

Greenside Grapevine

Friday 19th December 2025

Dates for your Diary

Please also see the calendar page on our website

<https://www.greenside-sch.org/>

January

5th School reopens to all pupils at 8.45am (Monday)

February

2nd Year 5/6 Yorvik Viking Museum Visit

13th FROGS Valentines Bake Sale

13th School closes to all pupils at 3.15pm

23rd School reopens to all pupils at 8.45am

March

11th FROGS Spring Disco (further information to follow)

12th Year 4 Skipping Festival

Over the past two weeks, Greenside has been alive with festive cheer as our children have taken part in a jam-packed schedule of performances celebrating the Christmas period.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the meaning of Christmas and exploring how it is celebrated across different cultures. Their enthusiasm and curiosity have shone through every performance. It was truly incredible to witness the confidence, acting, dancing, and oracy skills on display in front of such large audiences. From the Nativity to the Key Stage 1 show and the Key Stage 2 church performance, each event was a real team effort.

These moments highlight the progress our children make as they journey through their primary years, many who once found performing difficult in Reception now stand proudly on stage, sharing their voices with confidence.

FROGS Christmas Fair

On Wednesday 3rd December, FROGS held our annual Christmas Fair. This was a huge success and raised £1025.85.

A huge thank you to the FROGS, parent/carer volunteers and staff who helped to plan, organise and run the fair. We wouldn't be able to hold these events without you all making it happen.

We had some winners at the Christmas Fair too - Penelope in Year 1 won the Christmas Hamper raffle with blue ticket number 823. Rylee in Year 2 won the Reindeer game with grid number J9 and received a £10 Smyths voucher.



We are deeply grateful to all parents and carers who took time out of busy schedules to support the children and celebrate their successes. We know this time of year can be demanding, and your commitment to ensuring the children have everything they need for school is truly appreciated.

Crossing Patrol

A big thank you to Ernest, our Crossing Patrol, for making the journey into school this week so festive!



A special thank you goes to the Greenside staff, who have gone above and beyond, often giving up their own time, to provide our children with these special opportunities and lasting memories. Their dedication makes all the difference.

On behalf of everyone at Greenside, we wish you a restful and peaceful holiday spent with loved ones. To all who are celebrating, we send our warmest wishes for a very Merry Christmas from the entire Greenside family.

We look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year, refreshed and ready to learn in 2026!

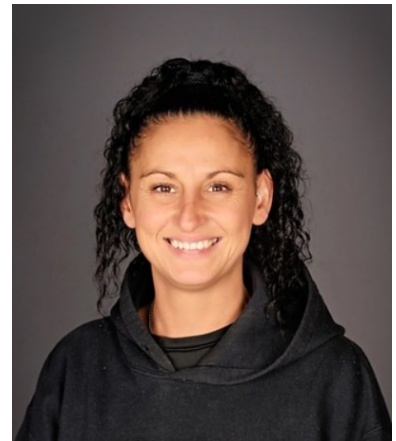
Staffing Update

After two years of supporting our Key Stage 2 children as a teaching assistant, Mrs Smith has made the decision to resign and spend more time with her family. We wanted to thank her for her dedication and kindness during her time here at Greenside. She will be greatly missed and we wish her all the best for her next chapter.



Many of you will know that Mrs Scott has been our Lead Lunchtime Supervisor for 9 years. She has recently been successful in securing additional hours as one of our Office Administrators, so therefore will be resigning from her post as Lead Lunchtime Supervisor. We would like to thank her for all her hard work in developing the lunchtime procedures and team during her time as lunchtime leader. We are looking forward to seeing her in the office more.

We are pleased to announce that Miss Saieva was successful in securing the role as our Lead Lunchtime Supervisor and will be starting her new position in the New Year. Miss Saieva is looking forward to developing and supporting with the OPAL scheme.



We are delighted to inform you that we have appointed a new superintendent called Mr Ward. He will be starting with us on the 5th January. He has previously worked for the council and National Trust, maintaining their grounds. We are looking forward to the grounds and building having some well needed TLC. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Pollitt and the other staff for going above and beyond in the absence of a superintendent.

Residential Payments

We would like to remind our families that residential trips can only go ahead if the cost requested, is received, on time. Unfortunately, the school is not able to subsidise or fund the residential through its own budget. If we do not receive enough payments to cover the costs—such as accommodation, transport and activities—we may have to cancel your child's place. We appreciate that financial circumstances vary, and if you are experiencing difficulty, please email the school office with the heading FAO Mrs Fuller, so we can discuss available support options. Thank you for helping us continue to offer these valuable experiences for our pupils.

Lunchtimes

As we are now on the School Grid system, all school dinners need to be pre-ordered at home. When you are ordering for your child, please talk this through and involve them in choosing from the options. We have noticed an increase in the number of children that are not wanting the lunch that has been chosen for them and are therefore reluctant to eat it. We do try to encourage our children to eat and fuel themselves for the afternoon, but we have found that if the children know what to expect for their lunch, this does help. We thank you for your support with this.

Library Visits

All classes in Key Stage 1 have visited Pudsey Library this half term to take part in a story session with Isobel, one of the librarians. As well as having the opportunity to browse and enjoy the books at the library, each class also borrowed 5 books to take back to school and read at story time. If you have not yet joined your local library, please consider doing so. It is free, children (and adults) can borrow up to 20 books or 6 e-books at a time, and there are additional sessions that run such as weekly Story and Rhyme for under 5s and monthly Kids Club sessions on a Saturday where children can draw, write, build or code a story. Please see information attached to end the end of the Grapevine.



Reception Nativity

The Nativity was a huge success! We are so incredibly proud of all our Friendly Foxes for their wonderful hard work throughout the Autumn term. As Mrs Fuller said, they've only been with us for four months, yet you'd never know; they've settled in beautifully. The children put so much effort into the Nativity, and we are truly grateful to parents for supporting them by rehearsing lines and songs at home, as well as for your continued support of the EYFS team this term.

We hope you all have a magical Christmas, and we look forward to another fantastic term with Reception in the New Year.



Back Chat Brass

This year, FROGS have funded a visit for the children from Back Chat Brass who are an energetic, award-winning, Leeds-based party brass band known for their modern take on pop, funk and dance hits. They came to visit on Monday for a Christmas special and the children had a great time. It was fantastic to see them joining in! Year 6 said that they were 'funky', Year 5 said it was 'dance-tastic' and some of our Year 2 children said the instruments were 'crazy'.

Have a look at them on YouTube, they are a very talented bunch!



<https://www.youtube.com/@BackChatBrass>

ONLINE SAFETY OVER THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

ADVICE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

With many of our children due to be off school and with access to new technology in the upcoming school holidays and Christmas period, the potential for online exploitation will be at its highest. We are seeing the use of the internet as a tool being exploited by extremists in order to expose young people to hateful content and potentially radicalise them.

Although rare, there is a risk that with increased online activity, feelings of stress and isolation may be exploited. An understanding of digital safety will help parents and carers safeguard loved ones from a range of harms, whether that's child sexual exploitation, fraud, or extremist influences seeking to radicalise vulnerable people.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS THAT MY CHILD MAY BE BEING EXPLOITED ONLINE?

Online exploitation is often hard to recognise because it is a complex issue. When it comes to being drawn into extremist ideas online, sometimes there are clear warning signs, in other cases the changes are less obvious.

Although some of these traits may be quite common among young people, taken together they could be indicators that your child may need some help:

- Exploring new and unusual websites, chat forums and platforms. Harmful influences may push individuals towards platforms with a greater degree of anonymity.
- Joining new or secret groups since isolation.
- Speaking with new friends or being secretive about chats during online gaming or in forums.
- A strong desire to seek new meaning, identity and purpose.
- Using language you wouldn't expect them to know.
- Watching, sharing or creating films online linked to religious, political or racial hate.
- Becoming increasingly argumentative or refusing to listen to different points of view.

WHAT STEPS CAN I TAKE TO KEEP MY CHILD SAFE ONLINE?

The above are merely signs that they might need help, but you know your child best and you will want to speak with them first. Check in with them and ask about what they are viewing, who they are speaking to and how they are feeling. This might feel difficult, but here are some pointers to help you:

- Listen carefully to their fears and worries. Find some helpful tips [here](#).
- Review and adjust privacy and safety settings if you or your child is signing up to a new online service.
- You can switch on family friendly filters to help prevent age inappropriate content being accessed on devices in your home. The UK Safer Internet Centre provides [guidance](#) on how to do this.
- Internet Matters have provided [step by step guides](#) on how to setup parental controls including Roblox, TikTok, and many more.
- Internet Matters have also created a [checklist](#) for setting up any new and/or second hand devices or technologies.

WHAT HELP IS AVAILABLE?

If you are worried about your child please do not hesitate to contact Leeds Prevent or the safeguarding team/pastoral lead at your child's school for support.

CONTACT US:

Leeds Prevent on prevent@leeds.gov.uk, telephone 0113 535 0810 or visit www.leeds.gov.uk/prevent

[If you think someone is in immediate danger ring 999]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/RESOURCES:

- [Educate Against Hate Parents Hub](#) provides resources and advice.
- [Thinkuknow](#) provides resources help keep children safe online.
- [ACTeary](#) provides resources and can be contacted for advice 24/7
- [Leeds for Learning](#) provides further guidance from Leeds Prevent



Attendance

Our attendance target for this academic year remains at 98%. Our whole school attendance from the start of September is 95.64%.

98%

We would like to thank all our parents/carers for their support in ensuring their child(ren) attend school regularly, on time and ready to learn!

Attendance - Letters

As many of our parents/carers will be aware, we have a duty to inform and report on attendance. At the end of each half term, if your child's overall attendance is below 97%, we inform parents/carers by letter. With the use of Arbor, these "letters" will now be sent via email.

This message is the same and we want to assure our parents/carers that we are still closely monitoring our pupils' attendance and offering support where needed. We are unfortunately unable to attach your child's attendance certificate to these emails but if you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. If you feel you need any support with your child's attendance, please get in touch with Mrs Knowles or Mrs Middleton, who are always happy to help.

If you do not receive an email but are expecting one, please ensure you check your Junk folder after 4pm on Friday.

From the start of this half term (03.11.2025), classes have the following late marks on their registers. This includes both L marks (late after 8.45am) and U marks (late after 9.15am).

Friendly Foxes 4

- Enthusiastic Elephants 12
- Positive Penguins 11
- Outgoing Otters 24

Confident Chameleons 4

- Adventurous Anacondas 28
- Persevering Pumas 33
- Tenacious Toucans 21
- Dazzling Dolphins 6
- Creative Caimans 36

Well done Friendly Foxes and Confident Chameleons!

REMEMBER
The class with the least late marks each half term will receive an extra playtime!

REMEMBER
The class with the highest attendance each week will receive an extra playtime!

Class Attendance so far this academic year:

- Friendly Foxes 95.88%
- Enthusiastic Elephants 95.43%
- Positive Penguins 97%
- Outgoing Otters 98.07%**
- Confident Chameleons 96.76%
- Adventurous Anacondas 93.44%
- Persevering Pumas 96.75%
- Tenacious Toucans 96%
- Dazzling Dolphins 93.07%
- Creative Caimans 94.78%

Well done Outgoing Otters!

Punctuality

It is extremely important that our pupils arrive at school on time each day. **Doors open at 8.40am and close at 8.45am.**



Good punctuality...

- Maximizes learning** ensuring pupils are present for the beginning of lessons, which often include crucial instructions, warm-ups and retrieval activities.
- Builds character** developing discipline, responsibility and good time management, which are valuable life skills for future employment and education.
- Boosts confidence** helping pupils feel more organised and settled, reducing the anxiety that can come with entering a class late.
- Shows respect for others** including teachers and classmates, allowing everyone to start the day and lessons efficiently, together.
- Minimises disruption** entering the classroom together as a whole class, at the same time, and ensuring the flow of a lesson is not interrupted.

Better late than never
But never late is better



If you need any support with attendance or punctuality, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Knowles or Mrs Middleton.

Mindful Messages

This segment on our Grapevine is to support the wellbeing of our families and young people. Mrs Middleton, our Family Liaison Officer, is keen to share services and groups, both local and national.

If you would like any support then please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office or by our family support email address familysupport@greenside-sch.org.

You can also find lots of helpful information on our website <https://www.greenside-sch.org/support-for-families/>



Christmas is a busy time and it is important to look after ourselves and make time for our own mental health and wellbeing. This planner helps to organise some activities to do on your own or as a family that feed well into the 5 Ways to Wellbeing that we have covered in previous issues of the Grapevine and here in school.

My Positive Mental Health Christmas Holiday Planner

The Christmas holidays can be a busy time and are often filled with lots of different thoughts, feelings and emotions. It is important that we look after our mental health during times like this.

Completing a range of activities can help keep our mind healthy and our emotions balanced. Think of all the different activities you could do over the Christmas holidays to look after your mind and write them on this planner.



Physical Activities	Emotional Activities	Social Activities	Play Activities	Concentrating Activities	Relaxation Activities	Rest Activities
Things to get you moving.	Things to connect you with others.	Things to help you enjoy the company of others.	Things to let your imagination run free.	Things you can spend time quietly focusing on.	Things to help you be still, calm and to reflect.	Things to help you simply chill out.
						

presents your 2025...



CFL blog...

Scan the qr code to view the details and the link to book on.

**We are
child
friendly
Leeds**

Winter Guide

to free/low cost* activities happening across Leeds



- Nov - Temple Newsam Farm Festive Trail**
4 Jan Explore the festive trail around Home Farm. Book additional experiences including Father Christmas, story sessions & craft workshops.*
- 2 Dec 12 Days of Elfmas Trail - Leeds City Museum**
- 4 Jan Wander through the museum to find Christmas surprises with unique elf characters.
- 6 Dec - Christmas at Kirkgate Market**
23 Dec Enjoy festive markets, musical performances, panto shows, and free Santa meet and greets.
- 6 Dec - Fidget Theatre - The Elves & the Storyteller**
31 Dec Leeds Central Library invite you to A Pay-What-You-Decide playful storytelling, original songs, friendly audience participation.
- 6 Dec - Starry Winter Trail at Kirkstall Abbey**
24 Dec Discover the Abbey Ruins with our magical trail and see if you can spot all the stars.

- 20 Dec A Very Pom Pom Christmas**
- 4 Jan Join us for festive crafts and family films by fairylight at Leeds Industrial Museum.*
- Nov - Santa's Grotto & White Rose Ice Rink**
24 Dec Festive meet and greet with Santa, SEN sessions, an outdoor play area & Ice Rink.*
- Nov - Leeds Christmas Market**
21 Dec Visit Leeds city centre - free to enter but charges apply for food, activities and rides.
- All Year Round Leeds Local Offer - SEND Things to do**
Provides information for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents or carers with information, services and activities that are available including school holiday provision.



Winter Experiences with a cost...



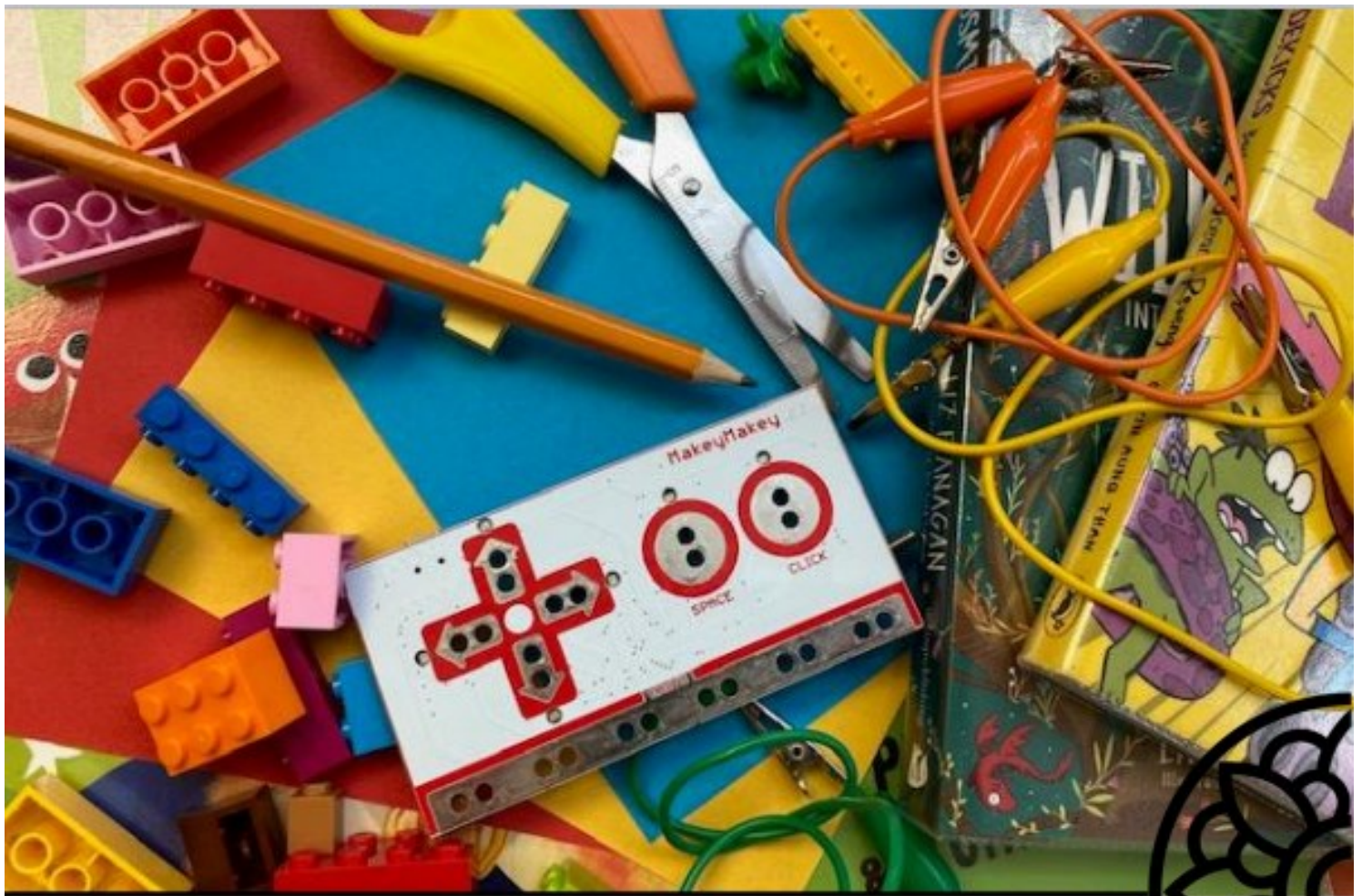
- Nov - Leeds Ice Cube, Skating & Christmas Markets**
31 Dec This year Millennium Square & Leeds City Centre features the stunning outdoor ice rink, Christmas market stalls and the popular festive funfair.*
- Nov - Northern Lights Leeds at Temple Newsam**
31 Dec Take a 1 mile long walk through 14 illuminated zones with interactive elements and immersive soundtracks completed by a Christmas Village.*
- Nov - The Christmas Experience at Lotherton**
4 Jan Breeze Leeds opens Lotherton's enchanting halls, grounds and gardens with twinkling light displays and interactive installations and a visit to Santa.
- Nov - Pantomimes and Festive Shows in Leeds 2025**
11 Jan Visit a panto, Christmas carol concert, theatre productions or a magic show? From Sleeping Beauty to Aladdin, there is something for everyone.*

Sign up for free to Healthy Holidays Leeds!

School-aged children and young people eligible for income-related free school meals can take part in amazing, FREE activities and holiday clubs - with a healthy meal over holiday periods.

Mumbler's Guide to Festive Events, Winter Walks & More...





Kids Club at Pudsey Library

Pudsey Community Hub & Library, LS28 7TY

Free monthly Saturday sessions from 2-3PM

**Spring term: 10th January, 7th February, 7th March,
4th April**

**Build, craft, write, draw, or code a story at our monthly Kids Club!
Each session will have fun activities inspired by books and stories.**

Most suited to children aged 6+.

All children to be accompanied by an adult.

To book your free ticket go to bit.ly/pudseylibraryevents



    @LeedsLibraries

