



Dear Parents and Carers of Greenleas School,

This week in school, the preparations for our seasonal performances have begun in earnest, with the stage going up at both sites. It's lovely to hear the children's beautiful singing around the school, and the choir are also working hard in preparation for the Carol Concerts at St. Barnabas (DR) and Hockliffe Street Baptists' (KW) on the last week of term.

The PTAs at both sites have been working incredibly hard to put on festive events for the children to enjoy, and of course raise much appreciated funds for the school. At Derwent Road the children have the chance to watch a Christmas movie after school today, whilst at Kestrel Way there will be an Elf Workshop next Thursday 11th. Many thanks to the PTA at both sites for their Advent Calendar raffles, which raised £580 at Kestrel Way and just under £340 at Derwent Road.

On Wednesday I enjoyed a lovely catch-up with children from Reception and Key Stage 1 over lunch at Kestrel Way. This week I was dining with Harrison, Freddie, Frederick, Willow, Poppy, Zak and Luai who had been chosen for their super manners. The children were very excited about their Christmas Elves, and had lots of cheeky activities to describe.

This week we have hot writes from Emily and Bonnie from Year 2 at Derwent Road and Kestrel Way.

Please can I make an appeal for new members to join our Parent Forum at both sites. Whilst we do have a couple of parents who have been part of this group who still remain, we could really do with some representation for children in the lower end of the school to make sure the voices of those parents are also heard. I understand that this is a busy time of year, and it may be difficult to speak to everyone and attend a meeting before the end of term, but do please consider giving some of your time from the New Year.

With best wishes for the weekend.

Rebecca Clarke,
Head Teacher



Greenleas' Value of the Month for December is...

Peace

Peace means to have an inner contentment that can touch the lives of others. Dictionary meaning: freedom from disturbance; tranquillity.

- Peace is being quiet inside.
- Peace is having good feelings inside.
- Peace is when people get along and do not argue or hurt someone.
- Peace is having positive (optimistic) thoughts for myself and others.
- Peace begins within each one of us.

Question to discuss:

Why can't everybody live in peace? What words can you think of that relate to 'peace'?

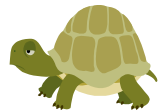
Star of the Week

Derwent Road:
Lola J-P
Kestrel Way:
Theo O



Tidy Tortoise

Derwent Road:
Swallows
Kestrel Way:
Plovers



Thursday 20th November
2025 10: To write a
warning tale.

The path beyond the park
Emily and Olive were playing
in the park. Grandma gave them
a warning, she warned them
not to go on the broken round
about because you will fall
of and hurt yourself. Later that
day there frisbee flew over to
the broken round about. They
noticed a puppy and followed it.
They forgot all about the warning.
After a while Emily and Olive
went on the round about. They
realised they were spinning too fast.
They were sick and sad. They
saw their bunny and they followed
it back to Grama. Grama had
sent her to go and get them. Grama was
waiting on a bench. She looked worried
and stern! They learnt all ways to listen to grow
ups.

WARNING

The water beyond the rocks
Alora was on the beach. Her Mum told her not
to go over the rocks because they were steep and
you could fall. Five minutes later

Two minutes later, her frisbee flew into the
water. She forgot about the warning.

She was almost over the rocks at the
sea. When she fell, Alora hit a
hidden stone. Then she didn't
look where she was going
and went into the sea!

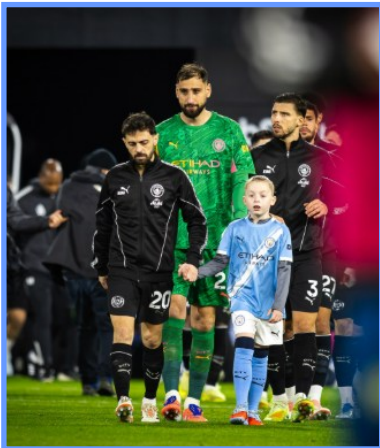
Quite soon their cat's chip skin
to get them to dry land. She was
saved!

Their Mum was waiting on the beach.
Alora was told off for ignoring
the warning. She was told to
listen and follow the rules.

their
didn't

WARNING

By Bonnie



Jack from Derwent Road was a
Mascot for Manchester City Foot-
ball Club this week, which was
shown on Sky Sports!

During our Friday Writing Club, the children have been working extremely hard planning, writing and editing their wonderful stories. Everyone chose a theme and an object to base their story on. Each story was submitted to the BBC National 500 Words Competition, entries are currently being judged as we speak by a panel of writers and teachers. We hope to hear more in the new year!

Congratulations to James, Elara, Anya, Arya, Toula-Rose, Liesl, Owen, Jake, Sophie, Carla and Isabelle.

Anya

The Magical Quilt

One beautiful moonlit night Beth couldn't sleep for thinking about yesterday, Mrs Canton had given everyone a special quilt during the school trip when their book signing was delayed because the school bus was stuck in traffic, and they had to wait over a year. Mrs Canton also told them to write and draw a short story about the quilt to pass the time which brings us to our story.

So Beth decided get out of bed and do her homework. By the time she had finished she could see the crack of dawn peeking through the curtains. Suddenly, Beth heard a noise coming from below the window. Beth turned and looked out of the window, before her very eyes she saw a magical carpet. It flew over to her and she slowly stepped on it. Before she could blink they were sailing out of the window off on an adventure.

As they were soaring all around the night sky, Beth remembered something the story she had wrote, the pictures she had drawn. The exact same thing had happened as what was happening now! It was like the carpet knew and went faster and faster through the night. Beth tried to make it stop but it didn't. Beth took a deep breath and thought and thought, come on Beth think...

Then out of nowhere an idea popped into Beth's head, what if I brush the carpet with the end of the quill in my hand? Maybe it will like being tickled? Slowly, keeping the quill in her pocket she brushed the carpet ten times. It took a little bit of time to get back to Beth's home but eventually they arrived safe and sound. As Beth stepped off of the carpet, it bowed before it flew away into the night.

In the morning Beth went downstairs to her family eating breakfast. Emily was eating fruit and juice while Amira tucked into fruit and yoghurt. Beth slowly ate some toast and sipped her water. 'How did you sleep?' 'Great,' everyone replied.

'Beth, did you sleep well? You look tired.' Asked Mum. Once she told Mum everything, Mum laughed, 'Fancy you on a magic carpet at night, its time to get dressed!' Even Mrs Canton at school just laughed. But we know the truth, don't we?

The End.

Toula-Rose

Once upon a time there was a little mouse called Mickey, he was smaller than all the others but he was talented and loved art. Then one day he was cleaning his room and he found an old map under his bed. He looked at the map and when he looked closer he realised it was a treasure map. So he followed the map which lead him towards a dark cave. Inside there was magical crowns but the next day when he drew a lion, it came alive and terrified poor Mickey. But Mickey had a solution he drew a makeup box and put make up on the lion then he did not look scary anymore and Mickey wasn't scared anymore. They lived happily every after. The end.

Owen

Sam and the Dragon

One day there was a boy named Sam. Sam loves climbing trees, playing football and singing. He lives by a tropical jungle. Sam is ten years old.

Sam lives in a small cabin with his parents and his Dad works to help animals in the jungle to check they're healthy.

His Dad always tells him stories about the cave with the dragon guarding it. In the cave was treasure which had lots of coins in it.

One day Dad found a hungry monkey. He can't get any bananas because he can't climb trees. He can't climb because the day before he fell off a tree. Dad said I'll get you bananas.

Later that day, he found a frog that was stuck on a Lillypad because he was too heavy. Dad said I'll get you a vet to help you get out.

Dad needs money to get a vet for the frog and bananas for the money to help them both. When Sam knew about the animals' needing things, he tried to find money. Sam knows about the true story about the cave with the treasure in. So he went to find the cave.

When he found the cave there was a black dragon guarding it, it was massive, black and tall. Sam went up to the dragon, and the dragon let him in. Sam went in and the dragon trapped him. Sam screamed and Dad came to help Sam. His Dad said start singing to distract the dragon. He started singing then Dad drilled the rock out and Sam climbed out with the treasure. Dad said Thank you.

Dad and Sam ran back to pay the vet and the shopkeeper for the help and bananas to give to the monkey and the frog. Dad thanked Sam and all the animals were happy.

Isabelle and Arya

The Mysterious Glasses

James and Bianca are cousins, living in Leighton Buzzard and go to Greendale School. James likes playing football, he is tall and 9 years old but looks more like he is 12. Bianca likes gymnastics, she has brown hair and blue eyes and is 10 years old.

The cousins were playing in the forest when they heard a strange noise. 'What was that?' asked Bianca. Was that a scream, Bianca's voice wobbled.

'I think it is coming from that way,' James said pointing to the trees in the distance.

The children ran towards the sound. As they got closer, they couldn't see anyone or anything. 'Look! A pair of glasses on the floor!' Shouted James. Next to the glasses was a pencil and a crumpled up sheet of paper with a code on.

'What does this mean?' said Bianca.

'I guess we are about to find out! Said James, 'Are you ready for an adventure?'

Biana reached down and tried them on for size. James grabbed the pencil and paper as he considered himself a professional at most things, 'It says to write down the first thing that pops into your head,' 'Police station,' he wrote down. Without warning, a purple portal appeared. They saw a rainbow and a heard a silly voice, 'Grab the key at your feet to get to your destination.' 'What destination?' asked Bianca. 'I don't know,' said James as he grabbed the key at his feet. 'Destination reached,' came the silly voice again. The children abruptly stopped and found themselves inside the police station.

'Hang on, its taken us to the police station!' Said James. 'Is that what you wrote down?' asked Bianca. James nodded slowly. 'Now we just have to get out of here without being seen!' 'Grab the glasses, and the paper, lets go on more adventures, think where the portal could take us!' Laughed Bianca excitedly.

To be continued....

Liesl

Once upon a time there lived a girl name Zoe who lived with her Mum and brother in the balmy city of Madrid. Zoe loved her life in Spain but there were two things she wanted more than anything.

1. Zoe always dreamt of travelling and seeing the Eiffel Tower. She had books on Paris which looked full of wonder. But whenever it was her birthday and despite asking for the same thing every year, Mum unfortunately just did not have the money.
2. Her brother to stop playing with Lego. It got everywhere and the amount of times Zoe had trodden on it. Painful!

Zoe remembered that one day she had been so bored, she actually started fiddling with the little coloured bricks and to her surprise she realised she had built The Eiffel Tower. After a while the little Lego tower was finished. But still Zoe felt something was missing. Was it missing some sparkle? Sadly, there were no silver bricks. She was just about to ask her brother when she looked over towards a clicking noise. When she looked closer the Lego box was shaking in the corner of the room! As she rummaged she started to see a blinding silver light cracking coming from underneath the bricks in the box, it rose into the air and spelled the word magic out of Lego bricks! A voice appeared from nowhere, 'It may be tempting Zoe but there may be consequences.' Of course Zoe thought about following the rules but she didn't, she was far too curious. She grabbed the silver brick and placed one on top of the next, before she knew it there stood in front of her very eyes the real Eiffel Tower! Tomorrow was her birthday and now her dreams had come true, she wouldn't have to ask to go! Zoe clutched the 30 Euros she had saved up and rushed into the nearest café. Croissants in Paris were meant to be the best. 'One croissant please!' said Zoe but the miniature Lego Eiffel Tower that she had grabbed from the building plate and kept in her pocket crashed to the floor. Zoe didn't notice because she was too busy devouring the delicious croissant. Once Zoe had finished she reached into her pocket to grab the model but it wasn't there, what have I done? Panicked Zoe. She rushed back into the Café and looked everywhere but it was nowhere to be seen! As he checked in her pocket again she felt the magic bricks. She stared at them, there were not quite enough, where will I get the rest for 25 Euros she thought.

Zoe turned to look at the Eiffel Tower and there underneath it something glimmered, Zoe dashed to the tower and stacked the bricks on top of one another, just as she put the final brick on top the light cracked through the sky, through the tower and just like that Zoe woke with a startle. Was it all a dream wondered Zoe?

At that moment, her Mum appeared, 'Happy birthday Zoe!' she sang cheerfully handing her a card. The picture on the front was very familiar – The Eiffel Tower – Welcome to Paris Zoe it read. The end.

Jake

One day there was a boy called Josh, Zac, and his Mum, Dad & Josh went to go get a new football and Josh brought it home. Josh went to go get Josh's brother Zac, and played in the garden. Josh accidentally booted the new football over the fence. His next door neighbour didn't see. Josh and Zac went to go get the ball back again, but the police saw it. Josh and Zac really got caught by the police, but Zac told the policeman. Josh and Zac got safely home. Josh told Mum and Dad what happened. Dad and his Mum were terrified with what had happened because Josh was so scared what happened.

Josh didn't like the ball so Josh sold it and for a secret this was the one taken (Shhhhhhhhh) Josh bought another new football and brought it home with Zac, Mum and his strong Dad.

The next day, Josh had some time training with his ball in the garden right next to the football goal. In a flash of lightning, all of a sudden the ball was not there. It was gone. It was missing. Josh did not know what to do. Josh sprinted and shouted Mum, Dad, come quickly. Josh shouted Zac come quickly. Josh shouted louder and louder, Nan and Grandad, come quickly. So they came over too. Josh' Dad said get out of the garden quickly, Mum said hold on a minute, what on earth are they?! There was one, two, three then Josh could see two arms and two legs. Josh went to go and look and Mum shouted It's a monster! Josh screamed and then it was gone, Yes!

Mum and Dad said never buy a football, never ever in your life because it might contain a monster. So that was that, Josh never ever in his own life brought a new football, never ever in case it contained a monster. Lesson learnt. The end.

Carla

Near the park lived a boy called David. He loves playing football, going on his skateboard and hanging out with his friends. One day his ball started to roll away and David was shocked. He kicked the ball and then it came back to him. David wondered what could be in the ball! He also needed to go home but really didn't want to.

So, the next day, David went to the park again and got a deflater because then he would know what was in the ball. David deflated the ball and discovered an axolotl. He loves axolotls and takes it home. He put it in a tank and set it up as a kingdom. When David went to sleep, the axolotl broke the tank because he wanted more food. Water was leaking and the glass made quite a mess. David's Mum came in and cleaned it up with him. They took the axolotl and put it in the ocean.

Mum reminded David that axolotls can be great friends, but they need to enjoy being in the wild.

Elara

Once there was a little lynx called Paws. She was shy, cuddly and small. One foggy day Paws was racing around the statue outside her home when suddenly in a flash she bumped straight into it. It pulled her into the inside of a hidden world. It was amazing! There were little birds in every colour perched on trees singing, insects buzzing around mostly excitingly were the other lynx's. They had never seen another lynx before. Paws wondered why they were a different colour brown to her? There were so many colours everywhere. Paws wanted to stay but will miss her family so she didn't. The other Lynx told her to keep it a secret so Paws did. One day day, a thump came from near the statue. Paws rushed over to see what it was but then Paws got there she wished she had stayed at home. There was a giant dragon trying to break the statue into thousands of piece. Paws was just about to run away when out of nowhere a group of angry voices came towards her shouting. It was they other lynx. They were shouting at her saying that she told the dangerous dragon about the hidden world. How could she? Paws tried to explain but they would not listen. Something terrible happened.. they said she was banned from the hidden world forever as they could no longer trust her. Paws walked home sadder than ever. The dragon got scared by the shouting and ran away. Paws decided to go back out into the night and clambered over the cave and into the nights shadows. It was as sark as chocolate and Paws snuck up into the spiky tree. Paws grabbed some spikes before jumping up the tree which has flowers on it as a quick snack. She grabbed some and tiptoed past into the entrance of the cave. As she passed fire and ice she could hear screams from inside the cave. Out of nowhere, came the beastly dragon. It's eye flashed red and it looked straight at Paws, it dived at her but she escaped. The ruby round its neck, fell to the ground, it must be its magical power thought Paws who grabbed it and bounded back towards the entrance. The dragon cried out in pain and could no longer breathe fire. The other lynx were waiting outside. The apologised to Paws, she was the true hero defending everyone from the dragon. They lived happily ever after, The end.

Sophie

The Trials at Real Madrid

One sunny day there was a boy called Ben who is eighteen years old. He loves playing football and he really wants to get into an academy, so he is going to try at Real Madrid in Spain. Next weekend, William needs a football for the trial. Ben is nervous and happy at the same time, he is going with a friend called Josh, his family are taking them both to football at Real Madrid at 6:30pm, it ends at 7:45pm. Ben and Josh really want to get into Real Madrid so going to go together to find a ball but now they need two balls.

The next day, Ben and Josh had a play date then went to the shop. They heard another competition and they said Tom, Sam we need a ball now. Then Ben and Josh said we need one now. 1 second later they get into the car then Ben, Josh then Sam and Tom.

Then the police stopped the four of them. Sam & Tom said that we need a ball for Real Madrid trials. Then it was Ben and Josh' turn to say we need a football for Real Madrid trials. The police said not a good enough excuse. 45 minutes later they had a fight. After that, the police said that Ben and Josh can go where they need to go. Then Sam and Tom can go where they need to go.

Then after 45 minutes drive to the football pitch, they need to go for 5 minutes back to get to the football pitch but there was 4 balls there with a Real Madrid badge on them. There was one for Tom, one for Sam, one for Ben and one for Josh. They were so happy.

Then they all said that you should never speed because you could crash, you could die. They all agreed to never do it again because there could be a better plan. The end... or is it.

James

Our story begins with the boy who was left on the doorstep by his auntie and uncle in the dark. Unfortunately, it was his rude auntie who picked him up and put him in his room. He woke up from a deep sleep. The boy is called William and he is 10 and loves chocolate ice-cream. He wants to be an explorer when he is older, so he can find a better life. William ate some breakfast and his normally rude and grumpy auntie was being rather delightful, 'Did you have a nice sleep, William dear?' Has she been replaced by aliens, thought William.

William was at his house and asked his aunt if he could have an ice-cream. Of course darling she replied. So he went to get it and it was delicious. Next he asked to go to the swimming pool and the same answer. 'Of course darling!'

Next he asked to go to the park, 'of course you can!' This is very strange thought William!

William realised that maybe just being yourself, being kind and good, respectful and using your manners meant better things would happen. William went to sleep that night and again woke up and had a nice breakfast with his aunt and uncle. He still thought they had been replaced by aliens but he realised being yourself, being kind can make all the difference so he was determined to be the best boy who ever lived.

Could You Be a School Governor at Greenleas Lower School?

Or do you know someone who could?

Greenleas Lower School is looking for new governors to join our friendly and committed Governing Board. This is a fantastic opportunity to support your child's school and help shape its future.

What does a governor do?

Governors play a vital role in:

- Supporting and challenging school leadership
- Helping set the school's strategic direction
- Ensuring the best outcomes for all pupils

Who can be a governor?

You don't need to be an education expert—just someone who cares about children's learning and well-being. We welcome:

- Parents and carers
- Grandparents
- Family members
- Friends or neighbours
- Anyone in the community with a passion for education

What's the commitment?

Governors attend meetings throughout the year and contribute their time, ideas, and experience. Full training and support are provided, and the role can fit around work and family life.

To apply, complete the [application form](#) (at the bottom of the 'Greenleas Governors' web page)

Application window: 21.11.2025-01.12.2025

Please email your application to office@greenleas.net



The School Council
decorated the
Christmas Tree at
Derwent Road.

DELWENT ROAD
CHRISTMAS TREE AT
decorated the
The School Council

KESTREL WAY, PTA

CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS AVAILABLE

FOR PRE-SCHOOL AND PRE-RECEPTION CHILDREN ONLY

£4.50

As these children are too young for our Elf Workshop, the PTA have put together some gift bags instead. These will contain an elf hat, craft activities, reindeer food and some little gifts. If you would like to order a bag please do so via the gateway app. Bags will be distributed around 11th December 2025.

KESTREL WAY ELF WORKSHOP!

Make your own festive crafts, sprinkle some Christmas magic and help Santa and his little helpers get ready for the big day!

Thursday 11th December
From 3.30-5.15pm
Children to be collected from the classroom doors.

Tickets are available on the School Gateway app until 8.12.25.
£10 includes all resources, drink and a snack.

Please include any dietary requirements in the comment box at checkout.



Ceramics, Collage, Painting, Printmaking, Model-Making and much more!

Improves fine motor skills, creativity, confidence and practical problem solving

Lots of support and encouragement from our friendly professional tutors

**GREENLEAS SCHOOL
DERWENT ROAD
ART CLUB!**

A friendly club where children make, build and create wonderful artwork to take home and treasure.

Tuesdays 3:30 – 4:30pm
6th January – 10th February 2026 (6 sessions)
Open to children in Years 2 – 4
£52.50 – including all materials
Bookings open Friday 12th December at 7pm.
Please visit: www.bookwhen.com/loveartandcraft

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Please visit: www.bookwhen.com/loveartandcraft

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Spring term 2026



Bonjour!

December 2025

Would you like to give your child a head start in a Foreign language?

Research shows that learning a new language at a young age is effective. It also improves children's cognitive ability, which has a positive impact on other areas of the curriculum.

As a qualified teacher and native speaker, I am delighted to run the after school French club at Greenleas Lower School, Derwent Road on Mondays.

In these small 30-minute classes, pupils enjoy learning the language and much more through stories, songs, games and role-plays.



Next term, classes will run from **12th January through to 23rd March 2026 (10 weeks).**

Classes remain at £5.80 a week and the children are required to have an activity book that comes with a media app. The book lasts at least one full school year.

I send regular emails to tell you what we have been doing in class and what the children could practise at home.

If you would like your child to join, please register them online using:
www.clubenrolment.com/ABLaughton - select Greenleas Lower School Derwent Road

When making payment, please put your child's name and GR as a reference.

Please don't hesitate to contact me or visit www.lajolieronde.co.uk if you would like any further information or if you have any questions.

I leave you with two of my favourite quotes:

- To have another language is to possess another soul - Charlemagne
- Knowledge of languages is the doorway to wisdom - Roger Bacon

Merci beaucoup,

Aurélie Laughton

Email: ab.laughton@gmail.com