



NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER 2019

Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year. We hope that you will enjoy receiving these regular updates highlighting some of the fantastic achievements and activities enjoyed by Greasby Junior School students. Please remember to contact us if you have any concerns or things you are unsure of—we would much rather sort things out before they become a worry for either you or your child. Speak to teachers face to face at home time, phone 677-1837 or email: schooloffice@greasby-junior.wirral.sch.uk if you have any issues
Mr Bettridge, Interim Headteacher.

WELCOME NEW AND OLD!

A huge welcome back to all of our pupils but especially to our new starters and our new Year 3 pupils! They have all settled into school life extraordinarily well and Mr Gooden and Mrs Mullineux-Clay have already commented on how smart, well organised and smiley the new Year 3s all are. From a personal perspective, it has been a pleasure to greet all of the pupils in the morning and see so many happy, cheerful faces.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monday 23rd September
11+ TESTS (AT TEST CENTRES)
- Monday 23rd September (6.00pm)
PARENT ASSOCIATION AGM
- week beginning Monday 30th September
YEAR 3 SWIMMING FORTNIGHT BEGINS
- Thursday 3rd October (9.30 - 11.30am)
YEAR 4 VISIT METHODIST CHURCH
- Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th, Thursday 17th October
PARENTS' EVENINGS
- Tuesday 22nd October (1.30pm)
SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER
- Thursday 24th October (6.30 - 8.00pm)
SCHOOL DISCO
- Friday 25th October
CLOSE FOR HALF TERM/OPTIONAL NON UNIFORM DAY

TOUR OF BRITAIN

The Tour of Britain rolled into Greasby on Wednesday 11th September and many of our children could be seen cheering, shouting and waving them on as the cyclists shot down Greasby Road. Both the children who attended with their parents, and those that watched with their teachers, really enjoyed the experience of a live sporting event, and we hope, as a result, many will take up cycling in their own time, perhaps we might even create a future Tour of Britain winner!!



MAY WE PRESENT OUR NEW HOUSE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to our new House Captains! Each pupil produced their very own speech, including great detail and passionate delivery, explaining why they should be House Captain for their respective teams. The House Captains have already shown themselves to be excellent role models for their class mates and have done a brilliant job at keeping our points board updated. We look forward to them playing an active role in helping others to follow our school rules and enjoy their time in school. The following children were chosen as our House Captains:



Shaw House Captains



Royden House Captains



Day House Captains



Bennet House Captains





THREADS OF LEARNING

As part of Greasby Junior's approach to pupil personal development, we wish to encourage our students to consider a number of qualities that we believe could serve them well in the future. These qualities will be discussed in assemblies, in class and returned to in context to help pupils understand them and their relevance. Whilst this is not an exhaustive list of qualities, we feel that these are important aspects of developing well-rounded individuals who can make a difference in today's society. The qualities we have decided upon are the following: aspiring, being innovative, being a leader, understanding their impact on the world and showing acceptance. Not only will pupils be learning about these qualities, but they will be actively encouraged to demonstrate them wherever and whenever possible.

ACCELERATED READER

The children will, by now, have received their Accelerated Reading books. We, as a school, firmly believe in the importance of reading regularly. From past experience, the amount of progress that children make is directly reflected in the amount they read. As part of the Accelerated Reader Programme, there will be many rewards for those pupils who spend time reading at home and complete their quiz style assessments at the end of each book. Please encourage your child to read as much as possible-the long-term effects are well worth the effort.

PA: AGM

The PA are a fantastic group of people who volunteer their time to help raise money for our school. Their tremendous efforts have transformed the playground areas for the children over the years as well as boosting resources in school such as reading books. The first meeting of the year is at 6.00pm on Monday 23rd September at school - all are welcome to come along and any help you can offer, no matter how small, will be much appreciated. Please do get involved.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

As part of the school's commitment to pupil well-being, we aim to provide a broad range of extra-curricular clubs, and it has been an absolute pleasure to see many children already taking advantage of these new opportunities. I would definitely encourage pupils to take part in as many new things as they can, whether it be gardening, yoga, cross country running or recorders. Last week, we also saw the first game of lunchtime Quidditch which was a great success! Clubs take place during the morning, at lunchtimes, and after-school and there are even a couple of new additions on a Sunday, separate letters will be sent advertising these new activities. We hope to see as many pupils taking part as possible over the next term and we always love hearing feedback or suggestions for new activities.

Finally, as my first few weeks as Headteacher draw to an end, can I take this opportunity to thank you all for such a warm welcome. I feel very privileged to be part of such a wonderful school community.

DANGEROUS DRIVERS

We have had a number of phone calls from concerned parents that have witnessed cars parking in the prohibited zig-zag areas outside of the school gates. As I am sure you will agree, it is paramount that these areas remain unblocked for the safety of all children and their parents entering school. We politely ask that all parents refrain from using these areas in future. We will be monitoring these areas over the forthcoming weeks and reporting suspected vehicles to the Police.

As part of our new safeguarding measures, Teaching Assistants will also be positioned on the three school gates each morning. Whilst they are happy to chat to parents and answer questions, they do have to accompany the children into school at 8.55am promptly and so if you need to chat to a member of staff beyond 8.55am please don't hesitate to call into the school office to arrange an appointment.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

Whilst the majority of children have returned to school looking very smart in their uniforms, there are a few examples of pupils contravening the school's dress code. Therefore, please can I take this opportunity to remind all that we discourage hair gel, 'tram lines' in hair etc, accessories e.g. flowery hair bands, large bows, nail varnish and jewellery (all of which are fine on non-uniform days and school discos). The children have the option of wearing the summer uniform until half term, as the weather can still be warm. Please could I also remind you that children should use a suitable rucksack to carry their things in (a growing trend amongst the older girls is to use a fashion handbag which is not appropriate for school). Rucksacks can either be Greasby Junior School ones (available on the school website), or any other type. We really appreciate your support in these matters.

COMPETITION: NAME A PLANET AND A STAR!

This September, UK children are being given a unique opportunity: the chance to create names for an exoplanet and its host star (currently known by the very boring names of WASP-13 and WASP-13B!). For the very first time, the International Astronomical Union (IAU) is organising a world-wide contest to find new names for this planet and its star. The proposed names can only be submitted by schools and votes will be cast by the public from around the world.

Interested in giving it a go? You can access further information on the contest through the following website: <https://exoworld.co.uk>. If your child/family would like to submit names, please email your name creations for the planet and its host star to headteacher@greasby-junior.wirral.sch.uk by 15th October.



Quick reminder: Before and after-school, the trim trail is out of bounds to all children due to health and safety reasons as accidents can happen. It is only to be used during school hours when children will be properly supervised on the equipment.