term time may be referred to the LA Attendance Team for the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice if an unauthorised absence takes attendance to below 97%. We know it might be tempting to report your child's absence as sickness rather than request LOA for a holiday – please be honest as our children love to talk and are excited to tell us they have just come back from Lapland, Disney, Spain etc. and if they don't tell, their friends do! Additionally, an international dialling tone is often a giveaway! We update children's attendance records with any additional information we receive.

Our whole school target is 97%. Autumn Term 2023 our whole school attendance was 96.1%. Last term 197 children had at least 96% attendance, with 86 of these achieving 100% attendance. Well done to these children, an amazing achievement!

The government class children whose attendance is 90% or below as persistent absentees. In the Autumn Term, 41 children's attendance falls into this bracket. As a school, we have a duty to inform you of attendance levels that are a concern so you may receive a letter highlighting this in order to work together to make plans to improve attendance. Please note, these letters are standard letters and do sound very formal.

When your child is unwell, it can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep them off school. The link below directs you to NHS guidance on attendance and illness. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

If you do keep your child at home, please inform the school office by email or the in-app message facility on Arbor by 9:00am, stating your child's name, class and the nature of the illness.

Punctuality is just as important. Children who arrive after registers have been taken in class are marked on the register as Late (L code).

Being punctual to school has the following benefits:

- Encourages good life habits for years to come.
- Learning for your child is not interrupted – they make a good start to the school day.
- Learning for other children is not interrupted. (Teachers do not have to stop their lessons).
- Children take part in all of their lessons.

Even a few minutes of lateness each day can have a negative impact on teaching and learning in the classroom. The table below shows what lateness might look like, on average:

Average mins late per day	Hours and minutes missed in one year due to lateness	This means this many lessons are missed in one year!
2 mins	6 hours and 20 mins	Around 6 to 7 lessons
3 mins	9 hours and 30 mins	Around 10 to 11 lessons
4 mins	13 hours	Around 14-15 lessons
5 mins	16 hours	Around 16-20 lessons

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your children are in school every day and are not late through the gate!

Foundation Stage Admission September 2024 –DEADLINE

If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2024 the application deadline is looming. If you have any friends or family with children due to start, could you please remind them as well? The deadline for applications is 15th January 2024, and allocation day will be 16th April 2024. Applicants who apply on online will be notified via e-mail on allocation day. You can apply online for your child's Foundation 2 place for September 2024 by clicking on the following link: www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions. Any queries please get in touch.

School Streets

As a reminder, School Street is in operation from 8:30am-9:30am and 2:30-3:30pm every day. During these times, only pedestrians, cyclists or motorists with an exemption should enter Greenleas Close.

Officers from Merseyside police are planning to attend over the coming weeks to assess levels of compliance and engage with families accessing the school. Whilst enforcement is not the desired outcome of this, a fixed penalty of £50 for those who do not comply, is not out of the question.

Thank you for your support in helping to keep our school community safe.

Diary Dates 2024 Please check frequently for updates.

In house clubs begin this week. For morning clubs your child will be collected from the main pedestrian gate at 8:15am by the staff member running the club. Please remain with your child until they arrive. For after school clubs, the children will be released to an adult at the pedestrian gate. This will either be 3:45pm or 4:15pm depending on the club.

January 2024	
08.01.24	Term Begins for all- shake off winter blues day
18.01.24	Spring Census – Lunch
24.01.24	F2 Superhero dress up day
26.01.24	Parent's Coffee and a Chat 9:15am details to follow
February 2024	

01.02.24	Y3/4 Roman Workshop
02.02.24	F2 Parent maths workshop
9.02.24	F2 wear red for Chinese New Year
w/c 12.02.24	Y5 Bikeability
16.02.24	F2/Y6 walk around local area - mapping
16.02.24	Break up for half term
26.02.24	Term Begins for all
w/c 26.02.24	PM Mid Term Reviews
March 2024	
01.03.24	Y6-7 Allocation Day
w/c 11.03.24	POOC Assemblies
20.03.24/21.03.24	Parents' Meetings
28.3.24	End of Spring Term
April 2024	
15.04.24	Summer Term begins for all
May 2024	
7/8.5.23	Y4 Residential Barnstondale
w/c 13.05.24	Y6 SATs
16.05.24	Summer Census Lunch
	Class Photographs
w/c 20.05.24	Y6 Bikeability
24.05.24	Half Term
June 2024	
03.06.24	Term begins for all
w/c 03.06.24	Y4 times tables check
w/c 10.06.23	Y1 Phonics Screening check
24.06.24	Y6 Residential
July 2024	
TBC	INDUCTION Day (secondary date TBC)
w	Transition meetings for parents dates tbs
19.07.24	End of term for children SDD4/5 22.7.24 and 23.7.24

Terms Dates for the remainder of this academic year

Spring Term 2024

Open Monday 8th January 2024
Close Friday 16th February 2024

HALF TERM	Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2024
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Open Monday 26th February 2024
Close Thursday 28th March 2024

SPRING BREAK	Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April 2024
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Summer Term 2024

Open Monday 15th April 2024
Close Friday 24th May 2024

MAY DAY	Monday 6th May 2024
HALF TERM	Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024

Open Monday 3rd June 2024
Close Tuesday 23rd July 2024 (Children finish 19th July 2024)

Staff Development Days:

SDD 4 Monday 22nd July 2024
SDD 5 Tuesday 23rd July 2024

School will be closed to children on these days

Enjoy the weekend.

Warmest Wishes

Mrs Sharon Edwards
Headteacher