











Week Ending: Friday 8th September 2023



Happy Friday, everyone! What a fabulous first week back it has been. All of the children, from our wonderful new starters in reception to our oldest children in Year 6, have come back very keen and ready to learn. They have all remembered our three very important school rules of being Ready, Respectful and Safe and we have seen excellent examples of these throughout the week. One of the highlights of my week has been hearing from the children in assembly on Wednesday. In Key Stage 1, we learned all about a baby giraffe who was born with no patches over the summer! One of the children in Year 1 was quick to share with everyone that this made the giraffe unique and that just like people, we are all different but all special and we all belong. What a fabulous response - definitely an example of how important our No Outsiders message is to everyone in school. In Key Stage 2, we discussed what we could learn from the fabulous Lionesses who made it to the final of the World Cup. I loved it when one of our children said that we could all learn from the example they set as they were superb role models and even though they didn't win the final, that they would learn from this, show their resilience and be spurred on to be even better in the future. Another fabulous response!

The children all look very smart in their school uniform. Please make sure that all items have names written in them as we have already had to reunite some items of uniform with their owners when they have become lost in the last couple of days and it is so much easier when there are names on labels. A reminder that all children should be wearing school shoes and not trainers. Children wanting to wear trainers for our OPAL lunchtimes should bring these in and change into them at lunchtime.

We have all been very impressed with how punctual everyone has been this week. Lessons start each day at 8.55am so we open up the school gates nice and early at 8.30am and close at 8.50am to allow all of the children to be in class bright and early and ready to learn. Well done, everyone!

We have lots of exciting things planned for the year and we will be sending out more information in the coming weeks about the activities the children will be involved in. We will keep you updated each week in newsletters so please keep an eye out for these each Friday.

It looks as though the sun is going to keep shining over the weekend before it turns a little cooler next week so I hope you all make the most of the weather and have a great weekend.

Best wishes.

Miss Arrowsmith

Diary Dates September 2023

MONDAY 11th
Year 1 & 2 - PE Kit Needed

TUESDAY 12th
Year 4 & 5 - PE Kit Needed

WEDNESDAY 13th

Year 2 Outdoor Learning Please bring outoor
learning kit to school

THURSDAY 14th
Reception - PE Kit Needed

FRIDAY 15th
Year 3 & 6 - PE Kit Needed

Residential Trip Meting Year 5 & 6 - 2.30pm Year 4 - 3.00pm







PE days for the Autumn Term are as follows:

Reception: Thursday

Year 1: Monday Year 2: Monday Year 3: Friday Year 4: Tuesday Year 5: Tuesday

Year 6: Friday

On PE days, please ensure that children come to school in their school PE kits. This includes plain black shorts, plain grey or black jogging bottoms and a white t-shirt (no football shirts please) and plain trainers or plimsolls (velcro fastening for EYFS and KS1)

Whilst we try to ensure that PE days remain the same for year groups throughout the term, please note that these may change if there are trips or workshops taking place so keep an eye out for any changes in the diary section of the weekly newsletter! Thank you for your support.





Class Family Lunches

This week we have launched 'Family Lunches' at school! This is an exciting new addition to lunchtime. It is one of the many ways that we develop pupil leadership in school as all of the children in Year 5 and Year 6 have the opportunity to buddy up with a younger pupil to eat lunch with and also an exciting new development as we work towards becoming a Centre of Excellence for Oracy this year. Throughout the week, we have asked children what they think about Family Lunches and they have told us that they love them! This is what they have told us:

"I love eating my lunch with younger children as you get to know even more people in school. It's been brilliant getting to know our buddies."

"My buddy helps me and they are my friend!"

"The best part of family lunchtime is meeting new pupils in school and talking in a family group."

"I love being a role model to the Year 2s. I like that they can learn from us so I feel even more responsible."

"I like helping younger children and supporting them to be more independent."

"We have more time to play in OPAL now and can play with the new people we have met!"

"I like talking with my friends and the buddies help us. I can pour my own water now."

Residential Trips 2024

We are delighted to let you know that as part of our Green Meadow Offer we have residential trips planned for Years 4, 5 and 6 this academic year! If you would like to find out more, please come along to the parent information meetings on the following dates. If you are unable to attend, we will also send out the slides shared at the meeting via Arbor.

Years 5 and 6- Friday 15th September at 2.30pm in the hall Year 4- Friday 15th September at 3pm in the hall





School Photos

The school photographer will be in on <u>Friday 22nd September</u> and will take individual and sibling photos. Details of how to order your photos will be sent home with your child once they have been taken.



Should the books be easy or difficult?

The books that children bring home to read, should be at a slightly lower level than what they are reading in the classroom. It is meant to be an enjoyable experience for both parents and their children. Not stressful!

If your child is getting stuck on every second word, then the book is too hard for them.

This can get frustrating for both you and your child which is not setting them up for a positive experience. I would suggest having a chat to their teacher if this is happening.

Make it Routine

Find a quiet, comfortable spot that is the go-to reading spot with your child. If you have other children, this can be tricky, I know! It's about finding the right time for you and your child. Whether it be just before they go to bed, or first thing in the morning. Do what works for you!

Ease Into The Book

Get your child thinking about what the book might be about by asking some questions before you start reading. Here are some examples of what you could ask:

- What do you think this book is about? Why?
- Do you think this is a story or a fact book? Why?
- Can you read the title? Does this give you some more clues?
- What can you notice about the picture on the front of the book?

Don't Tell Them, Guide Them

If you tell your child every word they get stuck on, they won't learn to use the reading strategies they are learning at school and will expect you to tell them every time. This isn't going to help them to develop and grow as readers.

Here are some basic reading strategies your child may have been taught in the classroom:

- Can they use the picture to help?
- Stretch out the word so for the word shouted 'sh-ou-ted'.
- Can they see for chunks in the word, or smaller words in a larger word so for shouted they could see 'shout', or 'out'.
- Can they sound out the word?
- Get them to read to the end of the sentence for further clues. What would make sense?
- Get them to work out the first sound of the word and get their mouth ready for the word.















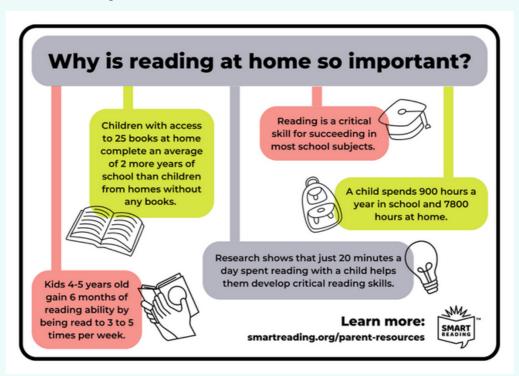






Home Reading

We are all passionate about reading at Green Meadow and we want to support all of our children to develop a life-long love of reading! Not only does this help them become even better learners in all subjects, it is also so much fun!



This year, we are on the look for children who are showing great reading habits, both in school and at home and throughout the year, teachers will nominate children in their class for 'Reader of the Week'...All of our 'Readers of the Week' will be given a gold token and take a trip to the library to choose a reading book from the reading vending machine. This book will be theirs to keep forever!

This week, your child will have brought home a 'Home Reading Bookmark'. When someone at home has heard your child read, please initial or sign and date one of the boxes on the reading bookmark. Once both sides are complete, please return the bookmark to your child's class teacher so that we can celebrate all of the reading that children do at home as well as school!



WEEK COMMENCING 11TH SEPTEMBER 2023



School meals are £2.35 per day, payable via Arbor, for years 3, 4, 5 \(\) 6, unless you are entitled to free school meals.

Please keep up to date with school meal payments each week.

Please note that for Reception, Year I and Year 2 <u>ALL</u> children are entitled to universal free school meals.