

Headteachers Weekly Newsletter



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Heads Newsletter 23/24 Issue: 33

Date: 14.06.2024

Messages:

This Week:

Remaining Sports Days 2024

KS2 - Tuesday 2nd July - 9am

Summer dates updated

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

Summer Fayre - non uniform day

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/green-top-summer-fayre-2024/>

Book Fair

It's been amazing seeing all of the blogs of the children visiting our travelling book fair! Your support has enabled us to receive many books to enjoy in school! We will be informing you very soon of our fundraising plans for a new 'reading for pleasure' library and these book donations will support this before we even get started! Thanks again!

Will you take the challenge?

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/walk-wheel-challenge/>

Monday

Assessment week (1) *The children will be completing summer assessments and activities over a two week period.*

Tuesday

African drummer workshop - *We are excited for this and can't wait to share our learning via the blog!*

Wednesday

Non Uniform Day - *Please donate tombola, teddies and sweet treats for our summer fayre!*

EYFS - celebration of learning -

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/eufs-celebration-of-learning-9/>

Summer Fayre -

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/green-top-summer-fayre-2024/>

Thursday

Nursery to reception meeting -

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/nursery-children-moving-to-reception-2/>

Friday

Staff day (9) - school closed

Summer 2 dates - UPDATED:

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



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

Phase Extended Study Pages

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/category/class-blogs/eufs-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 carefully thought about 'World Ocean Day' and how we can work collaboratively and with compassion to make our planet as healthy as it can be. This includes putting litter in the bin and recycling.

The majority of our Year 4 children enjoyed an overnight residential in Austerfield this week where they worked on their survival skills, teamwork skills and shelter building skills! Our Year 3 children have been working hard in design and technology to design and create their boxes ready to deliver our delicious brownies!

Carrying on with our science work, Children in year 5 have been learning about the functions of a heart. The children used a range of activities to learn about the different parts and the job they do. In the coming weeks, we hope to use this learning in a practical lesson!

Crew

In our crew sessions this week the EYFS children have been learning about 'compassion', one of our school character traits. The children have thought about being kind and supporting each other with learning new things.

In crew this week, the Year 3/4 children have been looking at our character trait of integrity and unpicking what it means and how we can show integrity in school. We also celebrated the start of the Euros on Friday and looked at the benefits of playing sports.

In UKS2 we have been celebrating work linked to quality and craftsmanship. The children have delved in their books, sharing successful pieces and unpicking what made them so good. On top of this, in our 'Community Crew' session, we discussed the word 'lonely' and what it feels like. The children made posters that made suggestions for people who may feel lonely.

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Attendance shout outs:

Our attendance winners for last week were:

**Crew Knowles
With 100% attendance**

Well done - great work!!



Beautiful Work:

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/beautiful-work-to-honour-our-war-heroes/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/history-club/>

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

Amazing work pulled together by the whole school!



Blog of the week:

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/year-6-leavers-hoodies-have-arrived/>

It's the start of many celebrations and goodbyes! Enjoy your remaining weeks at Green Top Year 6! We are very proud of you all!



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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-07-06-2024/>



Academic Success:

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/y5-debate/>

Amazing work in Year 5!



Crew debate-Pig heart boy.



Shout out:

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

Thank you for representing Green Top!



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Message from 'The Friend's of GT':



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

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/green-top-summer-fayre-2024/>



Wednesday 19th June - 3pm

KS2 playground and field

We have lots of exciting stalls planned - please support us!

Non Uniform Day - Wednesday 19th June - please donate items for our Summer Fayre (tombola prizes, sweet treats, teddy bears etc)

Spotlight: Y4 in Austerfield!

What an amazing experience our Y4 children have had this week! Thank you to our wonderful staff who supported this experience and made special memories for our children!

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/y4-austerfield-team-games/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/y4-austerfield-orienteering/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/y4-austerfield-campfire/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/all-ready-for-the-campfire/>



Weekly lunch menus:

Please find dinner menus attached:

■ [MENUS - April to October 2024.pdf](#)




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Communication	Sunset	Breakfast Club
<p>Phase Leader email addresses:</p> <p>EYFS - Miss Carter - euys@greentopschool.org</p> <p>KS1 - Mrs Shaw - ks1@greentopschool.org</p> <p>Y3/4 - Miss Knowles - y3-4@greentopschool.org</p> <p>Y5/6 - Mr Mumby - y5-6@greentopschool.org</p> <p><i>In the first instance please speak to crew leader or class teacher.</i></p>	<p>Should you wish to access our sunset club you can book by contacting Mrs Fitzpatrick: office@greentopschool.org .</p> <p><i>Please include the following details: name, teacher, any allergies/dietary requirements, days required and a Contact number.</i></p> <p>Sunset club runs from 4pm to 5:30pm daily at £5 per day which should be paid in advance via ParentPay.</p>	<p>Should you wish to access our breakfast club you can book by contacting Mrs Fitzpatrick: office@greentopschool.org .</p> <p><i>Please include the following details: name, teacher, any allergies/dietary requirements, days required and a Contact number.</i></p> <p>Breakfast club runs from 7:30am to 8:30am daily at £2 per day which should be paid in advance via ParentPay.</p>

Uniform

Uniform	PE Kits	XP Outdoor Kits
<p>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.</p> <p>Also, if you require support with uniform, please contact us and we will support where possible.</p> <p>Phase Leader email addresses:</p> <p>EYFS - Miss Carter - euys@greentopschool.org</p> <p>KS1 - Mrs Shaw - ks1@greentopschool.org</p> <p>Y3/4 - Miss Knowles - y3-4@greentopschool.org</p> <p>Y5/6 - Mr Mumby - y5-6@greentopschool.org</p>	<p>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!</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Suggested kit (if you need any support with the following items, please let us know - we don't expect you to buy additional clothing):</p> <p>Winter Kit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long sleeved jumper ● Long trousers - waterproof if possible ● Warm hat and gloves ● Wellies or boots ● Waterproof coat <p>Summer Kit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sunscreen ● Sun hat ● Water bottle 

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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!

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.

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 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.

External Information



Sleep Tight Workshop



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

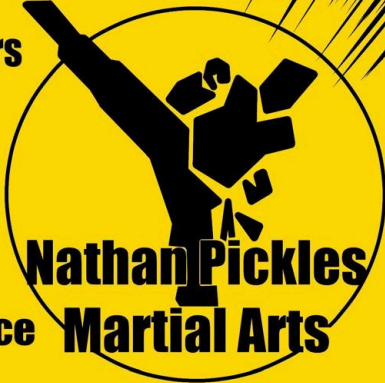
To book or for more information, please contact
Emma O'Connor or Helen Roberts
Central Family Hub on 01302 737995
(For sleep advice for children aged 2 and above)



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



Be one of the first members
Of our new school

Begin your journey to black belt

Respect Discipline
Focus Self confidence

**Nathan Pickles
Martial Arts**

Freestyle Martial Arts

Opening 26th June
Located at Green Top School Hall
Access from Ash Tree Road
Juniors Age 6+ 5:30 pm
Prices from £5 per session

To book your place contact
Nathan Pickles Via Facebook/messenger



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TRUST

Your Place Solihull Course Armthorpe Community Libray

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!



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Do you need support? We are here to help!

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

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.

IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

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.

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.

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.

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.

#WakeUpWednesday®
The National College

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

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school-avoidance.pdf

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

