



Greenfields Federation
 Littlehaven Infant School and Northolmes Junior School
 June 2019 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carers,

I'm not sure what has happened to the weather but hopefully it will improve in time for all the events planned for the final half term of this academic year.

Last half term was dominated by elections, dare I say it, Brexit and the year 2 and 6 statutory tests. I would like to say that our year 6 children managed the week of tests brilliantly and were a real credit to their families and our school. I know a delicious breakfast funded by our wonderful Greenfields' Parent Association helped but the children were also very well supported by our staff who ensured the week ran smoothly and that the children were well prepared. Thank you to the parents, governors and friends of the school who invigilated to ensure the tests were administered correctly.

At this time of year, talk always turns to the new academic year, staffing and whose class the children will be in. I have now been able to finalise staffing and class lists which is always a challenging job and a little like trying to put the pieces of a jigsaw together! We take into consideration many factors and I would like to reassure you that governors and I always ensure that resources are carefully targeted to ensure children are happy and successful learners. Transition can be tricky for children and adults but we plan it really carefully to ensure children are well supported and are able to transition happily. If you have any concerns please come and chat with either your child's class teacher, Ms Woodland, Mrs Saunderson or myself who will be more than happy to help.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming you to our many school events. Please check diary dates which are at the end of the newsletter so that you don't miss out!

Best wishes,

Mrs Anderson

Headteacher

Office Update at Northolmes



Mrs Elsey has had an operation this week and due to the follow up treatment she will require, she will be absent for the foreseeable future. Staff, governors and I am sure you wish Mrs Elsey all the very best for a speedy recovery to good health.

Mrs Cornfield will continue working her usual days, Monday to Thursday and I am currently liaising with other schools to ensure the role of School Business Manager is covered until Mrs Elsey is well enough to return.

In the meantime, I would be very grateful if you would help us by avoiding the pinch points of the day such as the start of the day which is extremely busy. Often Mrs Cornfield is dealing with non urgent messages that either the children could have passed on to their class teacher or correspondence which could have been put in the post box outside the office. Please also remember that you can catch your child's class teacher at the start or end of the day and there is a drop off box for any equipment that has been forgotten. You can leave a message on the answerphone, particularly if you need to let us know your child is going to be absent, or you can email office@northolmesjunior.school. Please help us to help you so that information is shared and passed on quickly and queries/concerns are dealt with promptly.

Should you need any help, Mrs Saunderson is always at Northolmes although she teaches full time. Ms Woodland and myself are also available and between us, we try to ensure that one of us is on hand at either school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Lateness

Lateness is becoming a growing problem at both schools again! When children arrive late they would have missed the opportunity of meeting their friends in the playground before the bell rings; they are often embarrassed and upset as they have missed some learning and disrupted the learning of everyone else.

Being punctual is a good habit to get into, please do not disadvantage your child by arriving late. Every child should be in school and on time everyday – thank you.



Our parent association worked incredibly hard to ensure, despite the weather, we had another successful Summer Fair. These events are only successful if everyone gets involved so please read the article on the next page to find out how you can help. Unfortunately, Jodie Smith, (chair of our parent association) was very ill in the run up to the fair and we are extremely grateful to Katherine Bulley and Mel Bullen for stepping up to coordinate the final preparations and managing the day of the fair.

On behalf of the children, parents, staff and governors, I would like to say a huge thank you for everyone's hard work and wish Jodie a very speedy recovery, even though she is not very good at resting!

Some pleas!

Parking– again!



Inconsiderate parking is always a hot topic of discussion but if people did not park in places which make it dangerous for our children to cross or park up on the grass verges and upset out neighbours, it would cease being a problem. Please stop and think before you park – the yellow markings outside our schools are there for a reason!

Facebook

Please read the letters and information which is either sent home or emailed to you.

Social media can be a great way of checking information and communicating and we are lucky to have pages for both schools which are updated by parents. However, if you are unsure about a piece of information, please read and refer back to the direct communication from school as this information is always the most up to date.

Lastly, I would ask that you approach any posts with an open mind. Often it is far easier to moan via social media rather than speak to the school directly! It may be that the school is unaware that there is a problem or that the information being shared is untrue.

Holiday taken in term time

As per our absence policy holidays taken in term time will not be authorised but please complete a holiday form that can be collected from the school office so that we know the reason why your child is absent from school.

Greenfields Parent Association need you!



What is Greenfields Association?

We are a registered charity of parents raising money to support the children and their families at LH and NH schools. Last year we raised over £8000. This fantastic amount of money enabled us to give £4000 to each school to provide extras for our children.

The money also paid for :

- £6 per child towards school trips
- Reception book bags
- 50% of leavers hoodies
- Easter chocolate and prizes
- Christmas treats
- Yr. 6 Leavers BBQ
- Yr. 2 Leavers party
- Food for Christmas parties
- SATs breakfasts
- Refreshments at events
- Littlehaven pond maintenance
- Items for Christmas dinners



To enable us to carry on doing this we need NEW parents/grandparents help on the committee. From September we are losing a number of the active PTA members and without new members coming forward we will not be able to continue and these things will be lost to our children and their families.

So what support do we need?

There are 3 main roles:

- Planning Committee - meeting every 6-8 weeks (generally at the pub) to plan events and help run the events.
- Additional Committee - helping an hour or so roughly 4 times a year, to help run stalls, wrapping gifts, preparing items for stalls, setting up events, helping at the discos.
- Event helper - to sign up to give an hour of your time at our events throughout the year.

At Littlehaven we need someone to take on the termly cake sales and selling second hand uniform so they can continue from September. Everything you need to run these is in place, so could you help with this?

Would you be disappointed to lose these things for your children and family? Then please come and have a chat to us and see where you can help, as they say “every little helps”!

Many thanks,
Jodie and team

Dates for your diary

Federation (for both Littlehaven and Northolmes)



Thursday 27th June - Parent Forum for both schools 9.00am at Littlehaven Infant School

Wednesday 3rd July - Children will meet their new teacher for the next academic year

Friday 12th July - Reports will be sent home from both schools

Littlehaven

**Thursday 27th June - Drama workshops for Reception and Year 1
- Year 2 'Sing Up' event**

Tuesday 2nd July - Pirates dress up day for Year 1/2

Wednesday 3rd July - Children meet their new class teacher

Tuesday 9th July - 1.30pm Sports Day - all welcome

Thursday 11th July - Tomfoolery - Greenfields Association event

Monday 15th July - Celebration of Work 2.30pm

**Thursday 18th July 2pm
and Friday 19th July 9am - Year 2 production**

Monday 22nd July 4.15 to 5.45pm - Year 2 Leavers' Party

Northolmes

**Thursday 20th June - School photographer (class and Year 6 individual photographs)
- Summer Music Concert 2pm**

Monday 24th to Friday 28th June - Arts week - we have lots of exciting events planned!

Thursday 27th June, am - Cookery workshop at Forest (Brunel)

**Friday 28th June, am - Cookery workshop at Forest (Darwin)
- Steel Pans workshop (all years)**

Monday 1st July - Viking workshop (Year 5/6)

Wednesday 3rd July - Transition Day - All children will meet their new teacher.

Sunday 7th July - Horsham children's parade (we are one of the main floats!)

Monday 8th July am - Sports day

**Friday 12th July - District Sports
- 6pm School Disco - Greenfields Association event**

Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th July Year 5/6 production (timings TBC)

Thursday 18th July - Race for Life whole school event

Friday 19th July - Year 6 BBQ

Monday 2nd September is an INSET day

The autumn term begins for Year 1 to Year 6 children on Tuesday 3rd September 2019