



Thoughts from a Headteacher:

We have had another extremely busy term since Easter and the children have all made us very proud to be part of Greatham School. Some of our children have been involved in Key Stage One (Y2) and Key Stage Two (Y6) SATs. I would like to thank all parents for avoiding the early part of this term for annual holidays. Year Six pupils had 100% attendance throughout the SATs timetable. A big well done goes to all children involved with taking the tests for their hard work and effort. It is not an easy time for them but they have all coped remarkably well. Many thanks also to all members of staff who have helped and encouraged the children to do their very best and to our governors for invigilating these exams.

We have recently had our Statutory Inspection for Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) and are delighted to inform you that school has retained the grade of Outstanding. The published report says that Christian values lie at the heart of all aspects of school life and impact significantly on pupils' lives and achievements. As a direct result of the school's distinctive Christian character, relationships at all levels are of the highest quality. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and I hope you all have a lovely holiday.

School Uniform

This term we have noticed that some children are not following the school uniform policy and are coming to school in trainers.

Greatham School encourages that school uniform should be worn and discourages casual clothes and shoes. It is felt that this helps children to foster a feeling of pride in their school. After consultation between home and school, parents and governors agreed upon the school dress. Sweatshirts, polo shirts and T-shirts embroidered with the school badge can be ordered from school.

Girls can wear a dark blue or grey skirt/pinafore. Trousers are another option, so long as they are black, grey, or dark blue. Polo shirts need to be white/blue. Lastly is the school cardigan/sweatshirt, which is dark blue. Blue gingham dresses may be worn in warm weather.

Boys can wear blue, grey or black trousers, with a white/blue polo shirt, also, a dark blue school jumper/sweatshirt. Boys and Girls Children should wear black shoes for school. **NO TRAINERS PLEASE!** If children come to school in boots or wellingtons, they need school shoes to change into.

Bug Club Online Reading Scheme

After the half term holiday, we are going to be running a competition for children reading e-books online on the Bug Club. The children will receive rewards and certificates for reading books online as well as their own books and ones from school.

Sadly, the number of children accessing Bug Club at home has fallen and it is such an amazing resource to support your child's reading at home.

We understand that some people do not have access to this resource at home so after half term, we will be starting a Bug Club after school club, so all children have the opportunity to access the e-books. We will send out a letter for this after the holidays.

Many thanks for your continued support,
Mr. Piper

Payments for School Meals, Wrap Around, Breakfast & ASC.

Although the vast majority pay on time, we still have a number of parents who continually don't pay. If debts are incurred, then the school budget has to pay for them.

This means that money which should be spent on the children's education is used to pay for debt incurred. Also a lot of time is taken up pursuing these debts.

School meals, Wrap Around, Breakfast and After School Club money must be paid for in advance.

Thank you for your understanding.

Staff Car Park

The car park in school is strictly for staff parking only. Can you ensure that you avoid parking here please.

School Uniform

If you wish to purchase new school uniform for September, your orders must be placed as soon as possible. You can order directly from Elizabeth's Embroidery. Go to www.elizabethsembroidery.com, click shop online and use password GREATPS.

Attendance

Thank you to everyone. Together we are working hard to 'Make each day count', with children in school and on time every day.

Our School Attendance is currently 96.3% year to date. There have been 307 unauthorised absences and 188 lates.

Dates for the Diary

- ❖ Tuesday 5th June: School re-opens at 8.45am.
- ❖ Thursday 7th & Friday 8th June: Four year 6 children @ London visit with Grange Primary School.
- ❖ Monday 11th June: Class 4 Athletics @ Manor
- ❖ Tuesday 12th June: Class 4 visit to Hartlepool Mosque
- ❖ Wednesday 13th June: Year 6 children at Durham Leaver's Service
- ❖ Thursday 14th June: Class 1 Worship at 9am in school, everyone welcome.
- ❖ Friday 15th June: Class 4 Puberty Talk with the School Nurses.
- ❖ Monday 18th June: Year 5 at Kwick Cricket.
- ❖ Wednesday 20th June: Sports Afternoon at 1.30pm. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE
- ❖ Thursday 21st June: Class 2 at 9am in school, everyone welcome.
- ❖ Friday 22nd June: Feast Service in Church at 10am
- ❖ Friday 22nd June: Year 5 @ Dodgeball
- ❖ Monday 25th to Friday 29th June: Raising Aspiration Week in school
- ❖ Tuesday 26th June: Meeting in school for September 2018 Reception parents at 3.15pm.
- ❖ Wednesday 27th June: School Council Conference at The Sports Domes
- ❖ Wednesday 27th June: NSPCC in school all morning.
- ❖ Thursday 28th June: Class 3 Worship at 9am, everyone welcome.
- ❖ Friday 29th June: Reports go out to parents.
- ❖ Tuesday 2nd July: Parents' Consultation Evening, 3.30pm to 6.50pm.
- ❖ Tuesday 3rd July: Class 1 visit to Preston Park & Butterfly World.
- ❖ Tuesday 3rd July: KS2 performance of Oliver at 6pm.
- ❖ Wednesday 4th July: KS2 performance of Oliver at 6pm.
- ❖ Thursday 5th July: Leavers' Church Service at 9am.
Leaver's Day @ Laser Quest & lunch @ Sunderland
- ❖ Friday 6th July: Leavers' service in school at 9am.
Everyone welcome, refreshments will be served.
- ❖ Monday 9th to 20th July: Year 6 Induction at High Tunstall, Manor, Dyke House and St Hild's.
- ❖ Tuesday 10th July: Class 3 @ Kwick Cricket.
- ❖ Friday 20th July: School closes for summer.
- ❖ Monday 3rd September: Children return to school at 8.55am.

As you can see, there are lots of activities planned for the next half-term. Further information will follow regarding these events nearer to the time. Please note, alterations to dates and times may be necessary and if this is the case, you will be notified as soon as we are aware of any changes.