



NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2011.

# Gleadless Primary School

‘The best for every child; the best from every child’

We would like to welcome everyone back after the holidays and we hope that you have all had a good summer. All the children have returned to school looking smart in their uniforms and eager to learn, which is lovely to see, thank you.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Y6 Eyam trip	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	
Y6 Boreatton Park Parents meeting	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	3.30 – 4.00 pm
Y5 Astrosphere event	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	
Infant harvest festival (children only)	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00 – 10.00 am
Y3 Weston Park Museum trip	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	
Junior harvest festival (children only)	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00 – 10.00 am
Y6 Boreatton Park residential	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	
Y4 First aid training	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	1.15 – 3.10 pm
Y2 Bolsover Castle trip	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	
School photographs	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	
Inset Day	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	
Half Term Holiday	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	
Children return to school	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	
Parents’ Evenings	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November and Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	3.30 – 6.00 pm both evenings
Y3 Gleadless Walk	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November (weather permitting)	
FS Christmas play (Nursery & Reception children)	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December & Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30 am 1.30 pm
KS1 Christmas play (Y1 & Y2 children)	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December & Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30 pm 9.30 am
KS2 Christmas concert (Y3 – Y6 children)	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December (held at Frith Road site hall) & Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December (held at Sheffield Springs Academy)	1.45 pm 6.30 pm
Y1 Crucible Theatre trip	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	
Last day of term	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	
Christmas Holidays	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December – Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	

Inset Day	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	
Children return to school	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	

## **BUILDINGS, REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE**

We are delighted with the new toilets on the Ridgehill Avenue site. They are separated into boys and girls, clean and brightly decorated and they even flush!

Parents have been raising concerns about the state of repair of our buildings and the school management and governors share these concerns. We have, for at least 4 years, been lobbying the Local Authority to invest some money in our buildings or even better to move the school onto one site. We do get some money for maintenance but never enough to bring the 2 buildings up to standard. For instance this year we have been allocated £9,996 and this has been spent on the removing old water tanks and pipes to minimise the risk of legionella (this is a statutory requirement). The toilets have been funded via a grant application.

It is quite obvious that our sites need far more money spending on them and so the governors are continuing to lobby the local authority and have also approached United Learning Trust (the sponsors of Sheffield Springs Academy). We have asked both these organisations to prepare their proposals for our school both in terms of buildings and quality education. These proposals will be considered at a governing body meeting in October and this will be followed by a period of consultation with parents, staff and the wider community.

## **INTERNET SAFETY**

Do you know that children under the age of 13 should not be using Facebook? If your child is using a social network site it is vital that you monitor who they are contacting and what they are saying. I would recommend that you (parents only) take a look at the Video clip "Where's Klaus?" it's available on the Think u Know website and on other sites such as Teacher tube or You tube.

We have an increasing number and variety of problems in school resulting from children's use of Facebook. If these problems are impacting school or compromising a child's safety we will report the incident to Facebook and tell them that the child is under 13. We hope to work together with children and parents to ensure everyone uses the internet wisely and appropriately and plan to hold some information/ training events for parents. Internet safety is an integral part of our school curriculum and parents should be supporting this at home.

## **SCHOOL DINNERS**

School dinners are now being provided by Taylor Shaw a new company. Children were given a copy of the four weekly menu cycle at the end of last term, if you require another copy please contact the office staff.

The price of the school dinners has risen to £1.98 per day. You can send payment daily, weekly or termly and payment can be made by either cash or cheque, made

payable to Gleadless Primary School. Please send payment in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and whatever the payment is for. The envelopes you use for any payments sent to school do not have to be new or fancy. All households receive a huge amount of junk mail and we are trying to support the environment and recycling by encouraging parents to use these envelopes.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

We have a few items of new uniform in stock which have the old school logo on, (this is the school tree logo but without the wording 'the best for every child; the best from every child', circling it), that we are selling at a reduced price.

Sweatshirts	£5.00
Polo shirts	£4.00
Cardigans	£6.00

If you are interested in purchasing any of this uniform, please enquire at the school office.

Apart from PE t-shirts, that are available to buy from the school office, all uniform should be ordered via our uniform company School Trends. Uniform can either be ordered online at [www.stparent.co.uk](http://www.stparent.co.uk) or by using an order form which are available from the school office. A representative from School Trends collects uniform orders from both sites on Thursday mornings.

## **SPRING BANK HOLIDAY**

Due to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee taking place next summer we would like to point out that the Spring Bank Holiday will not be taking place on the last week of May as usual, but will be from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2012. This will make a difference to your child's attendance if you are planning a holiday during the last week of May.

## **SCHOOL GATES**

Mr Orton the school's caretaker has received a number of complaints from parents about the school gates not being opened 'on time' at the end of the school day. We would like to point out that the gates will be opened at **approximately 3.00 pm**. Due to Health & Safety regulations the school gates cannot be opened if a group of children are still involved in an activity within the school grounds, they can only be opened once all the children have returned to their classrooms. The gates may also be opened at a later time due to circumstances that are not Mr Orton's fault so I would appreciate it if parent/carers could be patient and not be abusive towards school staff. The gates will be opened as near to 3.00 pm as possible but only when it is safe to do so.

## **HARVEST**

This year's harvest festival week will take place during the week beginning October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The children will be learning about the harvest and the great variety of foods available for us to eat. The children will also be reminded about those less fortunate than us, who

may not have enough food to eat. Instead of children bringing money in for a gift the children are going to be selling rice. Just Trading Scotland ([www.justtradingscotland.co.uk](http://www.justtradingscotland.co.uk)) has challenged schools to sell 90 kg of rice. This is the amount a Malawian farmer would have to sell to pay for a year's basic secondary education for one child. The children will be selling the rice on the school yard at the end of each day, during harvest week. The cost of 1kg of rice is £2.70. Please support the school to see how many children we can help send to school!

## **JEWELLERY AND CHARITY BANDS**

As part of our uniform children are only allowed to wear small stud earrings. These need to be removed for PE or any sporting activity. If your child is unable to take out their own earrings I would appreciate it if you could send them to school without them in on these days. Although it is useful for children to wear a watch, other items of jewellery are not necessary in school. Rings, pendants etc. should be left at home.

Some children have been coming to school wearing an increasing number of charity bands. I understand that these are worn to raise awareness of many good causes but I would ask that children only wear one band at a time for school.

## **ROAD SAFETY OUTSIDE SCHOOL**

A few parents are behaving in a dangerous and irresponsible way when delivering or collecting their children from school. All licensed car drivers should know that it is illegal to obstruct a pedestrian crossing, yet an off duty policeman has seen Gleadless parents doing so on a regular basis. These rules are for the safety of your children and others and so must be followed. Attached to this newsletter is a list, supplied by the police, of the offences witnessed outside our school. The police will be patrolling the area around school on a regular basis and issuing penalties to those drivers who are breaking the law.

**Stopping within /on a zebra crossing:** this includes the crossing itself and the white zigzags either side. The offence is complete for the whole or part of a vehicle and both sides of the lines. I.e. when a person drives onto the footpath where the white lines are, (a further offence is committed in this situation).

Contrary to regulation 18 of the Zebra, Pelican and Puffin Pedestrian Crossings Regulations 1997, section 25(5) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988.

**Overtaking within pedestrian crossing limits:** this offence is complete if a vehicle overtakes the vehicle in front, whether it is stationary or moving. (It also includes overtaking pedal cycles).

Contrary to regulation 24(1) of the Zebra, Pelican and Puffin Pedestrian Crossings Regulations 1997, section 25(5) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988.

**Fail to accord precedence at zebra crossing:** this offence is complete where a driver passes through the crossing when a pedestrian is waiting to cross at a zebra crossing, before any part of their vehicle enters the crossing limits.

Contrary to regulation 25(1) of the Zebra, Pelican and Puffin Pedestrian Crossings Regulations 1997, section 25(5) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988.

These offences carry 3 penalty points and a £60 fine; they will also directly affect insurance premiums.

**Unnecessary obstruction:** this can be applied to vehicles parked on a junction. The guideline is 'not at or within 15metres of a junction'. A £30 parking fine can ensue. This can include blocking a private drive way.

**Drive on a footpath:** speaks for itself.

Contrary to section 34(1) (b) of the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988 and Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988.

**Fail to stop for a person at a school crossing patrol:** this offence speaks for itself, however the crossing sign, (lollipop), must be displayed. This carries 3 penalty points and a £60 fine.

Contrary to section 28(3) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988.

**Fail to wait at a school crossing patrol:** this offence is for drivers who set off whilst the crossing supervisor is in the road etc. This carries 3 penalty points and a £60 fine.

Contrary to section 28(3) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988.

**Finally the offence none of us would like to see.**

**Causing death by careless / inconsiderate driving:** this carries a sentence of 5 years imprisonment on indictment, disqualification from driving. However the guilt is a life sentence.