



Welcome message

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We've had a busy week at Goresbrook, ending with an amazing medley of Fairy Tale characters, Superheroes, Toys and Explorers in Primary. Thank you to all for making such a fantastic effort.

Year 2 visited the Cutty Sark and the Greenwich Maritime Museum on Thursday, and had a wonderful day learning all about explorers.

A number of our Year 7 pupils have been helping this week in various roles around the school, including supporting Primary pupils at lunchtime. It has been wonderful to see these opportunities developing across our all-through.

A reminder that next week, we are closed on Friday all day, and that Thursday afternoon is Primary parents evening. Nursery is closed for the afternoon, and all pupils in R, Y1, Y2 must be collected at 1.10pm.



Christmas Card competition (Primary)

I will be running a Goresbrook Christmas Card Competition for all children in Primary. Please post your entries in the box provided in main reception from Thursday next week. I will announce the winners at the end of term. Please make sure your name and class is clearly labelled on the card.

Primary parent evening

A reminder that it is parent afternoon/evening for Primary children this Thursday 24th November. School closes at 1.10pm on this day for Primary pupils, please arrive promptly to collect your child.

After-school clubs gymnastic and music run as normal from 3.45-4.45pm if you wish to bring your children back for them. There is an option for children to stay at school until 2pm on this day when EM3 will then collect. Please notify reception before by Monday at 4pm if you require this service, you will also need to confirm with EM3 and pay accordingly. **A reminder that Secondary students stay as normal until 3.30pm on this day. Please note there is no nursery PM session.**

Secondary Meet your Coach evening

Secondary students will be finishing at 1:50pm on Monday 28th November as parents will have the opportunity to meet your child's coach. Students have received a letter this week. Please do fill out the slip provided and hand in at main reception. Alternatively you can email your preferences to office@goresbrookschool.org.uk. You will receive confirmation next week of your appointment time.

Primary Clubs from January

We are currently reviewing our process and costs of Primary clubs from January, based on your feedback. We are looking into a system to ensure a fairer process of allocation that is not based on first-come-first-served. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

Parent Involvement

I wanted to clarify the opportunities that are available to get involved as a parent of Goresbrook School, and outline the purpose of each. As you know, we pride ourselves on the very high level of engagement of our parents. If you want to get involved in any of these, please ask!

- **FROGS (Friends and Relatives of Goresbrook School):** this is our parent-led group (like a PTA). The focus of this group is on fund-raising and school improvement priorities. Please email Brooke.munday@goresbrookschool.org.uk if you would like to get involved. The next FROGS meeting is Thursday 1st December at 9am.
- **Coffee mornings (general):** purely a social event! Bring cakes, enjoy a cup of tea and chat with other parents. These do not generally have a staff member or an agenda! The next coffee morning is Tuesday 24th January at 8am.
- **Coffee mornings (focussed):** these are run by Debbie, our Family Support Worker, and explore particular themes that are raised by parents e.g. diet, sleep. The next meeting is Wednesday 30th November at 9am. All Primary parents welcome.
- **Workshop events:** these are for parents who are interested in developing a particular area of school. There is a lunch menu workshop with Mrs Cocks on Thursday 24th at 8.30am.
- **Parents' Evening appointments:** this is your 1-1 meeting with your child's teacher/LTA/coach to discuss their progress on an individual basis once per term. The next meetings are Thursday 24th November PM for Primary and Monday 28th November PM for Secondary. **All parents must attend.**
- **Other celebration events, shows, plays, Fantastic Finishes etc.** are all for you to celebrate your child's learning.

Have a lovely weekend,
Clare

Attendance & Punctuality

On return to school please bring in a handwritten 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.**

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: Author class 99.3%

Year 1: Engineer class 96.0%

Year 2: Optician class 98.4%

Year 7: Skiddaw 99.0%

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.



After-school clubs (Primary)

Any queries regarding clubs—please email aliye.mehmet@goresbrookschoo.org.uk or call 0207 597 6666 and ask for Mrs Mehmet. All club places are now fixed until Christmas. If your child is due to attend a primary after-school club but you wish to collect them instead, please let reception know in the morning or afternoon or email Mrs Mehmet. Please see key dates below right which explains when clubs end for this term.

P.E days

Please see confirmation of P.E days below:

Reception – Tuesday PM

Year 1 - Tuesday PM & Friday PM

Year 2 – Monday PM & Thursday PM

Year 7 – class specific, check individual timetables.

All Year 7 pupils have two PE lessons, and CCE on Wednesday. On Wednesday all Year 7 pupils arrive at school in PE kit.

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.

New phone system

Our new phone system is now live, when you call the school number you will be asked to select an option. Please bear with us whilst we get used to the new system. We are also in the process of getting another number available from 4pm to call if you will be late to pick up your child from Primary clubs.

Parking in Richard Ryan Place

Please be considerate when parking in and around Richard Ryan Place. We have received complaints from our neighbours about the congestion in this area, and houses being blocked in. Please show respect to our community.

Phonics books in Reception

Please note phonics reading books will be sent home weekly after Christmas once more of our children are ready to read them independently.



Key Dates

Monday 21st November: Year 1 trip to V&A Museum of Childhood.

Thursday 24th November: menu workshop with Mrs Cocks 8:30am.

Thursday 24th November: Parent afternoon for Primary—**school closes for Primary pupils at 1:10pm**. Please collect your child at this time. **No nursery PM session on this day**. Primary clubs still run as normal.

Friday 25th November: **School closed for all pupils**

Monday 28th November: Meet your coach for Secondary—**school closes for Secondary students at 1:50pm**.

Wednesday 30th November—Nursery nurse coffee morning 9am, topic: healthy/fussy eating. All Primary parents welcome.

Thursday 1st December 9am: FROGS meeting

Friday 9th December, 2:30pm: Year 2 visit to Cherry Orchard Care Home. More details to follow. Please note this date has changed from what was originally published in your parent handbook.

Monday 12th December, 2:30pm: Reception & Year 1 visit to Cherry Orchard Care Home. More details to follow.

Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th December PM. Reception Christmas Show. More details to follow.

Wednesday 14th December: No staff-run after school clubs for Primary. Sporty champs clubs run as normal.

Friday 16th December—Christmas jumper dress up day for save the children.

Monday 19th December—Christmas lunch served for pupils.

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 at 3pm.

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