

Dear Parents and Carers,

To-day marks the end of the Autumn Term. Back in September we welcomed our new cohort of Year 7 pupils and a small number of pupils who joined us in Key Stage 4 and 5. At that time, following work with pupils, the school council, staff and governors we revisited what it means to be Greenbank School. Our ethos as a school is **'Learning and Succeeding Together'**. We have certainly demonstrated that during this term with fantastic outcomes for pupils- Well Done to everyone.

This ethos is supported by a clear vision:

At Greenbank, we create a kind and caring environment. We are committed to growth and lifelong learning. We work to achieve success, build resilience, and embrace everyone's unique strengths. We learn and succeed together.

This vision is lived out by the values we hold:



**Our pupils and school council believe that these values are important to them.
It is what makes Greenbank School so special.**

Pupils and staff were treated to a full Christmas dinner this week. Jenni and the kitchen team did a fantastic job getting everything ready for pupils and staff to enjoy their meal- It still remains a mystery to me how you get roast potatoes to be so crispy!

To-day we say goodbye to Miss Owen who, after 36 years at Greenbank School, is taking early retirement. Miss Owen will leave a huge hole having dedicated her whole teaching career to making a difference every day to the lives of pupils and staff. Thank you so much Miss Owen for everything you have done- you will always be highly thought of and missed.

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Headteacher: Mr M. McCann

We also say good bye to Mrs. Kennaugh, who has secured promotion to become a Headteacher at a post 16 provision. Mrs. Kennaugh first came to Greenbank 12 years ago from an agency and luckily for us stayed on to manage KS5 and become Deputy Head Teacher. Thank you for all the work you have done to support young people and families as they progressed to the senior end of school and to post 16 and 18 education. On behalf of all of school- we wish you good luck in your new role.

We have welcomed a new Deputy Headteacher- Mr Power to school this half term and Mrs Lobina-Lal as a new teacher, with responsibility for managing Sixth Form. Mrs Meadows will be taking on the role of KS3 manager. Mr Hamilton remains in his role as KS4 manager. Miss Wilson will be moving from KS5 into KS3, taking over Miss Owen's class.

Pupil attendance at all schools has come under scrutiny by government. Schools have to actively demonstrate and evidence how they monitor and manage attendance. To that end, if a pupils attendance falls below 90%, a letter will be sent to families informing them of the attendance of their child. School is also there to support pupils and families where attendance is a concern. We fully understand that for some pupils medical appointments and treatments mean frequent and regular absences from school. However, the expectation is that schools still need to share attendance figures and contact families when attendance falls below 90%. We have started to use attendance postcards to celebrate excellent attendance and where attendance has improved significantly, pupils who have regular absences due to medical appointments but otherwise have good attendance may also receive a positive attendance postcard. You can monitor your child's attendance by visiting our Arbor website:

<https://greenbank-pri.uk.arbor.sc/?/home-ui/index>

School has invested heavily in a new reading scheme- **Accelerated Reader**. Part of that package includes an online library – **MyOn**. This allows pupils not only to access a wide range of reading material in school but also at home. Log on details are in Home News books. I presented certificates to-day to pupils who have really committed themselves to reading- it is proven that those pupils who read regularly and for pleasure perform significantly better in school.

Hello from Resi

I would like to thank all the Parent/Carers who completed the questionnaire, we had 16 replies and as promised they were all entered into a prize draw. The lucky winner was Andrea Dunville.

This week has been very festive with Christmas parties on each night. We have also had a celebration awards ceremony each evening, this was to celebrate the massive achievements that all young people make during their residential stay. I hope they have shared their certificates with you at home.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas!

Charlene and the Resi team

School closes for the Christmas break on **Friday 20th December** and reopens for pupils on **Tuesday 7th January, 2025**. Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Stay safe, fit and well.

Yours faithfully,

Mr McCann
Head Teacher



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