

Our Amazing Community

At Greenslade we are extremely proud of the positive role we play in our local community. Our wonderful balance of families and children mean that everything we do is a reflection of the diverse, vibrant area in which we live and learn. Our curriculum is planned to be relevant to the needs of our own children and at the same time reflect our engagement with the wider community within Britain and across the world. The International Primary Curriculum from which we learn has been designed to explore issues related to historical global features as well as recent ongoing international developments.

Walks around our local area, learning about the historical features of the architecture that surrounds us, the use of shops, transport links and open spaces ensure that we use our area as a rich source of learning. Frequent trips to the amazing resources afforded by Greenwich and central London mean that our wider heritage is understood and forms a basis of our knowledge of ourselves within a wider context. Residential trips to the country side in Kent and the coastal landscape in Dorset give our children a contextualised view of our own urban setting.

Close links with a large number of schools in Greenwich mean that we play a role within our educational community. We all continue to benefit from the historical partnerships we formed with members of the Plumstead Common Cluster of schools and these ties remain strong. In recent months we have worked together to explore solutions to the financial challenges local schools are facing, we have looked at various assessment systems, curriculum plans and benefitted from training in teaching Scientific strategies.

Local SENCOs have worked together to ensure that our children all benefit from the highest quality provision. Recent work has included exploring techniques to better understand strategies for writing successful EHC Plans, training to provide support for various medical conditions as well as being able to signpost and give direct advice to families of children with diagnoses of various special educational needs including Dyslexia, ASD, ADHD and ADD. Our work to achieve the ASD Charter Mark has included working with SENCOs from three local schools. As ever, sharing good day to day practice has been as crucial as completing the paperwork and on line training.

Greenslade has hosted a number of Positive Parenting Courses for our own and our community families. These have proved incredibly successful in ensuring our families understand, agree and follow our own aspirations, philosophy and strategies for improving our children's behaviour and responses to emotionally challenging situations. Several families facing difficult circumstances have mentioned the positive outcomes from these courses in TAC meetings.

Our work to improve outcomes for our families of children with various needs has meant that we have been proud to host three programmes of Early Bird training. This bespoke twelve week course run for families of children with ASD within our community is led by the Greenwich ASD outreach team and we welcome local families from many schools. It benefits all of us to understand our children's needs to a greater degree and to have a shared understanding of how to be successful in managing the challenges our families face.

Our EYFS team continue to work with staff from local settings and this year worked with them to improve outcomes for our children with Speech and Language needs. We received a number of visits from staff from local schools to see our EYFS learning environment. We work extremely closely with The Slade Children's Centre and our PEEP programme continues to prove to be an extremely successful and popular way of making links with the families of local two year old children. They work with our EYFS Practitioner to develop vital skills and confidence in areas such as managing positive behaviour strategies, language and play development, relationship and encouraging healthy eating habits. Parents and Carers playing and learning with their own children alongside our staff is an amazing and very enjoyable way for our families to make friends and gain experience that improves the long term outcomes for our community's children whether they

eventually come to our school or not. Hosting and attending transition visits are also a vital way of establishing and sustaining links with our local partner schools.

We have strong links with schools who are part of various MATs. Our NQT attends an induction programme run by the Compass Partnership and we have adapted the assessment and tracking grids they have developed for our own use. We are keen to use our own expertise to further develop and enhance these documents and systems. We will moderate our literacy and numeracy outcomes with a different group of schools who share the same tracking system as us. Our staff frequently develop skills, confidence and expertise from attending training at the Heronsgate Campus and our whole teaching staff benefitted from a programme of great Science INSET during 2017. Our flexible and open attitude to partnerships means that we can get the very best from a number of resources and are not tied to any one group or approach to learning.

Greenslade is very proud of our Breakfast and After School Club provision running from 7:30 am to 6 pm. Supporting our working families is a priority and our flexible “can do” philosophy gives our parents and carers the reassurance that their children are safe, healthy, well cared for. The BASC also gives us the opportunity to support families experiencing challenges and needing some stability and structure for children at the start and end of the school day. Our closest neighbour, Timbercroft Primary School, did not want a BASC so we are delighted to welcome children and families from “up the road”. Our children from two schools eating, playing and learning together is another example of our desire to do the very best for our local community.

We have very close links with our neighbouring secondary school and many of our girls have gone on to achieve amazing results and subsequently excelled at university having attended Plumstead Manor. However our links extend well beyond the formal transition procedures from Key Stage 2 to 3. In recent years our children have benefitted from a programme of Maths Master Classes, Science workshops, sports and PE lessons and competitions where we have utilised an amazing gymnasium and sports hall. Secondary trained music teachers have come and taught children from across our school and we have sung in their end of year music extravaganza.

Every year, all of our Key Stage 2 children perform in the Plumstead Manor Theatre “The Space” in our production in December. Our children are amazing and give two outstanding performances of a professional quality. Singing, dancing and acting are all things we excel at. I believe these performances are life changing experiences and the skills, talent and confidence our children display astounds audiences every year.

Our children are brilliantly supported by their parents and carers! On a daily basis our adults come into school and read, learn and play with their children. Reception and Nursery are full every morning of adults giving their children the best possible start to the day. This is replicated on Mondays and Fridays in Years 1 and 2.

Our Parents and Carers regularly attend interactive workshops that help them to understand the styles and content of learning we are developing at school. Recent examples include Early Years practice, Reading and Phonics. Parents’ Maths workshops are planned for the Autumn Term. We hold meetings to explain the procedures and expectations for SATs and Phonics check in Key Stage 1 and 2 to ensure our children are as prepared as they can be for what can be rather stressful experiences. In fact our children seem to enjoy these “special times” when they are our focus. We are proud of the dialogue that exists between home and school and have formal meetings with parents and carers twice a year through academic reviews. Teachers meet children’s families on a daily basis and this ongoing, open and flexible conversation is a successful and healthy way to ensure communication links are strong, relevant and meaningful.

Our Friends of Greenslade School (FOGS) are a wonderful example of the links that exist between home and school. A committee organise and run frequent fundraising and social events that constantly enhance and improve the social and educational experiences our children enjoy. Examples include our Summer and Christmas Fayres, Family BBQs, Cake Sales, Saturday Youth Club, and Saturday Morning Pictures. As well as being lovely family experiences we raise a significant amount of money that help us pay for educational visits as well as special events such as our Christmas Pantomime.

We are a Healthy School and this includes our whole community! Greenslade is proud to host an adult fitness class for parents, carers, staff and other members of our community. Three times every week up to twenty adults improve their fitness levels and confidence in extremely popular hour long sessions of puffing, panting, sweat and sometimes tears. Lead by an experienced fitness trainer, these sessions set a great example for our children who see their teachers and support staff and members of their families having great fun and keeping fit at the same time.

Our children enjoy a large number of clubs and after school activities considering we are a small school. Confidence, fitness, enjoyment, skills, expertise and positive relationships are all outcomes of the various activities they enjoy.

During the Summer Term 2017 these clubs included

Drama Clubs – Three different clubs for children of various ages.

Gardening Club – An award winning club teaching skills for growing flowers, vegetables and learning how to care for our environment.

Active Kids – A fitness club for younger children to enjoy keeping healthy and learning sports skills in with fun and games based approach.

Gymnastics Club – Run by qualified gymnasts teaching skills to a competition standard.

Homework Club – Our Learning Mentor supports children with a range of activities supporting learning in class.

Football Club – Run by coaches from Welling United for children in Key Stage 2.

Guitar Club – Taught by Ms Wainwright.

Ukulele Club - Taught by Mr and Mrs Nichols.

Recorder Club – Taught by Ms Wainwright

Lunchtime Social Club Run by our SENCo and Learning Mentor.