



Week Ending:
Friday 16th December 2022

@Green_MeadowPS

Diary Dates

January 2023

Monday 2nd
Bank Holiday
School Closed

Tuesday 3rd
Teacher Training Day
School Closed

Wednesday 4th
Teacher Training Day
School Closed

Thursday 5th
School Re-opens for
all pupils @ 8.30am

PE Kits Needed:
Year 2
Year 6

Friday 6th
PE Kits Needed:
Year 5
Year 6

* MERRY *
CHRISTMAS



Dear Parents,

It has been a fantastic final week of term here at Green Meadow. The week started with Christmassy workshops for year 1 and reception. Thank you so much to all those parents who attended and enjoyed special time with their children. You made some beautiful decorations which you will be able to hang on your Christmas trees for years to come. I was also particularly impressed with some of the yummy sweet treats you made- they were delicious!

On Wednesday morning, we drew the Friends of Green Meadow Chocolate Raffle- well done to all the winners and runners up! We hope you enjoy your chocolatey treats. Thank you very much to the year 6 prefects who did a fantastic job of selling the raffle tickets around school this week and to FOGM for providing the amazing chocolatey prizes.

On Wednesday afternoon, year 2 performed their nativity play. The dedication to making this event such a success by the staff and children was plain to see. The children were simply amazing. Their singing and performance skills were outstanding. We know this only happens because of the input from parents supporting children to learn lines at home, so thank you, and the support from staff in school. Well done Mrs Bestwick, Mr Wilson and Mrs Close!

On Thursday, the children were treated to a fabulous pantomime, paid for by the generous donations to the Friends of Green Meadow. Thank you to FOGM for organising this lovely end-of-term tradition. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it!

On Thursday afternoon, our winning house enjoyed their housepoint winners treat. Well done to David Attenborough house. We hope you enjoyed your Christmassy themed treat.

Today, has been full of Christmas cheer! We started the day with a Christmas assembly where Mr Moffatt's guitar made a special guest appearance! During the afternoon, all the children in school had a chance to attend the Christmas disco with their friends and a great time was had by all. Many thanks to Mr Ashford for providing the festive tunes.

We look forward to seeing you all at the KS2 'Carols on the Playground' event to finish term off in style. Please join us at 3pm and don't forget there will be a chance to buy some sweet treats after the performance, thanks to the Friends of Green Meadow!

Have a wonderful holiday time. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Thursday 5th January 2023.

Best wishes,
Mrs Cross

Attendance Reminder

Please remember to call, text or email the school office if your child is unable to attend that day.



Office telephone number: 0121 475 4505



Email: enquiry@greenmeadow.excelsiormat.org



Send a text or in app message via Arbor.

Thank you for your cooperation

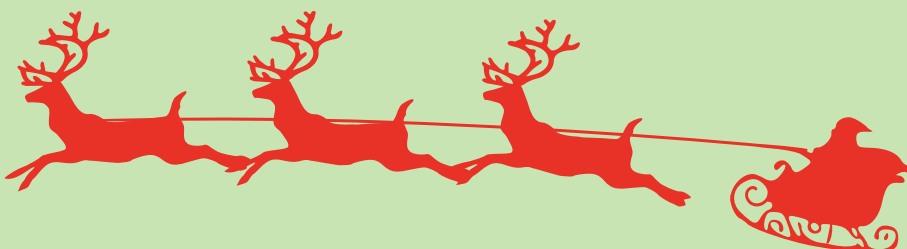
ATTEND TODAY
ACHIEVE TOMORROW



Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned





Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) Primary Programme

Items needed

We are in the process of making our playtimes more exciting, in partnership with OPAL (www.outdoor_play_and_learning.org.uk) and need some equipment to help us to do this. We would be really grateful for any of the following donations:

- suitcases
- cable drums
- wooden pallets
- fabric (sheets/saris/curtains)
- plastic crates, bins or boxes (any size)
- old keyboards/mobile phones/torches/calculators/laptops/kettles
- anything made from foam (not polystyrene)

If you have any of these items, please bring them to the school, or call and let us know where we can collect them from. If you have anything else you think might be useful, get in touch to let us know.

What are LOOSE PARTS?

Loose parts are items that can be used to facilitate different kinds of play, or any material that a child can manipulate for playful purposes.

Natural Loose Parts



Acorns



Grass



Leaves



Logs



Pine Cones



Rain & Water



Sand



Snow



Shells



Soil



Sticks



Stones



Wild Flowers



Wood Cookies

Upcycled Loose Parts



Baking Pans



Cake Moulds



Ice Cube Trays



Kitchen Tools



Measuring Spoons



Pots & Pans



Strainers



Baskets



Cable Spools



Cardboard Items



Cones



Containers



Corrugated Pipes



Dress-Up Items



Fabric



Funnels



Milk Crates



Nets



Old Electronics



Pool Noodles



PVC Pipes



Rolling Carriers



Ropes



Shovels & Spades



Sinks & Tubs



Tarps



Tires & Wheels



Wooden Planks

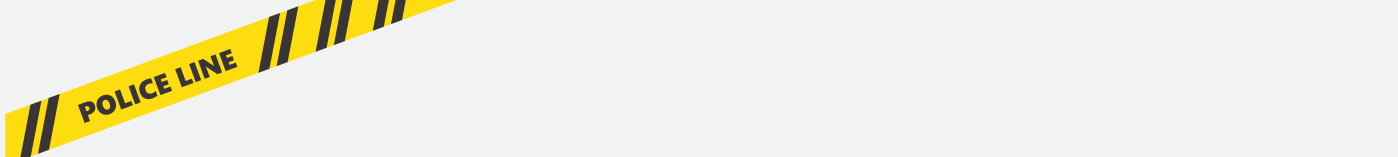




CONGRATULATIONS



**Congratulations to our PSCO students who all graduated yesterday.
We are all very proud of you.**



TERM DATES 2023

Spring Term 2023

Training Days	Tuesday 3rd January 2023
	Wednesday 4th January 2023
School Opens	Thursday 5th January 2023
Half Term	Monday 20th – Friday 24th February 2023
Training Day	Monday 27th February 2023
Term Ends	Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term 2023

School Opens	Monday 17th April 2023
Half Term	Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2023
Term Ends	Friday 21st July 2023
Training Days	Monday 24th July 2023
	Tuesday 25th July 2023

PE DAYS FROM JANUARY 2023

PE days will return to normal from w/c Monday 9th January as follows:



Tuesdays - Year 2

Wednesdays - Year 4 & Year 1

Thursdays - Year 5 and Reception

Fridays - Year 6 & Year 3

YEAR 4 OUTDOOR LEARNING ON A WEDNESDAY FROM JANUARY 2023



Please remember to send Year 4 children in with their outdoor learning kit on a Wednesday. Please include items such as wellies, gloves, an extra pair of socks.

NO OUT SIDERS

'All different, All welcome'

WEEKLY ASSEMBLY

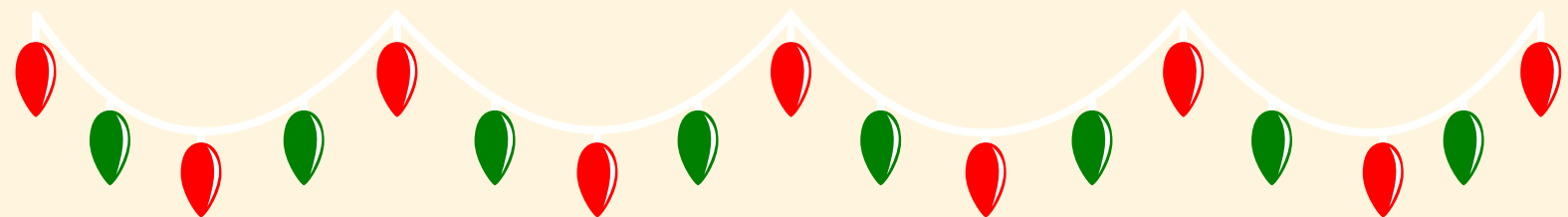
ASK YOUR CHILD TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE STORIES BEHIND THIS PICTURE AND HOW IT LINKS TO BRITISH VALUES.



KS1

&

KS2





Menu Kids



WEEK COMMENCING 2ND JANUARY 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
School Closed		Pork Sausage Vegan Bites Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans Assorted Sandwiches	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Fish Goujons Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans	
		Creamed Potatoes Peas Or Beans	Chips Baked Beans	
Fresh Seasonal Salad Bar Available Every Day With Bread Baked Fresh Daily				
Selection Of Fresh Fruit & Yogurts Available Daily				
			Flapjack	Strawberry & Vanilla Mousse

School meals are £2.35 per day, payable via Arbor, for years 3, 4, 5 & 6, unless you are entitled to free school meals.

Please note that for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 ALL children are entitled to universal free school meals.

The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas

FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come. Merry Christmas!



1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It helps to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

2. SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus to their device.

10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



Keeping Safe over Christmas

The safety of our school family and local community are of paramount importance to us. This week all children have all re-watched the NSPCC "Speak out. Stay safe." assembly, hosted by Ant and Dec online.

We would also advise parents to visit www.thinkuknow.co.uk. This is the website for a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline and contains a huge amount of information for parents / carers around online safety and different games / apps which may be particularly useful at this time of year.

Please find attached a small card for parents /carers which contains information and telephone numbers for adults who may require support or advice.

Please find on the reverse of this letter a reminder of contact details for organisations who can offer support sent out on last week's newsletter.

Our 'Early Help' offer continues to be available to all families. If you are unsure whether school will be able to help, please just ask – if we can't, we will try and find you someone who can. 'Early Help' doesn't mean we are going to make a referral to social services (in fact this is rare!), so please do not be afraid to reach out for help when we return to school in the new year if this is something you require.

If you are in immediate danger, or suspect someone else is, call 999.

If you are unable to talk, call 999, listen to the operator and then either press 55 on a mobile, when prompted, or wait on a landline to be connected to the police, who will be able to help.

If you're worried you, or someone you know, may be experiencing domestic abuse:

The Freephone 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline run by Refuge offers support for women: 0808 2000 247

The free Respect Men's Advice Line offers support for men: 0808 801 0327

Galop's free National LGBTQ+ Domestic Abuse Helpline offers support for LGBTQ+ people: 0800 999 5428

The free Respect Phonenumber offers support for men and women who are harming their partners and families: 0808 802 4040

The free NSPCC helpline offers support for anyone worried about a child: 0808 800 5000



ORGANISATIONS FOR SUPPORT

Samaritans offer a safe place for you to talk any time you like, in your own way – about whatever you need to. Call them free on 116123.

Childline 0800 1111

Mental Health Matters 0800 616171/03003305487

School Nursing Team 0121 245 5750

Citizens Advice 0344 4111444

Children's Services (Birmingham Children's Trust) 0121 303 1888

Bournville Village Trust 0300 3336540

Reameadow Children's centre 0121 458 2376

Trussel Trust Food Bank 07582 143972

Northfield Community Partnership/Food Bank 0121 411 2157

Shenley Fields Children's Centre 0121 6753065

Acacia Pre and Postnatal depression/support services 0121 301 5990

Gateway Family Services 0121 456 7820

Family Action 0121 427 9791

Weoley Castle Children's Centre 0121 428 4803

CAF CASS 0300 456 4000

NSPCC 0808 800 5000

Women's Aid 0808 800 0028

Birmingham City Council housing repairs 0121 216 3330

National Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247/ [gov.uk/domestic-abuse](https://www.gov.uk/domestic-abuse)

B30 Foodbank 08082082138/ 07582143972/ info@b30.foodbank.org.uk/ Unit 17, Castle Road, Kings Norton Business Park, Birmingham, B30 3HZ



RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2023 SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Applications opened on 1 October 2022 for primary school applications for entry in September 2023. **The closing date is 15 January 2023 at 11:59pm.**

You must apply on time. If you apply late, you are less likely to get offered a place at any of your preferred schools. Applications received after 15 January 2023 will be classed as late applications and will not be processed until after the offer of places on 17 April 2023.

Remember to list three different primary schools.

Important: Make sure you include details of any siblings attending your preferred school(s) in the field (box) provided for sibling details. Sibling details included in the incorrect field (box), such as in reasons for preference, will not be counted and may prevent you from gaining a place at your preferred school. Please note if you fill in the online application incorrectly, you are responsible for not completing the form correctly, not School Admissions and Fair Access Service.

Please scan the QR code for the Birmingham City Council School Applications page.

**CHOOSING YOUR PRIMARY SCHOOL?
CHOOSE GREEN MEADOW**

VISIT WWW.BIRMINGHAM.GOV.UK/SCHOOLADMISSIONS
AND SUBMIT YOUR ONLINE APPLICATION
BY 15 JANUARY 2023

Proud to be part of **Excelsior**

WWW.GREENMEADOW.EXCELSIORMAT.ORG

T: 0121 475 4505



Reception 2023
New Intake

Please contact the school office to arrange to have a guided tour of our amazing school.



Ho Ho Ho!

The Friends of Green Meadow PTA



WHO ARE WE?

In September our previous Chairperson Claire Evans stepped down and two new parents Lindsey Allen and Kate Lunn were voted in as Co – Chair people. Together with 16 other parents who have children at the school we volunteer our time. We organise and run fun events throughout the school year. There is a multiple purpose to holding these events.

1. To add a sense of fun and enjoyment to school life
2. To build community spirit at the school
3. To successfully raise money to fund activities and items to further enrich every child's experience at school.

Without your continued support we would be unable to do this so...

THANKS!

Do you know the money that you helped to raise at FOGM events last year has funded the following things for the children of Green Meadow Primary School during this first Autumn term alone?

1. £750 in cash donated to school toward the new Virtual Reality Room and new books for the school library
2. Virtual Pantomime for the children
3. A Christmas Gift for every child

We intend to use the money raised to fund further activities and items for the children each term.

COMING UP

18/01/2023 We have arranged for Bag2School to come and collect preloved clothes and shoes. The Christmas holiday is the perfect time for you to bag up all of those clothes and shoes that the kids have grown out of or, for one reason or another you no longer need, or use ready to bring them into school the week beginning 16/01/2022. Bag2School is a company who purchases those clothes and shoes by weight and that money goes into the FOGM fundraising pot!

20/01/2023 Friday afternoon cake sale. Yum, yum!

Don't worry, we have lots of other events planned! We are currently finalising dates and plans together with the school with a special focus on how we can include everybody. There are approximately 400 children who attend our school but the school hall only has capacity for 180 people at a time. However, we are confident that we will find a fair solution.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET

Friends of Green Meadow Primary School – Birmingham have set ourselves up as a fundraising cause with Easy Fundraising. [Easyfundraising](https://www.easypfundraising.org.uk) is the UK's biggest charity shopping site. It costs you nothing to join and register us as the cause that you support. Then, if you remember to go through the [Easyfundraising](https://www.easypfundraising.org.uk) site or app every time you shop, the retailer that you shop with will donate money to our cause – AT NO COST TO YOU! Please consider joining. Further information can be found at: [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easypfundraising.org.uk)

LASTLY, WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR X