



Greatstone Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Friday 20th November 2020

A time for reflection and thanks

Since our last newsletter, we have been incredibly busy in school. Last week, all children learnt about Remembrance Day, and have recorded their learning through poems, art work and factual reports. There's something incredibly moving about young children learning about the sacrifice of others so that they can live safely within a free world. A big thank you to Mrs Ward and Miss Turner for organising this special day.

Like many schools across the country, we too have joined in with National Anti-bullying week where children have learnt about the different types of bullying and how to report any incidents to adults so they can help them. We have also explored the importance of on-line safety and the potential harm cyber-bullying can have. We know that safe children learn well, and our Head/Deputy Boy and Head/Deputy Girl have been tasked with writing a child friendly version of our Anti-bullying policy. A huge thank you to Miss Williams and Mrs Docherty for leading and organising this weeks activities, the children have really loved it.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our Pyjama wearing Children in Need day. **We raised a total of £198.31.**

Sharon Lewis, Headteacher



Is your child ready to start primary school in September 2021?



In light of the information that was released in half term about the current lockdown, the DfE statutory guidance for all schools is that parents are NOT allowed to come into schools for any visit, including those who might be new parents. We had anticipated this would be their decision and we had already included this within our risk assessment.

This means that for all new parents who are interested in a place for their child in September 2021, we will be having a 1:1 virtual meeting with myself instead (YR teachers will join us where they can). We are also currently in the process of making a virtual tour and the final details of our new prospectus are being finalised– we intend for these to be with you shortly.

Therefore, if you have already made an appointment via the school office, please can you contact them to make sure we have your email address so we can arrange a virtual meeting (for the same time slot as you had already arranged).

All applications for starting school (even if your child already has siblings in school) must be made via:
<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places#tab-2>

Applications will close on the 15th January 2021



Diary Dates

A warm welcome to a new regular feature that will be on each newsletter. We continuing to re-design the website and once this is completed, we will of course begin to add dates to the school calendar. In the meantime, I hope you find this section helpful:

w/b 23rd November: NSPCC 'Stay safe, speak out' week for all classes

4th Dec: Whole school making Christmas decorations day (each class will have the chance to spread a little Christmas joy making decorations to decorate their classrooms, spread a little glitter and sparkle, whilst listening to Christmas songs. (Here's hoping that next year, we will be able to invite parents to come and join in this activity too).

17th Dec: Whole school Christmas jumper day. Children are invited to wear a festive jumper, along with their normal school uniform. We will also be having our annual Christmas dinner today as well.

(There will be other Christmas dates that we will be adding here so please watch this space)

18th Dec: Last day of Term 2

4th Jan 2021: **INSET day, school closed for children**

5th Jan: Term 3 begins

12th Feb: Last day of Term 3

22nd Feb: Term 4 begins

1st April: Last day of Term 4

19th April: **INSET day, school closed for children**

20th April: First day of Term 5 for children

3rd May: **BANK HOLIDAY, school closed**

28th May: Last day of Term 5

7th June: **INSET DAY, no school for children**

8th June: Term 6 begins

21st July: Last day of Term 6

Headteacher awards:

Huge congratulations to the following children for their achievements:

Well done all of you, we're so proud of your achievements:

Crystal: Cooper for his amazing courage and resilience with his Maths learning. Yaqoub for his non-chronological report about pandas.

Diamond: Teddy for reading high frequency words independently. Mason for his brilliant writing and drawing. Braxton for his terrific counting and adding in Maths.

Rhinestone: Albert for showing courage and perseverance with long multiplication. Seren, Theo, Lucia, Owen, Ronnie and Scarlet for always being 'ready, respectful, safe'.

Amethyst: Grace for her amazing WW1 poem on Remembrance day .

Coral: Aaron, Daniel, Jack and TJ for their good behaviour for learning.

Amber: Bobby-John for his super writing. Harry for always behaving well and doing the right thing and Frankie for always being 'ready, respectful, safe'.

This week I also had the privilege of giving out 16 reading awards to children in Amethyst class who have read x5 a week since the beginning of Term 1– amazing!!



