



# GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021



### Message from the Headteacher

It was a wonderful feeling to welcome all children back into school on Monday. Every child was in attendance and although some had a few worries about returning, they all soon settled back into school routines with smiles on their faces. Some children arrived inches taller and many had toothless grins where milk teeth were giving way to 'adult' teeth. We had missed them all and even with bubbles and copious handwashing routines, school did start to feel 'more normal' once more.

March marks a year since the Covid-19 pandemic sent many inside to work from home, juggle work and childcare, and socialise and work via Zoom and Teams, while many continued to work at great risk to themselves as critical workers, especially our frontline NHS staff. It has been a long and hard year but hopefully we now have a revived sense of hope and optimism. Daylight saving will soon give us more light and the vaccine rollout is giving us hope that we may be able to have something resembling a more normal summer. Spring was certainly in the air at school!

### World Book Day

Our World Book Day activities extended across the week with all children engaging in activities based around authors, books reading and story telling.

Class Wear focused on Alice in Wonderland and planned for a Mad Hatter's tea party, writing their own instructions for making sandwiches. They wrote wonderful descriptions of the main characters and also enjoyed their sessions making Queen of Hearts' jam tarts!

Class Swale children focused on the book with lots of hats to try on for role play activities. Pre-school children enjoyed their first experience of World Book Day and enjoyed dressing up and listening to stories. We were rather overrun with dinosaurs and superheroes on Thursday!

Class Tees children looked at books from different authors but also showed their creative side when designing their own Willy Wonka sweets and their own book covers too. Although still having 'bubbles' in place prevented the older children from sharing books with our youngest children, a fabulous week was had by all and some fabulous work produced too.

### Forest Schools

Mrs Muir is our Forest School lead teacher and she led Class Tees through a Forest school session this week. Forest School is all about learning and working together outdoors, developing team building and cooperative skills, as well as developing resilience and self-esteem. The children took part in lots of activities including a scavenger hunt, learning how to make reef knots, human knots and cooking popcorn over the fire. They worked extremely well together on a bright yet cold morning. We are hoping to plan in more of these sessions and we can already see the positive impact they have not only on team building skills but on children's mental health and wellbeing too.

I hope you have all had a welcome break from home learning and long may it last!

Take care and have a lovely weekend! Mrs Riley

### Covid-19 Update

If you or your family members have any symptoms of Coronavirus, please ensure all members of your household self-isolate. Please book in for a test. <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> and follow the stay-at-home guidance.

Here is a link to the latest government guidance on easing out of lockdown.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

### Quick Reminder

If you do need to come into the main entrance of school will you, please wear a face covering.

Thank you for keeping your distance when dropping off and collecting your child/children. This is very much appreciated.



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### Community Lent Project

As I mentioned last week school, church and the local community are on a mission to save empty crisp packets to make into blankets (yes blankets!) to be distributed to homeless people.

If you do have some crisps and they are in a foil packet, please save the empty packets for school, they could end up helping to keep someone warm!

### **Gold Headteacher Awards**

This week awards are for work World Book Day activities

<b>Class Swale</b>	<b>Whole Class</b>
<b>Class Wear</b>	<b>Whole Class</b>
<b>Class Tees</b>	<b>Whole Class</b>

The teaching and support staff were so impressed with all of the work completed by the pupils during World Book Day that they could not pick out any individual children. They were also impressed with how they worked collaboratively on the group activities.

### Dates for your Diary

**Break for Easter** Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

**Teacher Training Day** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April - school closed to pupils

**Return to School** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March

### Friends of Gainford School

FOGS funding for our Technology projects was put to good use this week as children across the school were involved in food technology projects. The money donated helped to buy the ingredients and produce used.

Thanks FOGS!

### HOUSEPOINTS/DOJO points

Well done for hard work and effort in school and at home this week! The Dojo points have been totalled up and **Leaping Lions** have come out on top this week!

<u>DIZZY DOGS</u>	142	<u>FANTASTIC FOXES</u>	99
<u>LEAPING LIONS</u>	161	<u>COOL CATS</u>	104

### **Year 6 Fun FACT**

**The pattern of wrinkles on a gorilla's nose is unique to each one and is known as a nose print!**