



Graveney Primary - Newsletter 6

'Learning and Achieving Together'

21st November 2024

Contact us: office@graveney.kent.sch.uk Tel: 01795 532005

Winter Weather

Well the weather sure has changed. Please make sure that your child has a coat in school. We want all the children to enjoy their playtimes and PE lessons even when the weather is not so pleasant. Hats, gloves and scarves are also appreciated if you know your child feels the cold. Jogging bottoms for our PE days do help to keep those lovely legs warmer!

Every winter brings the possibility of snow and ice. Extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. Schools are often affected and it can be difficult to maintain an education service.

As a fundamental principle every effort must be made to keep schools open, even if only limited numbers of pupils can attend. However, schools may close due to 'unavoidable' circumstances. Those circumstances being that it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be onsite.

We recognise that it is important our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. Graveney Primary School will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice this winter by gritting pathways and clearing access points.



How will we let you know if the school is closed?

If we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, I may have to take the decision to close the school. Once this decision has been made we will notify parents via the Kent Closures website. To determine whether Graveney Primary School is open or closed please visit www.kentclosures.co.uk. Search for the school in the search box. The Kent Closures website may also be used to find out if other services in Kent are open or closed, such as nurseries, children's centres and libraries. We also recommend parents sign up for Email alerts on the Kent Closures website. This service

will send an email alert to let parents know if Graveney Primary School is closed. Local radio will sometimes provide information of school closures.

Our own website www.graveneyprimary.com will also have a message on the homepage if the school has been closed and we will send a message on our School Comms App to notify parents as soon as this decision has been made.

What can you do to help?

- Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/winter for more information about gritting routes and travel issues around Kent so you can plan your journey.

Please approach the school with caution and drop off your child at the gates where staff will meet them (during severe weather we will not open our carpark).

- Check with the school to see whether you need to provide a packed lunch from home in case school meals cannot be provided.
- Don't forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. or even a change of clothing.
- If you are a working parent or feel you may have a problem with a sudden earlier pick up, please could you put a back-up plan in place with another family member or parent and inform the school. This will allow staff to leave earlier for their safety if weather dictates.

Many thanks for your support helping Graveney Primary School remain open during periods of severe snow/ice

Fundraising update

Congratulations we raised £110 for Children in Need on the 15th November.

Your Christmas card orders should now have made it home to you, once again thank you for your support. The funds raised for the school will be used to help fund our pantomime performance later in this term.

Our Cake stall also raised a sweet £112.35 for the PTA, thank you for your many donations.

Our next charity event will be to support Save the Children, when we will all be putting on our Christmas jumpers, this will be a Christmas non-uniform day, I look forward to seeing all the Christmas outfits – I feel a sparkly day coming on... donations will be collected on the app.

Shine Star, Shine!

The rehearsals are now progressing well and we are all preparing for the Graveney Nativity. Tickets for this are available from the school office. We are very sorry but these are limited to 3 tickets per family. Sorry this is only for our Ladybirds and Bumblebee classes.

PTA Christmas Fair

I would like to say a big thank you to Sophie and Emma who have been very busy preparing for our Christmas Fair. This event takes lots of time and hard work, if you are able to offer them some support or help before the 6th December it would be much appreciated. We would like to make this a really special afternoon for all our community – please offer your help with the preparations as well as the stalls on the day.



Christmas Dinner

Our Christmas dinner is now available to be booked on our School Comms app.

Please can you indicate if your child will be having a Christmas Dinner or a home packed lunch on Wednesday 18th December.

Please note that on this day we are unable to offer School packed lunches or jacket potatoes.

These need to be booked by Thursday 5th December.

Photos

Don't forget to put in your photo orders as soon as possible to be able to benefit from the free delivery to school.

Christmas Countdown at Graveney

Yes, we are now really into the Christmas fun here at Graveney Primary.

Friday 29th November – Non Uniform Day – please bring in donations of Teddies and Bottles for our Tombola stalls at the Christmas Fair

Monday 2nd December until Friday 20th December – Christmas Post box will be open

Wednesday 4th December – Ladybirds and Bumblebees Nativity 9.30am and 2.00pm.

Friday 6th December – Graveney Christmas Fair – Everyone welcome 2pm – 4pm



Thursday 12th December – Christmas Jumper Day - donations will be collected to support Save the Children.



Friday 13th December – Whole school watching the pantomime – Rapunzel



Tuesday 17th – Gingerbread decorations



Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Dinner and Class Parties

Thursday 19th December – Christmas Movie Afternoon



Friday 20th December - Special Gallery Stars Assembly & Airmail delivery service sending out all those Christmas cards

Please remember school finishes at 2pm for all children.