



## Welcome message

We have had a week of festive fun at Goresbrook: On Monday our Reception & Year 1 children sang carols at Cherry Orchard care home, it was great to give something back to the community. On Tuesday our Year 2's visited Becontree Church as part of their 'light in religion' topic. On Wednesday and Thursday this week our Reception classes put on their Christmas show, we hope parents and carers enjoyed it. Today children enjoyed a Christmas lunch and had a visit from Father Christmas! We also took part in Christmas jumper day for Save the Children. Thank you to all of those who took part to raise money for such a great cause.

### Christmas Celebrations next week (Primary)

Ms Mason and Ms Askew will be holding a Christmas Craft session with the Nursery children and parents on Monday the 19th December. Parents can join their children for the last hour of each session (AM: 10:40-11:40, PM: 14:40-15:40) to take part in some craft activities and play with their children in the Nursery classroom.

### Fantastic Finish (Primary)

On the last day of term (Tuesday 20th) Reception and Year 2 families are invited in at 3pm for our Fantastic Finish. Year 1 parents please arrive at 2.45pm.

### Changes to reception procedures and uniform purchasing in January

There are a number of changes that will be effective from January 4th 2017 regarding reception processes and uniform purchasing. These include opening the Secondary reception for all Year 7 students to use and also moving all uniform sales to parent pay. You will receive a letter next week regarding the changes. Please do read it carefully and speak to a member of staff if you have any queries.

### After-school clubs next week (Primary)

Please note that there are no staff-run after school clubs on Monday 19th next week. That means no cooking, cartooning or homework and reading. Please note there are no after-school clubs at all on Tuesday 20th December at all. Refunds will be issued if you have paid for a club for this afternoon.

### After-school clubs from January (Primary)

Letters have gone out in book bags today confirming the club choice you have been allocated. Please note that if you have been allocated a paid club this is **NOT CONFIRMED** until payment is received via Parent pay. The deadline for payment is **Tuesday 3rd January at 9am**.

### Coffee Morning with Debbie (Primary)

Following the success of the recent coffee mornings held by Debbie our family support worker and our school nursing team, we have booked further meetings. Monday 30th Jan at 9am will look at headlice prevention and management and on Monday 20th February at 9am we will look at routines and boundaries.

### Miss Darley's Christmas card competition (Primary)

I am delighted to announce that the winners of the Christmas Card competition are Tia from Designer class in Year 1 and Summer from Engineer class in Year 1. Please see their brilliant designs overleaf. Thank you and well done to all those children who took part.

### Parent Survey

Parent surveys have gone out to Year 7 parents this week and have also been completed by reception parents at the Christmas shows. Year 1 and 2 parents will have the opportunity to complete their parent surveys at the Fantastic Finish on Tuesday. Please ensure you do take part, we love to hear your feedback.

### Milestone assembly (Secondary)

We are holding our milestone assembly for selected Year 7s on Monday at 4:10pm. Please do come along if you have received a text from us confirming your child is involved.

Have a lovely weekend,

Clare

## Attendance & Punctuality

**On return to school please bring in a hand-written note or complete the Return to School form at the front reception even if you phoned up to let us know your child is ill.** This is valid for genuine illness of two days. More than two days absence requires medical proof e.g. a prescription bottle or a copy of a prescription or even the appointment card are acceptable.

**If your child is up and about at home then they are generally well enough to be at school.** If your child is too ill to attend school please ensure you phone **0203 597 6666** and select **option 1** as soon as possible that morning and every day that they are absent. **Alternatively you can contact our Attendance Officer, Mrs Rebeiro directly on 07557 083 767.**

**Please note that if you arrive at school and the gate is closed, you need to walk your child through main reception. Your child will be classed as late.**

**A reminder for collection in the afternoons (Primary):** If you collect your child more than 10 minutes late on three occasions in a half term, we are required to charge you £10.00. As per our policy, any further instances of lateness in that half term will incur a charge of £10.00 per occasion.

The classes with the highest attendance in each year group this week are:

**Reception: Illustrator class 98.4%**

**Year 1: Engineer class 97%**

**Year 2: Surgeon class 97.7%**

**Year 7: Helevlyn 99%**

### Primary Attendance Awards

Well done to those children who received a blue 100% attendance and punctuality sticker for this week. If you didn't receive one today please try really hard to get one next week.



## Applications for Reception 2017

Children currently in our Nursery have received letters this week explaining how to apply to Barking & Dagenham for a place at Goresbrook School in Reception 2017. Spare copies are available in Reception. Please ask Miss Bone if you have any queries. Please submit your application as soon as possible. **The closing date is 15 January 2017** and all applications are online via the B&D website.

## Parking

Please note that parents should be parking in Goals or the Vue cinema car park. You are not permitted to park outside the school gates or the bay area.

## Childminders

A number of parents have enquired about local childminders in the area. Barking & Dagenham have provided us with website details below. Once you access this website please enter your postcode to produce a list of registered childminders in the local area. Please note that Goresbrook School are not endorsing the work of any of these childminders, it is up to parents to make further enquiries on the quality of care provided <https://online.lbbd.gov.uk/FSD/Search.aspx?searchID=2128>

## Menu changes

A number of menu changes are in process as a result of your feedback and meeting with Miss Cocks. Once these changes are finalised we will publish the updated menu.

## Email the Governors

We now have a dedicated mailbox set up for you to email any feedback or comments directly to the Char of our Local Governing Body : [Governors@goresbrookschool.org.uk](mailto:Governors@goresbrookschool.org.uk). We have a vacancy for a new parent Governor. We would like to invite any interested parents to contact [Governors@goresbrookschool.org.uk](mailto:Governors@goresbrookschool.org.uk) to express interest by 4th January 2017. Elections will be held in due course.

## Outside Area

Thank you for all of your help to raise money for the outside area. We have raised the following so far: International food festival - £172.54, raffle sales at the food festival £501.00, Summer fair £2819 and we won the ASDA charity donation of £500. The above has contributed to many of our new outdoor resources, such as playground markings, football goals, basketball hoops and various other outdoor play equipment which has provided our children with stimulating outside learning activities.



Tia's design



Summer's design

## Key Dates

Monday 19th December—Christmas craft session for Nursery. Parents are invited at 10:40am and 2:40pm.

Monday 19th December—Year 7 Milestone Assembly 4:10-4:45pm.

Monday 19th December: No staff-run after school clubs for Primary. Sporty champs clubs run as normal.

Tuesday 20th December—Fantastic Finish for Reception, Year 1 & 2. Times overleaf.

Tuesday 20th December—no clubs running on the last day of term. Refunds will be issued shortly.

Tuesday 3rd January 2017—INSET - no school for pupils

Wednesday 4th January 2017—first day back for all pupils. Breakfast club available for Secondary at 7.30am and Primary at 8am. Primary paid clubs start this week for those who have paid. Those who have not paid will not have a club.

Friday 6th January 2017—Reception/ Nursery Open morning 9.15am-10.15am

Monday 9th January 2017—staff free after -school clubs start for Primary.

Wednesday 11th January - Curriculum Information Meeting 3.45-4.45pm  
Reception (repeated 5-6pm)

Wednesday 18th January—Curriculum Information Meeting 3.45-4.45pm Year 1 (repeated 5-6pm)

Friday 20th January - Family Friday Come Learn With Me for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, 8:30-9:15am

Tuesday 24th January—Coffee Morning whole school 8am- 9am

Wednesday 25th January—Curriculum Information Meeting 3.45-4.45pm Year 2 (repeated 5-6pm)

Friday 27th January—Reception trip to Natural History Museum. Consent letters will go out when we return from the Christmas break.

Monday 30th January—9am coffee morning with Debbie and school nurse. Topic: Head lice