



## Greythorn Primary School

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 @GreythornPS



### Newsletter Monday 2nd September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming all the children back to school on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September- gates open at 8.50am. We hope you have all had a good summer holiday and been able to enjoy some family time together. Here are a few reminders for you all before the start of term.

#### **Welcome**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all new members of staff and to our new Foundation Stage (FS) children and their families as well as some new children that are joining further up the school. Please give them all a Greythorn welcome if you see them and their families in the playground or on the gate.

#### **School Uniform**

Children must return to school in smart school uniform which is a red school sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan (no hoodies), a red polo shirt (white is acceptable until September 2025), dark grey trousers, dark grey skirt, dark grey shorts (no leggings or jogging bottoms), plain black shoes (not trainers), grey or white sock, grey or red tights. Please name **ALL** items the children wear and bring to school.

Shoulder-length (or longer) hair should always be tied back. Haircuts should not be extreme- no shave lines, fades, dyed hair or decorative hair accessories. All hair accessories should be plain dark colours or school colours. Children must not be wearing nail varnish to school.

#### **PE Kits**

Please ensure that all children have their PE kits in school. Your child's class teacher will advise which days their PE lessons are. A reminder that children should have black plimsolls/trainers for PE with a plain white t-shirt and plain black shorts/skorts/joggers. No logos (except the school logo) or writing on PE kit please. Please name **ALL** items the children wear and bring to school.

#### **School Dinners/Packed Lunches/Snacks/Water Bottles**

##### **Dinners/Packed lunches**

FS and KS1 children are entitled to a universal free school meal. They may bring a packed lunch if they choose. Packed lunches should be healthily balanced (no sweets or chocolate bars).

KS2 children may order a school dinner or bring a packed lunch. Packed lunches should be healthily balanced (no sweets or chocolate bars).

School dinner menus are available on the school website. [School menu](#)

##### **Snacks**

FS and KS1 children receive a fruit snack and milk in the mornings. KS2 children may bring a fruit snack for morning break time. Please note that only fruit or fruit-based snacks can be consumed at break time (no sweets, chocolate bars, crisps etc).

### **Water Bottles**

All children should bring a water bottle to school- this must only be filled with water. Water bottles should be taken home daily to be washed. Please do not bring expensive water bottles (such as Stanley-type water bottles) or Prime drinks (or similar) to school. Water bottles need to be labelled.

### **School bags**

In KS1 children use the school book bags or a small bag to carry their reading books to and from school. If your child is in KS2, they may bring a small school bag- please ensure they are small as we have limited space in the cloakrooms.

### **Birthdays**

We know that children like to celebrate their birthdays. We would like to remind you to please not send in any food items (sweets, cakes, biscuits) for the class to share. If you would like to do something to mark your child's birthday at school, you are welcome to buy a book to add to the class library. Please ask your child's teacher if you would like some book suggestions.

### **Attendance**

It is very important that your child attends school every day – lost learning is hard to catch up in and can affect your child's outcomes. Please make your child's medical appointments outside of school times as far as is possible although we do recognise that important hospital appointments may unavoidably be in school time.

What is an authorised absence?

- If your child is ill and you have contacted the school
- If your child is attending a medical appointment and school have seen evidence
- Religious observance

What is an **unauthorised** absence?

- Your child not attending school due to birthday celebrations or other family events
- Your child visiting family or friends or going shopping or going for a haircut
- Your child taking a full day off school for medical/dental appointments
- Your child arriving to school after 9.15am
- Your child being absent with an ailment that school would expect them to attend with.
- Your child taking a holiday during term time
- Your child missing school due to a medical/dental appointment for a parent/sibling

### **Holidays**

Please do not take holidays in school term time. Holidays in term time will never be authorised. The Department for Education (DfE) have introduced some new guidance for schools and Local Authorities (LAs) for managing school attendance. They have also introduced a new national framework for penalty notice and amended the law. These changes have come into effect from the 19 August 2024 and all schools and LAs across the country will be expected to follow the new statutory guidance. Please see the attached poster, below, for details.

### **Keeping Greythorn Safe**

A reminder about parking for when we return to school in September. The school drive is always to be kept clear of pedestrians. Please park away from school and ensure that our neighbour's driveways are kept clear. We want to always be good neighbours to our community.

Please use the paths rather than the road leading up to school when walking to and from school. This is developing safer road safety habits and is safeguarding our children and you as school pedestrians.

### **Coming into school in the mornings**

Parents are reminded that the gate closes promptly at 9am. Please refrain from using your phone on site and from catching teachers at the class door at this time; please either make an appointment to meet or contact staff via Class dojo.

### **Parent communication**

When communicating with staff (Class Dojo/ email), be aware that if you contact staff outside of school hours they may not reply to you until the next school day. Any messages sent during the day will be checked at a time convenient to the staff member as they will ultimately be teaching or supporting your children in class. They will do their best to reply to you on that day. If your message is urgent and requires immediate attention, please send it to the school office rather than Class dojo. For communication to the office and myself , please email:- [office@greythorn.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@greythorn.notts.sch.uk) rather than Class Dojo.

### **Greythorn open mornings**

Do have any children starting school, next year (Sep 2025) or know anyone who does? You are warmly invited to attend our school open days on:

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September (10am-12 noon)**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October (9.30am- 11.30am)**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October (10am- 12 noon)**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November (10am- 12 noon)**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November (9.30am- 11.30am)**

### **Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools**

Asda have launched a new fundraising scheme for schools, Cashpot for Schools is a donation initiative operated by Asda, whereby Asda will donate 0.5% of Qualifying Purchases during the Qualifying Period to eligible schools. We have already registered with Asda so you will be able to search and select our school. If you are an Asda rewards card holder, they will donate to school every time you scan your card. You can go onto your app and nominate Greythorn Primary School under Cashpot for Schools section. Thank you for your support.

### **Important Dates**

Flu vaccine for all children – 16<sup>th</sup> September – see ClassDojo post for consent form

FOGSA AGM- Wednesday 18th September @ 6pm

School photographer (individuals) - Thursday 26th September

### **Inset Days 2024-2025**

A reminder that the Inset days for next academic year are: -

Monday 2nd September 2024

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025

Best wishes,



Mrs Tae Carpenter

# Every school day matters!

enjoy • learn • achieve

## Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

### Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

### 5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

### 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

### First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

### Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

### Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.