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admin@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk



www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk



@goostreyprimary



8th September 2023



Dear Families,

There was a whole school assembly on the first day back. During this we talked about Mrs Freeman and how sad we all felt but how we also knew Mrs Freeman would want us to have a happy time in school, to be the best we can be and have a great year. At the end of the assembly an extraordinary thing happened. Mrs Freeman was known by many as the butterfly lady, as we were leaving the hall a Year 1 child noticed and called out that there was a butterfly, on the ceiling, right above us. He thought it was Mrs Freeman watching over us. It was a surreal and yet beautiful moment for us all as a feeling of calm and peace rippled through the room.

We believe Mrs Freeman would have wanted us to go ahead and hold our annual exhibition as usual—this year it will now be called CELEBRATING LIFE and will be on Wednesday 18th October and Thursday 19th, 2pm to 6pm both days.

We are asking for a photo of your child to be sent in with a butterfly—this can be a real one, one that has been made, a photograph or image etc. These photos will then be put around the entrance to the exhibition. If you are happy to do this please bring the photo in by the end of September.

On a personal note and on behalf of the school I want to thank you for all your support over the past few weeks. While it has and continues to be a difficult time for the school I want you to know how quickly the children have settled and school feels very calm and purposeful once again

We will be having a collection, for a memorial for Mrs Freeman—a butterfly sun dial and a tree. There will also be an opportunity for families to write something for the Book of Condolences and the proceeds from the exhibition café will go to a cause that was very dear to Mrs Freeman. I hope to let you have more information about all of this next week.

School is now employing a sports coach, Mrs Murdoch, every lunchtime to organise and referee the football matches with the junior children. Mrs Murdoch is a sports coach, from Sports Coaching Group, our new provider. She will now lead our PE lessons in school as well as the before and after school clubs.

Term dates for 23-24 and 24-25 are on our website

The school's official communication with families comes through the newsletter, website, class pages, messages through the app, email and occasionally paper letters.

The PTA have Facebook for information.

Useful information

Before and after school clubs : booking forms available on school website

http://www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/48433

School uniform official supplier - other options are available, please see the school website for more information.

www.myschoolstyle.com/school/goostrey

On-line payment website address www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schoolshop

SENCo mrs.campion@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk

We are very pleased to tell you that you and your Eco-Committee at Goostrey Community Primary School have been successful in meeting the requirements for the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award.

We reviewed your application and noted the following:

It's brilliant that your Y6 Eco-Committee members share responsibility for recording meeting minutes. This will give them a strong sense of ownership of their Eco-Schools work and support them to develop their oracy and communication skills. We were impressed by the quote from the pupil member of your Eco-Committee. They're clearly passionate about the environment and we're delighted that they have been given an opportunity to make a difference through the Eco-Schools programme. It's brilliant to read that the Environmental Review helped your pupils to appreciate the fantastic work that your school is already doing to promote healthy living and inspired you to look into projects that you hadn't previously considered. What really stood out is how you sought input from other school stakeholders, such as your Business Manager and Cook, to help you answer the review questions and provide a broader perspective on your eco-activity. We loved that your choice of Action Plan projects was informed by the interests of your young people and by wanting to make a difference beyond your local community. What's more, the projects outlined in your Action Plan, such as your Inspire Exhibition, show how you have planned to involve the whole school and wider community to achieve maximum impacts and raise awareness. Terrific work! You have embedded environmental topics into your curriculum with great enthusiasm and these issues are being used to enrich learning in your school whilst engaging your pupils with important environmental concepts, such as pollution, recycling and the importance of bees. Looking after caterpillars and bug hunts are great examples of how these topics provide opportunities to engage your young people with the natural world. Your Eco-Committee has worked incredibly hard to keep peers, parents and the wider community up-to-date on its progress and achievements through newsletters, word-of-mouth, posters and your Eco-Board. Your work with the local Scout group and Parish Council are great examples of your commitment to partnership and collaboration, and this stands out as a real strength of your application. Your Eco-Committee member, Finn, sounds like a remarkable young person and the quote from their parent is testament to how you have inspired your young people and to their passion and commitment to making the world a better place for everybody. We have really enjoyed reading through your application, and we hope you take great pride in how the dedication and enthusiasm of your staff and pupils has united your school community in pursuit of a common goal. It gives us great pleasure to award you an Eco-Schools Green Flag with Distinction – congratulations!

There is a new Goostrey Community Playground Committee organised to upgrade the existing park and they invite all parents/grandparents at our school to respond to the survey regarding their preferences. You are welcomed and encouraged to gather your children's feedback in your responses, but plans are to also come into school to speak with the children directly. The survey will close on Sept 20th.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/B9TPYLM>

Goostrey Tots The new Goostrey Tots group starts on Tuesday 12th September at Goostrey Sports Pavilion, Booth Bed lane, CW4 8NB. The group's volunteers look forward to meeting tots aged 0-4 with their parents/carers from 9.15am to 10.45am. Suggested donation £2 per family.

On Saturday 15th July **Ellie** took part in her first production with her new theatre school. She had various parts in the Lion King involving singing, dancing and acting. She performed fabulously, Well done Ellie!



Leo and Felix Davie have climbed the three peaks (Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon) over the summer.



Please keep sending your child's achievements for the newsletter so we can celebrate them together. I love knowing about what the pupils are doing both in and out of school.



Rainbow Music Clubs



Lunchtime Music Clubs for Years 2 - 6

Year 2 Chimes, drums, bells, boomwhackers, ocarina, recorder & ukulele

Year 3 Chimes, drums, percussion, pBuzz, recorder & ukulele

Year 4 - 6 Guitar, ukulele, keyboard, percussion, wind, brass & strings



For details please email kate@musicwithkate.co.uk
To book please visit <https://bookwhen.com/musicwithkate>

Key dates beginning of the autumn term:

Class September meetings:

Year 6 Friday 8th September 3.45pm

Year 1 Monday 11th September 5.30pm

Year 2 Tuesday 12th September 5.30pm

Year 3 Tuesday 12th September 5.30pm

Year 4 Thursday 14th September 6pm

Reception Monday 18th September 5.30pm

PTA Monday 11th September 7pm

Individual Photos Wednesday 11th October

Exhibition Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th October

School finishes on Thursday 19th October and the pupils return on Monday 30th.

Year 2 & Year 6 assessments will be ongoing throughout both the spring and summer term until the **end of June 2024**. It is **vital that your child attends school for the whole of this period**.

YEAR 6 SATS ARE WB 13TH MAY 2024

TAKING CHILDREN ON HOLIDAY DURING TERM TIME

A guide for parents and carers

Frequently asked questions

Am I entitled to take my child out of school for a family holiday?

- No.** Parents have a legal duty to ensure that their children attend school or the alternative provision on a regular basis
- The Education Act 1996 makes it a criminal offence for a parent to *“fail to secure their child’s regular attendance at the school”*
- The amendments to the 2006 Regulations remove any reference to *family holidays, extended leave and the statutory threshold of ten school days*.
- The amendments make clear that **Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence (holiday) during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances**
- The amendments give **parents no entitlement** to take their child out of school for a holiday in term time
- The Head Teacher and Governing Body will determine what the exceptional circumstances are

If we decide to take a holiday during term time what should we do?

- The parent/carer with whom the child resides must apply in writing to the school
- The letter/application must explain the exceptional circumstance surrounding the request for the leave of absence

What will the school do then?

- The Head Teacher will determine whether the exceptional circumstance ruling applies, if not the application will be declined
 - Only the Headteacher (or the Deputy) has the power to approve leave of absence applications. When making the decision the protocols and criteria laid down in the school’s attendance policy must be followed.
 - Each academic year, schools inform parents/carers via a letter, newsletter or some other communication; that they may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice if their child has unauthorised absences in term time
- You will receive a written response from the Headteacher (or the Deputy) letting you know if your application has been approved
- If the holiday goes ahead after the application has been declined the absence will be recorded as unauthorised

What will happen if the absence is unauthorised?

- The school will decide if a Penalty Notice should be issued. If the school decide that a Penalty Notice is to be issued
- You will receive a letter from the school advising that it has referred the matter to the Local Authority and that a Penalty Notice may be issued;
- The school will inform the Local Authority that a Penalty Notice needs to be issued
- A Penalty Notice will be sent to you, accompanied by an explanatory letter; the Notice gives you the opportunity to pay a penalty fine instead of being prosecuted in the criminal courts

Penalties for unauthorised absence		
Timeline	One child	Two children
Paid within 21 days	£60 per parent	£60 per child = £120 per parent
After 21 days and before 28 days	£120 per parent	£120 per child = £240 per parent
After 28 days	You will receive a summons to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your child's regular attendance	You will receive a summons to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your children's regular attendance

Payments will **not** be accepted after the 28th day and payments **cannot** be paid in part or by instalments

Each school has a designated Education Welfare Officer educationwelfareservice@cheshireeast.gov.uk or you can also telephone the main office.

Tel: 01270 375277

Website: www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/ews

Other leaflets are available to support you:

- Taking action to improve attendance – explaining legal action - a guide for parents and carers
- Helping your child to attend school. The role of the EWO - a guide for parents and carers

The expression "parent", in relation to a child or young person, includes any person who is not a parent of the child but who has parental responsibility for him/her, or who has care of the child.

Do you have a concern about a child?

Anyone can make a call if they have concerns about a child. This call can be made confidentially.

Cheshire East Consultation Service

The Cheshire East Consultation Service (ChECS) is the 'front door' for access to services, support and advice for children and their families.

General public

Phone ChECS on **0300 123 5012 (option 3)** Callers will be directed to a Unit Coordinator who will ask if the concerns are early help or safeguarding. You will then be directed to either Practitioner Support Officer for Early Help requests for support or a Social Worker (ChECS) for safeguarding concerns. The worker will gather your information and advise you of the next steps.

If you need to contact someone out of hours and you believe it to be an emergency that can't wait, please call our Emergency Duty Team on **0300 123 5022**.

If you have something that you would like putting in our newsletter please email it either to *head@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk* or *admin@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk*

It needs to be with us by 12.00 on Thursday and attached to your email on a WORD document so once approved we can easily cut and paste. Thank you

We always welcome pieces about Goostrey pupils and their achievements outside of school. I love to hear what our pupils are celebrating and achieving outside school so we can celebrate in the newsletter and assembly.

The responsibility to get permission for other people's children to be on photographs lies with the sender not with the school.

We will usually allow local events to be advertised in the newsletter, especially if we think they will be of interest to our pupils and their families.

However we do not endorse or take responsibility for anything not directly organised by the school.

Mid-Day Assistants Vacancies

We are seeking enthusiastic and caring people to join our team supervising our pupils over the lunchtime breaks.

Please contact our School Business Manager, Mrs J Schurer-Lewis on 01270 918940 or via e-mail; admin@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk to request an application form and job description.

Goostrey Community Primary School is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of our pupils. Successful applicants will be required to have enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks, and attend Basic Safeguarding awareness training



Please click on the link below for full details of our after school provision and electronic copies of our registration and booking forms.

We are open Monday to Friday - 3pm to 6pm.

If you would like to see what the children have been up to this week, please follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

<https://www.goostreyallstars.co.uk/>



The school's official communication with families comes through the newsletter, website, class pages, messages through the app, email and occasionally paper letters. We do not have an official Facebook account for information.

Useful contacts and numbers.....

If there's any other information that you feel should be added to this page, as a weekly standing item, please let me know.

www.goostreypreschool.org.uk

Telephone: 07471 756720 - available during pre-school hours only.



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Before School Club

If you would like to enrol your child for Goostrey Before School Club, please either download a booking form from our website www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk or collect from the reception desk. The cost is £4.00 per session and the club operates on each school day, from 8.00 AM to 8.55 AM. Please note no food is served at this club.

The Chair of Governors and the Head teacher meet at least once a week. If you have anything you would like them to discuss / consider please let us know. We will always respond to you.

The web address for ordering school uniform is:
www.myschoolstyle.com/school/goostrey

Class pages, on the school website have lots of up to date information for your child's class. Please keep looking at these as they are updated every week for you.

Thank you

Compliments and Comments and Suggestions.

If you wish to give school general feedback about any aspect of school life, please email either Miss Atkins on head@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk or class teachers, whose email addresses are on each class page on the website; <http://www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk/classes>