



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



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had an enjoyable half term holiday and are ready for the next busy half term.

As you know, before half term our year 6 children spent the week on their residential trip to the Isle of Wight. Mrs Taylor was very proud of the children who went and has informed me that they represented the school very well and most importantly, an enjoyable time was had by all!

Thank you to the parents who attended parents' evenings at Littlehaven in the week before half term and last week for Northolmes. Reception parents will be having their meetings in the next few weeks. If you have not yet been able to meet with your child's teacher, please ensure you make an appointment to see them as soon as possible.

Although every term seems to be incredibly busy, the run up to Christmas is one of our busiest. Please remember to check dates so that you do not miss out on anything. Our websites are regularly updated so please check for the most up to date news, events and dates.

As always please come and talk to us about any concerns or indeed any ideas which will help us to improve the education of our children.

Lastly, I think you can't help but be aware that a general election will be taking place on **Thursday 12th December** and I have been informed that **both** schools will be closed. Despite badgering Horsham District Council, along with our local MP, Jeremy Quin and several parents, Horsham District Council has said there are no alternatives other than using our schools. I apologise for any inconvenience this will cause but the situation is beyond the schools' control.

Mrs Anderson
Headteacher



Fundraising opportunity!

Our fantastic Greenfields parent association have put our schools forward to be one of the Co-op's chosen charities for the next year. If you are a Co-op member, please log on to your account and support us by selecting Littlehaven and Northolmes as your chosen charity. Any funds raised will go towards further developing the schools' outdoor learning.



BBC Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who sent in donations for BBC Children in Need. We will let you know next week how much money we collected. The children also enjoyed taking part in The Big Morning Move with Joe Wicks - if you want to give it a try visit <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/schools/>



Littlehaven and Northolmes' Christmas Fair

Yes, it's that time of year again, and preparations for our Christmas Fair, which takes place at Littlehaven Infant School on **Friday 6th December**, are well underway. The next mufti day for fair donations will be on **Friday 22nd November**. Greenfields Association (our PTA) have asked for donations of wine for the wine or water stall and chocolate for the chocolate tombola and jam jars filled with treats for the jam jar tombola. Please note that for our Northolmes children who swim, donations can be brought in on the Thursday.

We hope you will be able to support this enjoyable and important fundraising event and we look forward to seeing you, family and friends at the Christmas Fair, along with our VIP, Santa!



Reminder for our Year 2 parents and parents with children due to start Reception in September 2020!

If your child is currently in year 2 or you have a child, or indeed if you know of a child, who will be starting Reception in September 2020, don't forget to complete the online application for a school place form by 15th January 2020. The date seems a long way off but with the run up to Christmas the date will soon be upon us. For junior school places visit: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-places/apply/junior-school-places/> For Reception places visit: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-places/apply/starting-school-places/>

Although our open mornings and evenings have now taken place, we are always very happy to show parents around. We also hope that if you are happy with our schools you will spread the word and if not, that you will come and speak to us so that we can address any concerns. School places are hotly contested particularly with so many new schools being built, so we hope you will support our local community schools.

Changing weather...

The mornings are decidedly chillier now and so it is a good time to remind everyone to bring a coat to school every day. We try to get the children outside at break and lunch times unless it is raining heavily (a bit of light rain doesn't deter us!). Please ensure all coats are clearly named.

Children at Littlehaven should have wellington boots in school as we will go outside in all weather!

Attendance and Punctuality

Every day and every second counts and a good attendance is crucial if your child is to do well in school.

Please ensure your child is in school and on time. Children should be in the playground ready to go into school when the bell rings at 8.50am.

At Littlehaven we expect adults to sign their child in at the office if they arrive after 8.50am and to give a reason for their child arriving late. At Northolmes, children sign in at the office but we will follow up with the adult if lateness appears to be becoming a problem.

Schools have a duty to keep parents informed about their child's attendance and we send out an attendance letter for any child who is not attending school regularly or who is regularly late. However, we would much prefer to work with you earlier on so that your child's attendance does not become a problem. With this in mind, please come and talk to staff or myself and remember we have Mrs Rayner at Littlehaven and Mrs Davey at Northolmes whose role is to specifically support parents in an informal way.



Parent Forum

Our parent forum will be taking place on **Wednesday 27th November, 9am at Northolmes Junior School**. The focus will be on our updated behaviour policy and supporting well-being and mental health.



This event is for parents at both schools and is an opportunity for our parents to share their views, raise concerns and hopefully to talk about the things that are also going well, over a cup of coffee. If you are unable to attend the event please feel free to email in any questions/concerns to: office@littlehaveninfant.school marked "PARENT FORUM". We look forward to welcoming you at this event.



Some pleas

We always endeavour to do our very best to help and sort out any concerns you may have and I hope we do so in a polite, respectful and professional way. We expect all adults, young people and children to also behave in an appropriate way on our school sites. Sadly, it is the few who spoil it for the rest and it damages the schools' reputation.

Please can you closely supervise younger siblings at the start and end of the day to keep them safe.

We sometimes have groups of young people collecting their siblings from our school and although the vast majority behave respectfully, it has been brought to my attention that a few are behaving in an anti-social way which can be upsetting to our children and their parents.

Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Dates for your diary



Both Littlehaven and Northolmes

Friday 22nd November	Mufti day for Christmas Fair
Wednesday 27th November	9am Parent Forum at Northolmes
Friday 6th December	5pm – 7.30pm - Christmas Fair at Littlehaven
Thursday 12th December	Polling day for General Election - both schools will be closed
Friday 20 th December	Last Day of Term for both schools

Littlehaven

Tuesday 19th November	9am – 10am Reception stay and play session for parents
Tuesday 3rd December	9am—10am Year 2 phonics stay and learn session for parents/ carers
Wednesday 11th December	2pm - Reception Nativity
Friday 13th December	9.15am approx. - Reception Nativity
Wednesday 18 th December	Chartwells' Christmas Lunch (if your child usually brings a packed lunch from home but would like a hot meal on this day please contact the school office)

Northolmes

Tuesday 19 th November	9am - Year 6 residential assembly
Monday 25 th November	Years 5 and 6 Eco summit at ICC
Monday 9 th December	Christmas Services at All Saints Church (year 3/4)
Tuesday 17 th December	2pm - Music concert (for parents of Year 5/6 children who are participating in the concert)
Thursday 19 th December	Chartwells' Christmas Lunch