



# Newsletter

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## Helping you to support your children at home

Many of you have told us that you struggle to support your children with certain aspects of their learning which, given the changes to teaching approaches in recent years, is hardly surprising. When parents are actively involved in their child's learning, the benefits can be huge and one of our aims this year is to help you to better support your children at home. Throughout the year, there will be opportunities for you to learn more about how your children learn, particularly in the core subjects of English and Maths. The recent 'Reading Fair' was very well attended and feedback was extremely positive. If you were unable to attend, Mrs Spivey's presentation is on the school website ('For Parents' - 'Reading Fair Presentation'). It clearly explains our philosophy and approach to reading at school and is well worth 5 minutes of your time.

Some of the written feedback from the Reading Fair suggested a Maths Fair would be useful; this will be something we will soon be planning. Over the course of the year, teachers will also be inviting you into school to watch some maths lessons, to give you a better sense of our maths approach.

## Tree of Triumph

Our 'Tree of Triumph' is displayed in the school entrance hall and celebrates children who have made a significant contribution to the community. Some of the children who have recently been awarded a 'leaf' by the Student Voice, are pictured here.

Esme, Lydia, Megan, Scarlett, Lexi, India, Daisy and Lily decided to sell their animal drawings for ten pence each to the children in Years 3 and 4 to raise money for Claire House. They made over £30!

Jack, Andrew and Daniel asked children and staff to bring in any of their spare five pence pieces as they wanted to raise funds for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution; they raised £36.77!

These children deserve recognition for their efforts, but their ideas are only successful because of the support from their peers, which shows how strong the school community is.



## House Cup/Excellence Award

Shaw won the House Cup in September and received their extra playtime just before half term, whilst Bennett took the award in October. The winners of the Excellence Award for gaining the most team points in September and October were Stanly and Andrew respectively.

Stanly enjoys maths, eating spaghetti bolognese but doesn't like broccoli. He has many pets (two ghekkos, two dogs, a tortoise and a horse) and in his spare time he likes playing on his X-Box and football.

This is the second time Andrew has won the award, the first time when he was in Year 4. He likes maths and lasagne but, for some reason, is not at all fond of banana cake. He has three fish called Bob, Jeff and Suzie and, like Stanly, loves playing on his X-Box and football.



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### Chris Salmon Behaviour Cup

Each term, the teachers are given the unenviable task of picking one child per year group to receive the Chris Salmon award for their conduct in and around school. Chris was such a well behaved and talented pupil, who tragically lost his life in 2009 at the age of just fifteen and this award, which is named after him, ensures he will always be remembered at Greasby Juniors.

In the summer term, these children were chosen:

Year 3: Zack

Year 4: Olivia

Year 5: Kirstie

Year 6: Adam (not pictured as he is now at Calday Grammar School)



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### 'Fluent In Five'

Each day, from 8.50am, the children are given five maths sums to complete. The teacher then spends a short time going over the questions and addressing any common misconceptions. Throughout the week, the daily questions follow a similar format, but with different numbers, so that the children become more familiar with them as the week progresses; we are finding this approach to be very effective. Its success does, however, depend on the children being in school at 8.50am, to give them time to complete the questions before the teacher goes over them, so if you can help with this, we would be very grateful. An extra 10 minutes learning a day is 50 minutes per week which equates to over 30 hours extra maths practice per year!

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### Dressing up box

At lunchtime, we have a dressing-up box for the children in Years 3 and 4 which they absolutely love. If you have any outfits which your children have grown out of and don't mind donating to school, the children would be very grateful!

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### Independence and Responsibility

These are key skills which we believe will help the children in their future lives. We use our 'Golden Rules' ('Look after Property') and our behaviour system to encourage the children to show greater levels of responsibility. You can

support us in this by NOT bringing in items for your child that he/she has forgotten - we find that the children whose

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### Important Dates (Dates for the rest of the academic year are on the school website)

Flu immunisation for pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5: Monday 12th November (in school time)

Open Forum meeting for parents of children in Year 3: Monday 12th November (6.00pm)

Non-uniform day (optional) for Christmas Fair donations: Friday 23rd November, Friday 30th November and Friday 7th December

Book Fair in school: week beginning Monday 26th November (after school each day)

'M and M' Theatre company present 'Jack and the Beanstalk': Tuesday 27th November (2.00pm)

Christmas Fair: Friday 7th December (3.35 - 6.00pm)

Year 6 pantomime performances: Tuesday 11th, Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th December (7.00pm)

Carol Service (St John's Church, Frankby): Monday 17th December (2.00pm)

School disco: Wednesday 19th December (6.30 - 8.00pm)

School closes for Christmas break and optional non-uniform day: Thursday 20th December

School re-opens for Spring term: Tuesday 8th January 2019

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