

25.03.22



Challenge, Equality & Opportunity

News, Information and Reminders

PTFA Easter Fair – Goodbye Celebration!



We are all looking forward to the PTFA Easter Fair which will take place on Tuesday 5th April. We want to make this a really happy celebration and an opportunity to say goodbye to our building and site. There will be cakes, goodies, pocket money stalls and the Jesmond Ice Cream Company will be there to sell delicious ice creams! You are all welcome to bring a flask or a bottle of something to drink and a picnic rug or outdoor chairs. Hopefully, the sun will be shining

(or at least it will be dry!) and we can take over the field until 5pm, during which time the children can play and you can catch up with friends and staff. If it is raining, we will still continue with the stalls, cakes and ice creams but perhaps without picnicking on the field!

Saying Goodbye to our Site

We will be having assemblies and lessons in school where children can reflect on their memories of being at our current school as well as looking forward to the new school. Each class is making a special book of memories to take with us and to eventually add to our school historical archives.

Broadway East and Gosforth Park were opened as one school in 1960. It was a two form entry primary school with 6 infant classes in our current building and 8 junior classes in Gosforth Park's building. In 1973, the school became the two first schools which we have now. The first Headteacher of Broadway East First in 1973 was Anne Nutman. When asked to reflect on her 14 years as headteacher, she wrote 'Change. I guess that is what life is all about...change, adaptability, progress, evolution... as nothing in life stands still'. She also wrote about the 'new problems with traffic and parking' and the new 'less formal' school day. On reading her report, I could identify with almost every statement, 36 years later. In my own 22 years of working at Broadway (12 as Headteacher), I have seen many changes to the building, the use of space and organisation. During all of this time, we have dealt with many changes and events, but the constant has been the care and commitment of a very happy and successful school family. This is what really makes a school and keeps it going through times of change, and this will continue to be our constant in the changes ahead.



Covid Update

We currently have 3 more members of staff and two more children in Key Stage 2 who have tested positive since we emailed you earlier this week. Cases are definitely rising in the community and while it appears that most people are recovering well, Covid is still resulting in significant staffing disruptions and pupil absences. We are therefore still following mitigations in school and working hard to keep transmission to the minimum, while also trying to maintain some normality in our activities and provision. This week, it has been very challenging to find supply staff and so some continuity has been disrupted. Thanks to our staff team for their ongoing flexibility and willingness to make things work. Thanks also to parents and carers for your patience.

Classes for Next Year

We know that some of you are wondering how we will organise classes next academic year. Organisation of classes will be different to our usual pattern as we have 60 children currently in Reception. We have a preferred model of how we will organise Key Stage One and we will confirm this in the summer term once we have a clear picture of how many children are on the waiting lists for each year group. It is likely that the usual policy will apply to Key Stage Two and we will confirm this in the summer term too.

After Easter, there will be no changes – everyone will be in the same classes with the same teachers.

Staffing Update

Andrea Wingate is leaving us at the end of this term as she moves into a new role working for Newcastle City Council in a family support role. As you can all imagine, we will be really sad to see Andrea leave as she has been part of the staff at Broadway East for many years. Andrea has supported teaching and learning in school during all of her time here, but she will be most missed for the warmth and love which she so readily shares with anyone in need of some TLC – staff, parents, carers and, most importantly, children. We will keep in touch with Andrea and we know she'll be coming to visit us in our new building very soon. Good luck and thank you, Andrea!



Ukraine Appeal

The Polish Centre have informed us that they have sent 11 vans and 3 trucks full of donations. Some of which have now reached Ukraine. Thank you again for your generosity.

Red Nose (Green Clothes!) Day

Thank you again to everyone for your generosity last week. We raised £296 for Red Nose Day.



School Relocation Updates

Children's Visit to Havannah First School

The children loved their visit to Havannah First School last week. Some told us that it felt like Christmas, and lots of them told us that they felt really lucky. It was great to see how enthusiastic they were with the indoor and outdoor spaces.

We are still hoping to be able to organise a visit for parents and carers before we officially open. However, we need to wait until the building has transferred into our possession and so we can't put this in the diary just yet, we hope to be able to confirm this very soon. We have not forgotten about you!



Havannah First School

Our visit to Havannah First School

I hope you enjoyed our visit to the new school building. I'm excited about the new school and our lovely classroom, but at the same time I'm sad to leave the Broadway East site. It's a strange mix of feelings! What do you think? Explore your feelings below.

Outside the new school building...
 When I saw it I thought...
it was so big and amazing.

My favourite thing outside was... *the bike track because I can go on it every play-time*

Inside the building...
 I was surprised by...
how big it was because it was like a huge maze!
 I really like...
the main hall and the small hall.
 I wasn't sure about...
getting around because it is so big!

Our classroom
 I was surprised by...
the nice view of the playground.

I really like...
Lots of things, including the smart board
 I wasn't sure about... *and the white board with squares.*
or I liked everything!

Overall, I am feeling *excited* about moving to the new building.

I am a little bit concerned about *not being there for long because we only have one term before we leave.*

Overall, I'm feeling *so lucky* and give the new school building *10* / 10.

Travel to the new site

We know that lots of you want to walk and cycle or scoot to the new site, and we really want to encourage sustainable travel too. We do not own the land around our site and nor does Newcastle City Council. Therefore, if you have any questions or comments about the access to the new site (roads, paths, cycle ways, crossings, lighting etc.), please could you raise them via the contact page of Newcastle Great Park www.newcastlegreatpark.com/contact/. We are already trying to address the issues raised and your voices and views will be extremely useful in adding strength to our own and Newcastle City Council's. Thank you.

Bus for Y4 Transport for the Summer Term

The City Council has now completed the arrangements for transport to the new school site for the summer term. This was agreed by the City Council following the consultation in 2017. At the time, the current year 4 children were about to begin in Reception and so had applied to the school without prior knowledge of the relocation. The bus is just for Year 4 children (and younger siblings) and is therefore only for the summer term. Parents and carers have already responded to requests on ParentMail to book places on the bus. If you have already responded and your need for a place on the bus has changed, please let us know.

The bus will be departing each day from the car park at Gosforth East Middle School at 8.30am and will depart from the Havannah site at 3.30pm to arrive back at GEMS at approximately 3.45pm. We are really grateful to Mr Stout for agreeing to these arrangements as it is the closest safe place for the bus to pick up and drop off the children. GEMS do not allow parents and carers to drive into the carpark at these times.

You will need to accompany your children to the bus and then pick them up from the coach at the of the day. There will be at least one member of staff on the bus with the children. We will take a register as the children get on the bus and then will hand them over to parents and carers on return. **The bus will not be able to wait at GEMS for families who are running late.** If you have another parent/carer picking up your children at the end of the day, you will need to let us know in advance. When the bus arrives at Havannah, it will park on site in our special bay for coaches and children will be taken safely into the building. At the end of the day, they will be collected in school and taken to the bus on site again, ready to head back down to GEMS.

The size of the bus is based on the numbers which were collected previously and on most days it is full or very nearly full and we need to reserve one spare seat each day for an additional member of staff, in case this is needed. We had hoped that there might be enough surplus places to accommodate some other families in other year groups, but unfortunately, this is not going to be possible. **If this situation changes, we will let you know.**

PE Survey

Mrs McMillan is going to send you all a PE survey next week. This is to gather views on children's PE in school and to help us to organise our extra-curricular provision. Clubs before and after school will be able to start again once we are in the new building. We already have some booked but we are hoping to extend the number and range of activities as soon as we can!

Best wishes

Helen McKenna
Headteacher

Dates List

Monday 28 th March	Class 3 visit to Woodhorn
Thursday 31 st March	Reception visit to the farm
Friday 1 st April	KS2 visit to Beamish
Monday 4 th April	Easter Egg Competition begins
Monday 4 th April	Class 4 to Woodhorn
Tuesday 5 th April	Class 2 to Woodhorn
Wednesday 6 th April	PTFA Easter Fair and picnic
Thursday 7 th April	Last day of term for children – start of Easter Holiday for children
Friday 8 th April	School closed for decant

Monday 11th April – Friday 22nd April Easter Holiday

Monday 25 th April	School closed for staff setting up
Tuesday 26 th April	School closed for staff setting up
Wednesday 27th April	Start of new term at Havannah First School!
Monday 2 nd May	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 11 th May	Y4 Residential to Robinwood
Thursday 12 th May	Y4 Residential to Robinwood
Friday 13 th May	Y4 Residential to Robinwood
Friday 27 th May	Break up for half term

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June Half term Holiday

Monday 6 th June	GST holiday for the Platinum Jubilee
Tuesday 7 th June	Back to school
Friday 22 nd July	Break up for summer holiday