

Headteachers Weekly Newsletter



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Heads Newsletter 23/24 Issue: 32

Date: 07.06.2024

Messages:

This Week:

Thank You!

A big thank you to one of our Y6 parents, Mrs Jones, who has kindly given our flower pots a refresh this week. They look beautiful and make such a difference to the entrance of our school. Thank you again!



Book Fair

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/book-fair-2/>

Year 6 information

Children transitioning to Trinity Academy:

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/y6-trinity-welcome-evening-4th-june/>

This week

KS1 phonics screener

Y4 MTC (2)

Travelling book fair - <https://greentopschool.co.uk/book-fair-2/>

Monday

Y4 residential

Tuesday

Nurse Talks - Y5

Wednesday

EYFS World Oceans Day -

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/eyfs-world-ocean-day-wednesday-12th-june/>

Friday

KS1 sports morning - 9am on the KS2 field

Summer 2 dates:

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/summer-two-diary-dates-2/>

Remaining Sports Day 2024:

KS2 - Tuesday 2nd July - 9am



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NEW!!!! Extended Study New!!!!

Phase Extended Study Pages

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/category/class-blogs/eyfs-extended-study/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/category/class-blogs/ks1-extended-study/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/category/class-blogs/lks2-extended-study/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/category/class-blogs/uks2-extended-study/>

Letter Join

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/accessing-letter-join-at-home-2/>

Expedition

This week the EYFS children have been answering the question ‘ How can we help save the ocean?’ The children have created their own posters to ‘save our seas’ and the animals in them and have understood another reason to recycle. The children have been exploring through small world play different materials that pollute our seas and harm the wonderful creatures in our ocean.

This week in KS1 children have been thinking about their favourite places in Thorne and have produced some beautiful writing to persuade people to visit.

Year 3 and 4 have been researching the best type of materials to use in our DT case study for our final product. Children looked at the pros and cons of different materials, as well as researching and discussing effective packaging. The children will be using this research to design their own packaging for our Mayan inspired brownie boxes!

Crew

This week the EYFS children have learnt about one of our school character traits; quality and craftsmanship. The children have thought about how to make their work the best it can be and how they can be creators of beautiful work, noticing , praising and wondering as they make their work beautiful!

In KS1 this week we have been learning about how we all have a right to be kept safe. We have drawn around our hands and wrote the names of our trusted adults on them. We have also learned about sun safety and how to keep ourselves safe in the sun. On the 6th of June we learned about the 80th anniversary of the D Day landings. Year 1 made parachutes and Year 2 have cut out aeroplanes for our lovely new history display commemorating the D Day landings.



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In year 5, pupils have used their science work and made links with their english work. In science lessons, children have learnt about how nutrients are passed around the body and have also learnt about the structure of the heart. In English, children have been immersed in a tale of morality with a book called 'Pig Heart Boy'. The story of a boy called Cameron in search of a heart transplant before it is too late.

In years 5 and 6, children have learnt about the risks of sun exposure. We made a list of the risks and then discussed ways in which we can mitigate these. Additionally, Year 5 pupils had the opportunity to learn about D Day with a visit from a local expert. Year 6 children took part in a conception talk inline with the national curriculum. All children behaved in a mature and sensible manner. Well done all!

Attendance shout outs:

Our attendance winners for last week were:

**Crew Overson
With 100% attendance**

Well done - great work!!



Beautiful Work:

First Aid in Y5/6

What a great skill to have!

Check out the school blog for more photographs and blog posts.



Blog of the week:

D D-Day celebrations

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/year-5-d-day-assembly-with-the-royal-british-legion/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/d-day/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/d-day-80-at-greentop/>



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Sharing our stories as we go...

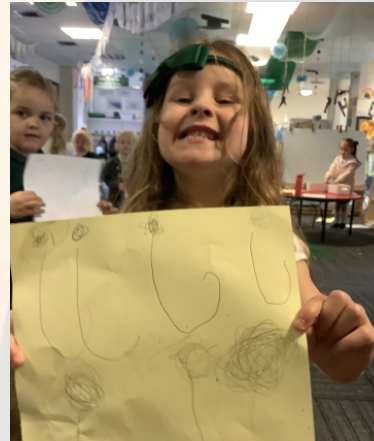
Have you seen our recent XP Trust 'Sharing Our Stories' and 'Beautiful Work' blog post?

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/sharing-our-stories-24-05-2024/>



Academic Success:

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/proud-writers-in-nursery/>



Shout out:

Shout out to our nursery and reception crews following their successful sports days this week! You all tried your very best and your sportsmanship was beautiful!

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/nursery-sports-day-4/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/reception-sports-day-5/>

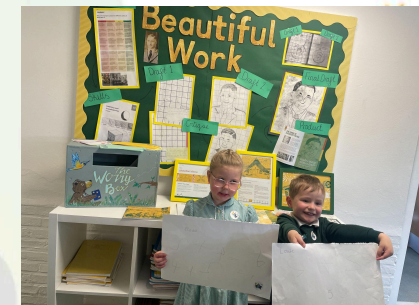


Beautiful work in Nursery this week

I have been blown away by the beautiful work in our nursery this week!

I love seeing their work and listening to their narratives behind the work they share!

We have wonderful children who make us smile everyday!



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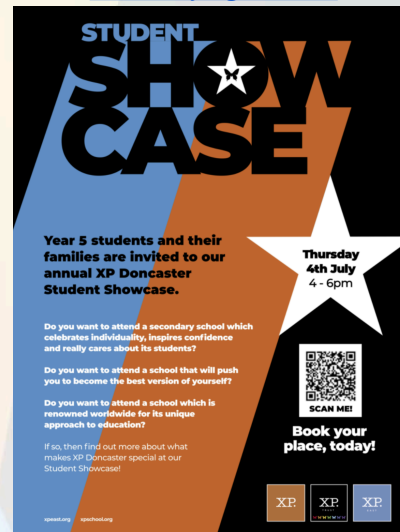
Message from 'The Friend's of GT':



Wednesday 19th June - 3pm
Additional information coming soon!

Year 5 information:

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/student-showcase-4th-july-2024/>



Weekly lunch menus:

Please find dinner menus attached:

■ MENUS - April to October 2024.pdf



Communication

Phase Leader email addresses:

EYFS - Miss Carter - euys@greentopschool.org

KS1 - Mrs Shaw - ks1@greentopschool.org

Y3/4 - Miss Knowles - y3-4@greentopschool.org

Y5/6 - Mr Mumby - y5-6@greentopschool.org

In the first instance please speak to crew leader or class teacher.

Sunset

Should you wish to access our **sunset club** you can book by contacting Mrs Fitzpatrick: office@greentopschool.org.

Please include the following details: name, teacher, any allergies/dietary requirements, days required and a Contact number.

Sunset club runs from **4pm to 5:30pm daily at £5** per day which should be **paid in advance** via **ParentPay**.

Breakfast Club

Should you wish to access our **breakfast club** you can book by contacting Mrs Fitzpatrick: office@greentopschool.org.

Please include the following details: name, teacher, any allergies/dietary requirements, days required and a Contact number.

Breakfast club runs from **7:30am to 8:30am daily at £2** per day which should be **paid in advance** via **ParentPay**.

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Uniform

Uniform

Please ensure you add your child's name to ALL of their belongings. We are improving the amount of lost property in school with the things we are putting in place but names not being added to uniform seems to be the main issue we need to resolve.

Also, if you require support with uniform, please contact us and we will support where possible.

Phase Leader email addresses:

EYFS - Miss Carter - eyfs@greentopschool.org

KS1 - Mrs Shaw - ks1@greentopschool.org

Y3/4 - Miss Knowles - y3-4@greentopschool.org

Y5/6 - Mr Mumby - y5-6@greentopschool.org

PE Kits

Please ensure that PE kits are in school on PE days. It is important that the children have the correct kit and footwear to ensure safety during the lesson. We also don't want children ruining their school shoes due to wearing them for PE and if it is outdoors, covering their shoes and uniform in mud!

All bags and kits will be sent home on a Friday so corridors are clear. Please send children's clean PE kits back into school on a Monday morning ready for their PE lesson.

XP Outdoor Kits

Suggested kit (if you need any support with the following items, please let us know - we don't expect you to buy additional clothing):

Winter Kit

- Long sleeved jumper
- Long trousers - waterproof if possible
- Warm hat and gloves
- Wellies or boots
- Waterproof coat

Summer Kit

- Sunscreen
- Sun hat
- Water bottle

Suncream, hats and water bottles

Now the weather is finally improving, please ensure your children have everything they need to stay safe in the sun. Please apply sunscreen before your child attends school in a morning. If they bring it to school, it must be named.

Safety

Driving into the school grounds

Please **DON'T** drive into the school grounds to drop off in a morning and pick up at the end of the day. This is becoming extremely dangerous for our children. Please use Bridge Street car park and help us to keep our children and community safe!

Reminders

Gates will be locked at 8:50am daily. This gives a 20 minute window to ensure all parents are out of the school grounds before they are locked. We would like our children to be able to access the outside environment quicker but we

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Please walk down the path and not the drive, keep yourself safe!
Please dismount your bikes on the school premises for everyone's safety.

Parking around the school grounds

We have had several complaints from our neighbours and parents regarding parking over the last couple of weeks. Neighbours drives are being blocked, this is not OK. More importantly, our parents are concerned about the safety of our children and we couldn't agree more as we have shared this concern, along with parents using the school drive on many occasions. Once again we would like to remind you of the nearby Bridge Street car park, please use this to ensure the safety of our children. I also advise that anyone with further complaints should contact Doncaster council or even the community police who have supported us in the past.



can't do this until the gates are locked. We appreciate your support with this!

Reminder: doors open at 8:30am and learning starts as soon as the children are in class. If you are late daily, this loss of learning time adds up over time to a considerable amount!

Phones

A reminder that bringing mobile phones into school should be avoided where possible. Should a mobile phone be brought to school, it **MUST** be taken to the office and collected at 3pm or 3:55 if attending a club.

Parent Information



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TODAY

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **SCHOOL AVOIDANCE**

School avoidance refers to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. In 2022-23, more than one in five children in England were found to be absent from school over 10% of the time. This guide focuses on school avoidance with an emotional basis, offering expert mental health advice. However, it's important to remember that school avoidance is a hugely subjective experience which requires a tailored, individual approach.

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the family or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for instance, or a change in family dynamics; bullying and friendship difficulties at school; pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams; or moving from primary school to secondary school.

PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home on school days). If a child or young person is neurodiverse, there is some evidence to suggest there are more aspects of school life which can cause distress – such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include tummy aches, headaches, or saying they feel ill when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending school on a regular basis not only supports academic attainment but is also important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be far reaching and may have a negative impact on long-term outcomes. It may, for example, lead to reduced future aspirations, poor emotional regulation, mental health difficulties, limited academic progress and restricted employment opportunities.

CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to sustained school avoidance over time. Further to this, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a rise in their ongoing need to avoid the activity making them anxious – increasing their desire to stay at home.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WORK TOGETHER

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and spent away from screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a timetabled routine for the child's school day, if required.

MANAGE OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

Acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss coping strategies together to help them manage difficulties. These could include mindfulness, deep breathing or going for a walk. This helps them understand that you are working together towards a common goal, and that these strategies can be used when bigger feelings arise.

RECOGNISE POSITIVE STEPS

Drawing attention to a child's successes – be they big or small – can help to give them some much-needed confidence and motivation. Celebrate these daily victories – such as getting out of bed on time or completing school work – and don't hesitate to let the child know when you're impressed or proud of them. Such an approach can go a long way.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and Interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



#WakeUp
Wednesday

The
National
College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/school-avoidance

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

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school-avoidance.pdf

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/parent-information-attendance/>

External Information

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Sleep Tight Workshop

the sleep charity

Family HUB

Does your child suffer from sleep problems?
Do you want to access support to help to improve bedtime?

Join us at our Sleep Tight Workshop

Starting Wednesday 19th June 2024
10.00am - 11.30am
for 5 weeks
At Central Family Hub, Welcome Way
DN1 3LE

To book or for more information, please contact
Emma O'Connor or Helen Roberts
Central Family Hub on 01302 737995
(For sleep advice for children aged 2 and above)

Our training is delivered by practitioners trained by
The Sleep Charity

Our workshops include :
Understanding sleep cycles
Common sleep issues and strategies to manage these
Establishing appropriate routines
Keeping sleep diaries and interpreting the data
Environments

Find out more:
WWW.DONCASTER.GOV.UK/FAMILYHUBS

Family HUB City of Doncaster Council

Your Place

Solihull Course

Armthorpe Community Library

The Solihull Approach: Understanding your child - from toddler to teenager
Course length: 10 weeks, 2 hours a week

Our Solihull parent group focuses on helping you to understand your child's behaviour and to build a positive relationship between you and your child.

We will look at things like:
Different parenting styles
The developmental stages of your child - what is age appropriate behaviour
Understanding your child's behaviour
Having fun together through play

Sessions are every Thursday. Starting 25th April 2024 09:30AM - 11:30AM
The last session will be 4th July 2024

The first session will run till 12:00PM
NO SESSION THURSDAY 30TH MAY 2024 DUE TO HALF TERM

How to book / refer:
Email: YourPlaceYourFamilyTeam@doncaster.gov.uk
Phone: 01302 736336
Or pop in and see us!