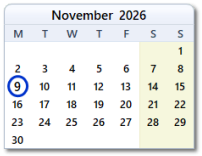
THE GREENMOUNT GUARDIAN

2026 - 2027

Issue #9

Friday, 6th November 2026





Monday 9th Nov 2026

On Monday, 9th November, our school photographer will be in school to take individual and sibling photographs. Every child will have their photos taken and information will be sent home on how you can order them (in time for Christmas !).

If you have pre-school children and you would like a photo with them and your children in school, please come along to the rea entrance to the hall (the one off the Reception playground) at 8.30 a.m.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils – instead of coming to school in their PE kits, they should come in their normal school uniform but wearing trainers (or having them with them to change into) for their PE lessons on Monday afternoon.



In this issue …

- PTA Winter Wonderland
- Diary Dates for 2026 – 2027
- Certificates this weeks
- Recycling in school
- ”What parents need to know about Mobile Phones”

Next week @GPS

School Dinners: Week 2

Click here to view the menu online

Monday, 9th November
8.30 a.m. Photographs with pre-school siblings

Morning
Individual and Sibling Photographs

3.15 p.m. – 3.45 p.m.
PTA Uniform Shop Open

3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.
Y3/Y4 Multi-Skills Club

Please note there is no football club as Mr Coop is on paternity leave

Tuesday, 10th November

Wednesday,11th November
3.15 p.m. – 3.45 p.m.
PTA Uniform Shop Open

3.30 p.m. – 4.15 p.m.
Y5/6 Netball

Thursday, 12th November

Friday, 13th November
3.15 p.m. – 3.45 p.m.
PTA Uniform Shop Open

7.00 p.m.
PTA Dance Night @ Walshaw Cricket Club

Greenmount Primary School
Holhouse Lane, Greenmount, Bury BL8 4HD 01204 884031
www.greenmountprimarybury.co.uk email: greenmount@bury.gov.uk
Head Teacher: Mr D W Griffith Deputy Head Teacher: Miss C Kunce

Proud to be part of The Keep Learning Trust
Creating Chances and Choices

SUPPORT THE PTA &
HAVE SOME CHRISTMAS FUN!

WINTER WONDERLAND

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER
12PM-3PM
GREENMOUNT PRIMARY SCHOOL

CAFE

BRATWURST,
BLACK PEAS,
HOT DOGS

BAR



GAMES

CRAFTS

PRIZE DRAW
WINNERS
ANNOUNCED

TEDDY
TOMBOLA



FACE
PAINTING

ELFRIDGES

dates to Remember

Did you know you can sync our school's calendar so that all our events are saved on your phone !
Go to the calendar page on our website, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click the relevant "subscribe" button 😊

https://www.greenmountprimarybury.co.uk/Calendar/

Autumn Term – Second half

Thursday, 19th November	6.30 p.m.	Open Evening for September 2027 entry
Friday, 20th November	9.30 a.m.	Open Morning for September 2027 entry
Friday, 27th November		PTA Donations Day
Saturday, 28th November	12.00 – 3.00	PTA Christmas Fair
Tuesday, 8th December	9.30 a.m.	Y1/Y2 Christmas Performance
	5.30 p.m.	Y1/Y2 Christmas Performance
Thursday, 10th December		Christmas Jumper Day
	9.30 a.m.	Reception Christmas Performance
		Christmas Dinner
	5.30 p.m.	Reception Christmas Performance
Monday, 14th December	Morning	PTA Secret Christmas Shop
Wednesday, 16th December	2.30 p.m.	Christmas Musical Afternoon
Thursday, 17th December		Christmas Parties
Friday, 18th December	9.15 a.m.	Christmas Service in Church
	3.30 p.m.	School closes for Christmas



Spring Term – First half

Monday, 4th January	7.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.	GOOSE Holiday Club
Tuesday, 5th January	9.00 a.m.	School Re-Opens
Friday, 8th January		Non-Uniform Day for Autumn 2 Winning Team
Monday, 18th to Friday, 22nd January		Year 5 Swimming (mornings)
Friday, 22nd January		PTA Freaky Friday
Thursday, 28th January	Evening	Year 5 / Year 6 Young Voices Concert
Monday, 1st to Friday, 4th February		Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday, 9th February	2.30 - 6.30 p.m.	Parents' Evening - Year 6
Wednesday, 10th February	2.30 - 6.30 p.m.	Parents' Evening - Year 6
Friday, 12th February	3.30 p.m.	School Closes for Half Term

Term dates until 2028 are available on the website – click here

Please note that due to regulations from the DfE, schools can not authorise absences for the purpose of family holidays. Parents risk the possibility of receiving a Fixed Penalty Notice from the Local Authority if children are taken out of school for holidays.
Please contact Mr Griffith if you are considering a family holiday during term time – please email in to greenmount@keeplearningtrust.co.uk
More information about the regulations can be found by clicking here

Spring Term – Second half

Monday, 22nd February	9.00 a.m.	School Re-Opens
Friday, 26th February		Non-Uniform Day for Spring 1 Winning Team
Monday, 1st March	6.30 p.m.	Governors' Meeting
Thursday, 4th March		World Book Day - Dressing Up
Friday, 5th March	tbc	PTA Secret Mothers' Day Shop
Friday, 12th March		PTA Non-Uniform Day – bring an Easter Egg
Tuesday, 16th March	2.00 p.m.	Y3/Y4 Production
	6.30 p.m.	Y3/Y4 Production
Thursday, 18th March	Tbc	PTA Easter Bingo
Tuesday, 23rd March	2.30 - 6.30 p.m.	Parents' Evening - Reception to Year 5
Wednesday, 24th March	2.30 - 6.30 p.m.	Parents' Evening - Reception to Year 5
Thursday, 25th March	9.15 a.m.	Easter Service (in Church)
	3.30 p.m.	School closes for Easter
30th March to 2nd April	7.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.	GOOSE Holiday Club

Summer Term – First half

Monday, 12th April	9.00 a.m.	School Re-Opens
Friday, 16th April		Non-Uniform Day for Spring 2 Winning Team
Monday, 3rd May		Bank Holiday - School Closed
Monday, 10th to Thursday, 13th May		Year 6 SATs Week
Friday, 14th May	tbc	PTA Discos
Tuesday, 18th May	6.00 p.m.	Meeting for Year 6 Parents re Residential
Monday, 24th May	Morning	Class Photographs
Thursday, 27th May	3.30 p.m.	School Closes for Half Term

Summer Term – Second half

Tuesday, 8th June	9.00 a.m.	School Re-Opens
Wednesday, 9th to Friday, 11th June		Year 6 Residential Trip
Wednesday, 16th June	6.00 p.m.	Meeting for new Reception parents
Friday, 18th June	tbc	PTA Secret Fathers' Day Shop
Tuesday, 22nd June	3.40 p.m.	Open Afternoon
Tuesday, 29th June		"Move up" morning
Thursday, 1st July		Sports Day 9.00 a.m. Year 6 10.00 a.m. Year 5 10.45 a.m. Year 4 11.30 a.m. Year 3 1.00 p.m. Reception 1.45 p.m. Year 1 2.30 p.m. Year 2
Friday, 2nd July	tbc	PTA Donations Day
Saturday, 3rd July	tbc	PTA Summer Fair
Monday, 12th July	6.30 p.m.	Governors' Meeting
Tuesday, 13th July	2.00 p.m.	Year 5 / Year 6 Performance
	6.30 p.m.	Year 5 / Year 6 Performance
Thursday, 15th July		Reserve Sports Day
Friday, 16th July		Reports Sent Home
Monday, 19th July		Non-Uniform Day for Summer 1 Winning Team
Wednesday, 21st July	2.30 p.m.	Leavers' Assembly - Year 6 Parents
	3.30 p.m.	School Closes for Summer Holiday
22nd July to 6th August	7.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.	GOOSE Holiday Club

Making their mark this week:

Certificates were awarded to:

Reception:
Skylar, Emilia, Miles, Archie

Year 1:
Beatrice, Grace, Teddy, Alice, Oisin

Year 2:
Elias, Leo

Year 3:
Henry, Finley, Phoebe, Charlie

Year 4:
Flynn, Alice, Tyler, Emmy, Alexa

Year 5:
Molly, Holly, Arthur

Year 6:
Molly, Jack M, Harrison

Stars of the week:

Reception:
Freya

Year 1:
Jacob

Year 2:
Spencer

Year 3:
Bronte, Teo

Year 4:
Clara

Year 5:
Zachary

Year 6:
Amelia, Isabelle



This week's winning team:

Recycling Point

Have you found our Recycling Point yet ? It's just outside the kitchen; head to your right at the main entrance.

Watch out for photos of lost property items on the **Parents of Greenmount Primary School Facebook Page** … please collect anything that belongs to you !

Our Lost Property is stored here.

We're collecting oral health products:

Toothpaste tubes
Toothbrushes
Toothbrush heads
Toothbrush packaging
Floss containers

We're collecting beauty, health care and wellness products:

Make up containers and beauty products such as:
Mascara and eye liner tubes
Lipsticks, palettes, compacts
Toothpaste tubes
Plastic lotion tubes and pots
Deodorants (not aerosols)

Unfortunately, we are no longer collecting batteries.

BABYBEL PRODUCTS



Writing Implements

Pens, markers, felt tips, highlighters etc

MAKE SECOND HAND YOUR FIRST CHOICE



NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS

PLEASE LEAVE ANY CLEAN UNIFORM, COATS & BAGS IN THE BLUE BIN NEAR THE MAIN GATES

100% of all sales goes directly to the PTA charity to help with school funds

~ Thank you for your support ~

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones have become a huge part of young people's everyday lives, but new restrictions on their use in schools and proposed restrictions on social media are changing how children and young people can use them. This guide explores mobile phones, their use by young people, what the evidence tells us, the current and future legal position, and what parents and educators should do.

What are the risks?

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The relationship between smartphone and social media use and young people's mental health is complex, and evidence does not establish a simple cause-and-effect relationship. Some researchers and commentators, however, including Jonathan Haidt, author of The Anxious Generation, argue that increased smartphone and social media use may be contributing to poorer mental health and wellbeing among young people.

LEARNING AND ATTENTION

Mobile phones can distract pupils from learning and make it harder to maintain attention and concentration. Research suggests that learning and attention have improved in schools that already prohibited mobile phone use, particularly among pupils with lower prior attainment. Now that the DfE's guidance on mobile phones is statutory, schools should ensure that the whole-school community understands and follows their policy, while monitoring how effectively it is implemented.

HARMFUL CONTENT AND BULLYING

Mobile phones can be a means of extending peer conflict from the community into schools and from schools back into the community. They also provide easy access to harmful and inappropriate content, including content that is sexually explicit, promotes self-harm or eating disorders, or is violent in nature. Exposure to this content can negatively affect children's mental health and wellbeing, potentially increasing the support they require from schools, parents, and support services.

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Ofcom research found that 13- to 14-year-olds spend an average of 4 hours 19 minutes online each day across smartphones, tablets, and computers. However, there is considerable variation between children, with some spending significantly more or less time online. Excessive screen time can contribute to disrupted sleep and fragmented attention, both of which can negatively affect children's mental health and wellbeing.

The current and upcoming rules

SCHOOL BANS

As of 1 September 2026, schools are expected to be phone-free environments by default, with any exceptions limited to specific circumstances. Schools can decide how best to implement this. For example, some may provide secure storage or collect phones at the beginning of the school day, while others may prohibit pupils from bringing them onto school premises altogether. Schools can also confiscate mobile phones in line with their behaviour policy, while searches for prohibited phones must follow the relevant legal requirements.

REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS

Schools should make reasonable adjustments where necessary for disabled pupils and may allow exceptions in other circumstances, including where mobile phone use is necessary to support a medical condition or an identified need. For example, a pupil with diabetes may use a continuous glucose monitor linked to their mobile phone to monitor their blood sugar levels. Schools may also make adaptations where mobile phone use provides agreed support for pupils with SEND. Any exceptions should be clearly reflected in the school's policies and procedures.

ONLINE SAFETY ACT 2023 AND 2026 PROPOSALS

Platforms are required to protect children from harmful content and use age checks to prevent children from accessing pornography and certain other types of harmful content. In June 2026, the government announced that it intends to stop social media companies offering services to under-16s. These restrictions are expected to be introduced in spring 2027, but the precise scope and rules have not yet been confirmed.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

While there is ongoing debate about the relationship between smartphones, social media and young people's mental health, there are steps that parents and educators can take to help reduce the potential risks associated with their use:

1. Delay smartphones. Consider waiting until a child is 14 before giving them a smartphone. Where a child needs a device to contact family, a basic phone may be an alternative.
2. Delay social media. Consider delaying access to social media until the age of 16.
3. Support phone-free schools. Parents, pupils, and staff should understand and support the school's approach to mobile phones.
4. Encourage screen-free activities. Promote independent and outdoor play, alongside other activities that give children opportunities to socialise and spend time away from screens.

Meet Our Expert

Mark Emmerson OBE, CEO – City of London Academies Trust. With nearly 45 years' experience in inner-city education, including 26 years in senior leadership roles, Mark was an early advocate for tackling the risks of mobile phones in schools, introducing a ban as headteacher in 2000. He has also served as a national DfE adviser and held local authority roles, consistently driving improvements in pupil outcomes and Ofsted judgements, particularly in disadvantaged communities.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

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