

March 2023

NEWSLETTER



Greenfields Federation Newsletter

Littlehaven Infant and Northolmes Junior Schools



Headteacher's Update

The end of the Spring term definitely doesn't feel Spring-like! However, the colourful display of Easter bonnets and decorated eggs definitely brightened up our schools. Thank you so much to all the families that took part.

This term is always the shortest in the academic calendar but it is never the quietest! We have certainly packed a lot in since the start of the new year. Over the course of this term we have hosted two Stay & Play sessions for our Reception parents, hosted two class assemblies, attended two sports events at Millais with our Year 1 and 2 children, hosted Neuro Ninja sessions with Andrew Wright in both schools, had a visit from Horsham Firefighters and their fire engine, welcomed a Stone Age lady who camped overnight in her Stone Age themed tent, took a year group to a cinema screening, celebrated World Book Day and Red Nose Day, had a Science Dome visit, dressed up for Eco-Warrior day, attended two dodgeball tournaments, a netball tournament, a tennis festival, a table tennis tournament, a swimming gala, a tag rugby festival, a muddy fun run and three football tournaments. On top of all this we also fitted in our Parents Evenings and an Ofsted inspection!

We couldn't have achieved all this without such dedicated teams of school staff who have organised and supported these events. We also could not do these events as successfully without your support – it is a true display of the school communities working together.

I hope that you all have a restful Easter and look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 17th April for another busy and exciting term!

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SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING TEAM

If you are worried about something that your own, or another child has told you, or you think that they may be at risk of harm, please contact our Designated Safeguarding team:

Mrs Saunderson (Lead)

Miss Woodland (Deputy)

Mrs Geoghegan (Deputy)

School Uniform – Footwear & Hoodies

There are still children who are not in the correct footwear. This has included a lovely array of ankle boots and trainers.

Please remember that only black shoes should be worn to school. Girls in particular, should not be sent to school in black ankle boots - they may be sold as school shoes but they are not part of our school uniform. Likewise, trainers should be saved for PE kits. Of course, there will always be those 'emergency' days when school shoes have got wet, broken or left somewhere they shouldn't. If your child needs to wear an alternative pair of shoes in these circumstances then please let their class teacher know.

For Northolmes parents, a reminder that school jumpers or cardigans should still be worn on PE days. Hoodies or other jumpers are not part of our uniform. Also, PE bottoms should be plain navy or black in colour.

After Easter, if the weather allows, summer dresses can be worn as part of the school uniform.

Please remember that the PTA has a good supply of secondhand uniform and they can be contacted via the Classlist app.

Parking

We are very fortunate to have a lot of places to park around both schools. However, they are residential roads and our neighbours, quite rightly, get upset and annoyed by inconsiderate parking.

Please can you be mindful when you are parking that you are not blocking driveways, parking on the grass verges, stopping or parking on the yellow zig-zag lines or parking on junctions. In addition please do not park in the drop-off zone outside Northolmes (the verge side of the road parallel to the school field) as it makes it unsafe for children to get out of the cars and onto the pavements.

Thank you for your support in keeping everyone safe on their journey to school.

Holidays and Absence

Attendance at school is really important. I am only able to authorise absence for 'exceptional circumstances'. It is school policy to refer all unauthorised absences of more than 10 sessions for a FPN or fine. Please keep holidays and other events to the school holidays. School needs to be informed of all planned absences from school (medical, family reasons or holidays) at least a week before they occur. Please contact the school office if required.

We are aware that there is a lot of coughs, colds and sickness doing the rounds at the moment. If your child has been sick or has diarrhea, then they need to remain off school for 48 hours after the last episode. Otherwise, your child should return to school as soon as they are well enough to do so.

Cost of Living Support

West Sussex County Council have launched a website to try to support households with the rising costs of living. For support and advice please visit their website - <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure-recreation-and-community/cost-of-living>

Spring Events

The weather may have been anything but Spring-like today but the Easter bonnets and decorated eggs definitely brightened things up! Thank you to everyone who took part and for all the support you must have given them at home. Special thanks must go to the Year 1 & 2 parents who had also produced some amazing eco superhero outfits the day before!



Always Children Celebration

I was delighted to meet up with the children at Littlehaven who had been selected by their teachers for being their 'always' children this term. These are just some of the children who are 'always' following our school rules – 'be kind, be ready, be respectful'. I look forward to meeting up with the children at Northolmes after Easter.



Bikes & Scooters on the Playground

Bikes and scooters are not permitted to be ridden on either school playground and this extends to younger siblings. This is just to help prevent any accidents or injuries. At Littlehaven, all bikes and scooters should be parked in the stands before entering the playground – please do not let children scoot or cycle up and down the drive while waiting for the gates to be opened. At Northolmes, bikes and scooters should be dismantled and pushed while on the playground.

Support for Mental Health Concerns

If you are concerned about your child's mental health and would like some support or advice then there are a number of ways to access this.

Young Minds offer a parent helpline and webchat:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-helpline-and-webchat/#ParentsHelpline>

Alternatively, you can make a referral via the West Sussex Single Point of Access who will make contact with you to offer support:

<https://www.sussexcamhs.nhs.uk/our-services/service-finder/west-sussex-single-point-advice-spoa>

DATES FOR THE DIARY

31 st March	Last Day of Spring term
17 th April	First day of Summer term
26 th April	Galileo Class Assembly
27 th April	Sports for Schools - Northolmes

DIGITAL SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 2023 PARENTS



HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT?

In case you missed them, over the last year CEOP have launched a number of new resources, including:

- [Dark Web Explained for professionals, parents and carers](#)
- [11-18s website](#)
- [4-7s website](#)



SEXUAL ABUSE IMAGERY

Primary school children aged 7-10 years old are increasingly being groomed to perform sexually online by predators warns the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF).



Parents are encouraged to follow the **TALK checklist** to make sure children are kept safe.

TALK to your child about online sexual abuse. Start the conversation – and listen to their concerns.

AGREE ground rules about the way you use technology as a family.

LEARN about the platforms and apps your child loves. Take an interest in their online life.

KNOW how to use tools, apps and settings that can help to keep your child safe online.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TIK TOK

Learn to feel comfortable and safer with your family using TikTok. This **13-minute session** explores what parents need to know.



Podcast

In the new Parent Zone Tech Shock podcast, they chat to Seyi Akiwowo from Glitch – a charity campaigning to end hate speech online against women and girls, particularly those from minority communities. It's a fascinating 45 minute-listen, and you can find all the Parent Zone episodes from all four series on their website. [Listen here](#)

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