

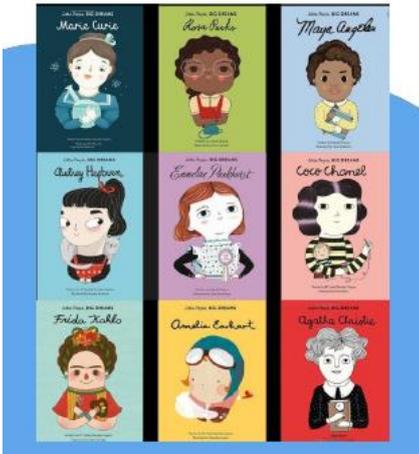
### Achievements this week ...

<b>Cerim</b>	Combining 2 symbols in the chat book to ask a question; ‘where’ ‘iPad’?
<b>Keelia</b>	Having a brilliant first week back at school following surgery
<b>Eliza</b>	Having a brilliant first week back at school
<b>KC</b>	Learning how to vote to choose what she and her friends would like to do and for excellent phonics and reading all week
<b>Inci</b>	Fantastic listening and participating in maths with lots of correct answers
<b>Solana</b>	For beginning to respond to the ‘finish’ symbol during 1:1 play and interactions with an adult
<b>Nora</b>	Being very brave in hospital
<b>Oscar</b>	Learning how to crawl over the holidays and now exploring all parts of the classroom

*Special ‘well done’ to children who are learning from home this week and thank you to teachers who have acted so promptly to put things into place to ensure that everyone gets high quality education during these exceptional times.*

*Happy New Year to everyone. We are all trusting that 2021 will bring brighter days and being able to be together with loved ones near and far again.*

### Curriculum Learning



Whether you are learning in school or at home we are learning about ‘Hidden Figures’ this half term. We are using the ‘Little People Big Dreams’ books written by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara after the success of this theme last year. All classes will learn about Elton John and Jean-Michel Basquiat and then each pathway will have a third historical figure to focus on. We will explore their life stories, what they did and will get creative. Every Friday we are having ‘Elton John Friday’ with a favourite song being play across the school’s tannoy at the start of the day. We’ve had a lovely surprise in that Maria Isabel saw our link on Instagram and left us a comment. Famous people, famous friends.

### Vaccination Support

Thanks to our parent group we’ve been made aware that parents who have children with SEND can change their registration status at their GP surgeries to unpaid carers and this may mean that you are moved up in the vaccination schedule. More information can be found at;

<https://contact.org.uk/news-and-blogs/parent-carers-added-to-covid-19-vaccine-priority-list-across-the-uk/>

<https://www.carersuk.org/news-and-campaigns/press-releases/carers-uk-welcomes-new-jcvi-advice-which-includes-unpaid-carers-in-the-vaccination-priority-list>

This will be for you to receive a vaccination, not your child. We don’t yet have information on when children with complex health needs may be able to get the vaccine.

## Lateral airflow testing for staff

You will have heard that testing for staff and pupils in secondary schools was due to be rolled out this week. There was no timeframe given for when this would happen in primary schools so at Greenmead we didn't have this in place. Following the government's announcement of the lockdown on Monday I made contact with the LA and asked if the boxes of tests kits now not being used whilst secondary schools are closed could be given to Greenmead for us to keep testing staff to ensure that we can continue to be fully open. This was received really well and with their support we have now had test kits delivered. We'll start testing staff on site once a week from next week. This is another layer of assurance and safety to ensure that Greenmead remains as safe as it can be and that we are fully open. As there is not yet a national roll-out for primary schools from Public Health England so we are not yet able to do regular testing on children as the portal for registering children is not open to us. The LA is trying to get timeframes for this from PHE and the DfE and as soon as we know more we'll update you.

## Parent Governor

Do you have time and an interest in becoming a Parent Governor at Greenmead Primary School?

One of our Parent Governors will be coming to the end of their time on the Governing Board at the end of the academic year so we'd like to ensure there is some time to allow for a new Parent Governor to join for succession planning. We are looking for someone who has a particular interest or experience in curriculums both in a mainstream and/or a special school and who is excited about pupil progress data and outcomes.

The role of a Parent Governor is voluntary and a way of parents having a positive impact on the strategic provision of the whole school. Governors are involved in setting the ethos of the school and supporting the school towards continuous provision and to oversee the financial performance of the school and hold the Headteacher and other senior leaders to account.

The minimal commitment is to check your emails once a week for updated information, to be a part of the Teaching, Learning and Therapy committee which meets once a term in the school day and to attend a full Governors' board meeting which meet once a term in the evening. There is training provided by the Local Authority for all new governors.

If you would like to find out more about the role or are to express your interest please email Toni at [head@greenmead.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:head@greenmead.wandsworth.sch.uk) who can answer your questions and if you'd like to chat to one of our current Parent Governors we can put you in touch with them.

Depending on the number of parents expressing interest and putting themselves forward we will need to have an election amongst the parent body.

## Southfields Foodbank at St. Paul's Pantry

St. Paul's Pantry on Augustus Road is up and running. It is currently open on the first and third Thursday of the month. This means they will be open on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 4<sup>th</sup> February and 18<sup>th</sup> February from **6.30pm – 8.00pm**.

The pantry is a small scale foodbank offering free groceries to anyone who needs them. No referrals are necessary.



To find out more please phone **07946485457**



## **Message from the Therapy Team**

### **Staffing update January 2021**

As you are aware the therapy team at school has had a few changes over the past few weeks. There is a general shortage of therapy staff as a result of many of them returning home to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa during the pandemic. This has affected not only recruitment but the availability of locums. As a result of the Integrated Therapy approach practised at Greenmead the children will still be able to work on their therapy programmes and this will be delivered by school staff in the usual way.

The Therapy Team at Greenmead currently consists of:-

**Speech and Language Therapy:** Hayley Soper left us in December. Naomi Honey is due to return from her maternity leave after the Easter break. Adverts have been put out to recruit to these posts either permanently or fixed term contracts.

Barbara Coward is currently the only SaLT on site and will be prioritising dysphagia and offering an advisory support to classes.

**Occupational Therapy:** The band 7 maternity cover post has been advertised twice but unfortunately has not had any applicants. The advert is out again closing at the end of the month. Charlotte Done (band 6) works with us for 3 days per week. She will not be able to pick up the vacant band 7 caseload but will help out wherever she can.

**Physiotherapy:** We currently have a full physio team who are working as usual.

If you have any specific enquiries related to your child's therapy please email Barbara at

[Barbara.Coward@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto:Barbara.Coward@stgeorges.nhs.uk)