

Gresham Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 6 – 9th October 2020

Web: <http://www.gresham.croydon.sch.uk/>

Email: administrator@gresham.croydon.sch.uk

Whole school attendance

98.2%

Thank you for your continuing support.

Highest attending class

Reception 100%

Well done !

Important - Harvest Collection – please don't forget

As many of you will remember, we would normally have our annual 'Foodbank' collection at this time of year.

As we are unable to collect goods in school, All Saints Church have kindly agreed to put a collection box outside the church hall on the mornings of **Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th October (before 10 am)**.

Any non-perishable foods would be most welcome; please ensure that they have not been opened and are within their sell by/use by date.

We have been overwhelmed by your generosity in previous years and with the current situation many local families will require even more support this year, so whatever you can donate will be gratefully received.

School Uniform – Boots

We have noticed that there are some girls wearing boots instead of school shoes. Our school uniform requirements clearly state black school shoes, this can be found in the school prospectus which is on our website. If your daughter needs to wear boots to school, please make sure that they have black school shoes to change into.

Cool Milk

Cool Milk who supply the children's school milk, have not supplied straws this week. The straw machine at the depot has broken down. They do apologise and confirmed they will refund parent/carers for the milk that the children have not been able to drink.

Secondary School Applications – Apply Now

Secondary school applications for our current Year 6 children closes on 31st October. Please visit www.croydon.gov.uk/admissions

Labelling school clothing

Most days we find clothing that is not labelled. We do not have a lost property box at Gresham, when we find an article of clothing if it is named it is returned to the child.

Parent Rep Meeting

The parent reps met with Ms Steele via Zoom last Tuesday evening. The minutes of the meeting are now on the school website. Please read as they have useful information.

Covid-19 reminder/update

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new, continuous cough
- a high temperature (**37.8** degrees Celsius or above)
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Important - General NHS guidance had stated that 38 degrees is a high temperature. However, the most recent government guidelines published specifically addressing Covid-19 set 37.8 degrees as a high temperature. Please be aware of this change.

Parents' Evening

Parents' evening will be taking place in the two weeks after half term. They will be held online - most likely through Google Classroom, but this will be confirmed at a later date. There will be multiple days available between the hours of 3:30 - 4:50. You will receive details of how to sign up for a slot next week.

Mini Marathon

This year, Virgin London Marathon set up a mini marathon of 2.6 miles for schools to take part in this week. We have loved seeing the children at Gresham take part, getting active and achieving a goal! All the children showed commitment and determination and it was wonderful to see so many smiling faces at the 'finish line'. A huge well done to all the children who took part and a special well done to our reception class for their participation. We have seen some impressive running skills and look forward to hopefully taking part in more events like this this year.

School Photos

School photos with Tempest will be going ahead this year. They are coming into school on Tuesday 3rd November. They will be taking individual photos only, no siblings this year. The children will be asked to stand up rather than sit when they have their photo taken. The children will be brought to the hall by their class teacher and remain in their bubbles.

Black History Month (1st October - 31st October)

October marks Black History Month - the annual commemoration of the history, achievements and contributions of black people in the UK. For the whole month until October 31st, events celebrating African and Caribbean cultures and histories will take place up and down the country. While the UK celebrates Black History Month in October, across the United States (where it originated) commemorations take place throughout February. Gresham pupils learn about other cultures throughout the year, but they will be paying special attention to black history this month. If you would like to research black history with your child at home, we have included some links to various videos. We are also sending out a list of books (collated by Croydon LA) which are inclusive of various ethnicities, cultures and backgrounds.

A modern take on being black and British

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/49883230>

Significant figures in history

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/black-history-month-primary-and-secondary-resources/zjwf8xs>.

The Museum of London is putting on a free exhibition (booking required): Black History Month 2020.

Inclement weather

The weather is beginning to take a turn for the cold and wet. Although we will do our best to get the children in quickly on rainy mornings, we must still adhere to the timings for each class. This is because we need gaps between classes arriving *and* we need to keep bubbles as separate as we can through the school, e.g. putting belongings on pegs, using the toilets and walking through the corridors. We recommend children do not arrive too early and wear a coat to avoid getting too wet at the start of the day.

Term Dates

Next year's term dates can be found in the parent information menu on the school website.

Google Classrooms

Stream Comments

Many of the children are starting to utilise the class streaming facility on Google Classroom. Whilst we are happy for children to post on here, we cannot guarantee that teachers will be able to read and reply to all the comments. If you have an important question for the teacher, it will still be best to email in to admin or call the office. All comments made by Gresham children have been positive and appropriate, but we do know (from other schools) that children can easily post comments which may not be appropriate - we have been and will continue to discuss safe and appropriate online behaviour. We ask that parents have similar discussions at home and monitor any comments their child makes on the class stream.

Comments on tasks/marking on Google Classroom

During a bubble closure - the teacher and TA will give feedback on work as they normally would in class.

When a single child or small number are off but the bubble is open - the teacher and TA will give feedback on the work as they normally would in class at the end of the day. They may choose to give feedback on return, depending on the age of child and type of task.

For weekly home learning tasks - most tasks will not require feedback, but if they do, a brief comment may be left, either to individual children, or to the whole class. The home learning links to learning in school and as such, teachers will be able to assess children's understanding and recall in lessons.

World Mental Health Day (Saturday 10th October)

World Mental Health Day 2020 is the most important one yet. The months of lockdown and loss have had a huge impact on us all, and prioritising mental health has never been more important than it is now. That's why this year we want to bring everyone together to mark the day by each doing one thing for better mental health. Making positive change can seem so hard, especially during uncertain times. And sometimes, it can be hard to know where to start. Take the opportunity this World Mental Health Day to find out more about how you can start with *one thing*. You'll find more information about #DoOneThing at the Mind website <https://www.mind.org.uk/get-involved/world-mental-health-day-2020/>

If you are concerned about your child's mental health, please contact the school.

Thank you for reading our newsletter.
Have a lovely weekend