

Goodrich Community Primary School

Friday 23rd November

Reading to Dogs



A group of Year 6 children welcomed Harvey and his owner Lucy into school on Wednesday. Harvey is a registered dog with the Pets as Therapy Dogs scheme. The children were reading Kensuke's Kingdom and took it in turns to read to him. They were allowed to stroke him and give him a little doggie treat at the end of the session. It was very calming and enjoyable for everyone concerned!

Harvey will be visiting every Wednesday and will be coming into an assembly once he has become more familiar with the school.

Bike and Scooter Parking

Children's bikes and scooters are being locked to the adult's bike shed railings each day and overnight leaving no room for adult's bikes to be parked there. This is happening daily. Could all parents and carers please note that the bike railings by the main office are for staff only. Please use the children's bike railings in the quiet playground and please ensure it is locked. Thank you.

Christmas Performances

Christmas performances which will take place on: **Nursery & Reception** – Thursday 20th December 9.30am / 2pm

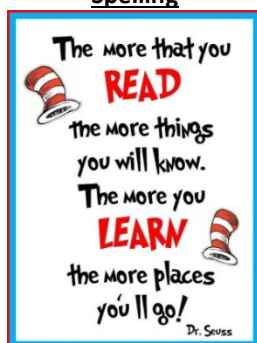
Year 1 & 2 – Monday 17th December (This performance will take place at St Clements & St Peters Church in Friern Road) 10am / 1.45pm. **Year 3 & 4** – Tuesday 11th December 10am / 2.15pm. **Year 5 & 6** – Tuesday 18th December 10am / 2.15pm.

Tickets are now available from the school office.

Christmas Dinner

This will take place on Wednesday 19th December.

Fun learning ideas to help your child with Reading and Spelling



Parents often wonder how they can help to develop the reading and spelling skills of their children. The best way is

to continue to share books with your child, regularly listening to them read, sometimes reading to or with them, but also discussing books read in increasing depth. The most important thing to remember is that reading should be an enjoyable experience. Here are some fun but challenging ideas for games which will help with language, reading and spelling.

Games and activities

1. Word games

- Encourage them to make up their own crossword puzzles or word searches for friends and family to develop vocabulary and dictionary skills. Bananagrams is great for this too.
- Play the 'Headline Game'; use stories to make up headlines and then vote for the best, e.g. Girl dressed in Red stalked by Wolf (guess the story).
- Play around with anagrams to help with patterns and spelling, e.g. make as many words as you can out of Constantinople (1697 apparently!).

2. Board games

- Play games that play around with definitions and bluff definitions to encourage interest in word meanings and origins, e.g. *Absolute Balderdash* or *Call My Bluff*.
- Play games such as *Taboo* to encourage clarity, fluency and expression without ever saying the obvious descriptive words.
- *Scrabble* is a classic spelling game – guaranteed to get the family talking – or shouting!

3. Screen games

- Don't forget that games like karaoke require on-screen reading (and performance) which children usually love to play with friends and family.
- Setting up games, such as on the Wii, involves reading and understanding instructions, so make sure that your child can do this for themselves (although they normally teach us).

4. Write about it

- Encourage book blogging and taking part in readers' book sites, e.g. adding reviews to Amazon.
- Children may like to keep a Favourite Book journal which can have lists of titles, quotations, pictures and sketches to encourage them to look back at what they've read.
- Get involved in planning a holiday schedule (making a list of books to read, entering book review competitions, planning day trips and so on).

Cook together

- Children aged 9–11 can follow a simple recipe independently, with only a little help and supervision. Cooking can be a great opportunity to develop reading and maths skills and to boost your child's confidence. Best of all, you both get to enjoy a tasty treat at the end!

Reception admissions- can you help?

Last year for the first year ever we had some empty places in Reception. This was due to Southwark over- expanding Reception places leading to 450 empty Reception places across schools in the Local Authority!

We are concerned that many parents have not considered applying for Goodrich in the past as they did not think they had a chance of getting in.

So if you know of anyone with a child who is 4 could you please inform them that our catchment area has expanded

and they would be very welcome to apply for Reception places here. Tours are available via the office. There are also a few empty places in the current Reception as some children have moved out of the area.



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GoodrichFoG



Goodrich FOG

Fancy a Dance? And help at the same time? The school disco is looking for any parents to help cook and serve hotdogs at the school disco on 14th December from 3:30-7:15pm and for general helpers too please. All help greatly appreciated, contact FoG on email if you can.

Are you ARTSY FARTSY? We are looking for someone who can provide / organise a backdrop for the kids Xmas performances on 11th Dec. Mr Pix part of our beloved art team, is looking for a huge bit of material, with a simple (possibly painted) design of green hills at the bottom and blue sky at the top, maybe with some stars. If this is something you could knock up please contact FoG on our email.

Thank you to all of the amazingly spooky entrants for the Halloween treasure hunt this year. A whopping £560 was made. A huge thank you to Tara Davies and Lisa Webb for designing and organising this. A certificate will be on the way out to you very soon. The entries were so good this year, it was really hard to decide who the winners were. After much consideration, we have the following winners:

KS2 Miriam Hogg

KS1 Freddie Benns

Early Years Sienna Cox

LAST SHOUT OUT FOR THE WINTER FAIR!

The Winter Fair is nearly upon us, this is a huge event, the kids look forward too and enjoy it immensely and a big opportunity for us to raise money to support the school. Please dig deep for this fair, if you can spare any time or help with any of the items we need please do let us know!

Winter Fair Raffle tickets on sale NOW – every morning and afterschool in the lower hall. Or speak to your class rep to purchase some. Don't forget loads of brilliant prizes including 4 tickets to the brilliant Disney on Ice show at the O2, Weekend away in a gorgeous Georgian townhouse in Ramsgate, 1 hour Shuffleboard game lane with pizza & drinks for 6 people courtesy of londonshuffle.com, £100 for a meal at Olivelli on Lordship Lane, Afternoon tea at the Hilton Riverside and new Michael Kors handbag.

Calling all tree Decorators! Every year FoG buy 3 trees to help decorate the school halls. Can anyone help decorate these on Friday the 30th of December after drop off. Please contact FoG on the email address

Always dreamt of being an Elf? We can make your dreams come true, Santa's grotto at the Winter Fair is in search of some Elves! To make it a magical experience for the children we need lots of elves (adults dressed up). We ask the volunteers to choose themselves what they wear, you can go to town or if it seems like too much effort a Xmas jumper and Santa hat from the pound shop will do! This can be in shifts so doesn't have to be for the full length of the fair. If you can help please contact Phil Dawkins on phildawkins@gmail.com

This year at the fair we'll have some **fab new stalls** including the Golden Cracker (every cracker has a prize, top prize a signed photo & CD of Ollie Murs!).

Come for **Festive Fun in the PHOTO BOOTH**, we got an instant camera & loads of festive dress up, all we need is you and your family & friends! Pictures would make a fun & fabulous gift!

Christmas Pressies, we'll have a gorgeous Christmas gift Stall selling loads of pickles, piccalilli, jams & chutneys. Made by our parents & community Jon Dale (Masterchef contestant), Naomi Knill (gingergourmand, food blogger) and Sabrina Wolfe (winner of Goodrich Summer Fair Jams). **And wear your elastic pants** cause we're back with our amazing food offerings at the fair...the infamous FoG dog, beef brisket and pulled pork buns (by Jon Dale) and our tasty veggie tacos and chili by Laura Higgitt.

LAST CALL FOR DONATIONS

Keep your Jolly Jam Jars donations coming in! Please get look around for any jars you can fill with either sweets, stickers, rubbers, toys etc. for our Tombola. The class who donates the most jam jars will win a prize given the following week. Do not forget to put your class number under the jars. Please drop them off in your classroom or contact FoG for pickup.

Bring in your Books! Any pre-loved childrens books especially ones for the older readers (chapter books) would be much appreciated for our second hand book sale stall. Drop these in the school office please.

Get baking or get buying for Winter Fair Café, all cake donations can be brought in on the day

Any extra teddys or stuffed animals hanging about? Please bring them in for the Teddy Tombala, all donations can be dropped in the school office.

We have had a great response already to the **Winter Fair hampers**. If you have not donated already, you still have time. All classes should have been assigned a hamper and getting those together, contact your rep to see how you can still help.

Dates for the diary

Friday November 23rd – Hot chocolate and winter raffle ticket sale afterschool in the upper playground

Saturday 1st December - Winter Fair 2018 from 12-3pm

Friday 14th December: Children's disco

Friday Dec 21st – end of term brass band playing with mulled wine & hot chocolate sale, what a fab way to end the term & roll into the holidays

Wednesday Jan. 16th – FoG meeting at the Herne Tavern 8pm, all are welcome

Friday 25th January – Come along to our first ceilidh - a traditional Celtic evening - eat, drink, laugh & dance with our brilliant live band booked for the event. And then take a breather with a well-earned wee dram or drink. Don't miss this hilarious evening at Goodrich's first ceilidh!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Sínhéidin Goguel

Deputy Headteacher for Teaching & Learning