



# GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021



### **Message from the Headteacher**

With the recent easing of some of the lockdown restrictions there must have been lots of appointments with hairdressers this week, judging by the new haircuts in school! With the continued roll out of the vaccination programme we are all living in hope that there are brighter days ahead.

Well, this week the sunshine has made a difference to everyone in school with lots of learning taking place outside.

Preschool, Reception and Year 1 pupils have been learning about their new topic Minibeasts. They have been on a bug hunt, made honeybee biscuits and have been planting in our allotment with the hope of attracting more insects to our garden area. They became bees themselves and collected pollen on their fingers; this looked remarkably like 'Cheesy Wotsit' powder to me .... the Class Swale Team are very creative!

Children in Class Wear have been enjoying the cricket sessions delivered by the coach from Staindrop Academy. We have seen some fabulous batting, fielding and bowling skills and lots of cooperative team skills too. They are also learning how to play the ukulele, so Friday mornings are a noisy affair-so noisy that we took the lesson outside today!

Class Tees pupils have been transported back to Anglo-Saxon times and have been learning all about traditional home life and clothing and are developing very good research skills at the same time.

### **Football Training**

On Thursday afternoon some of our older children have been involved in football training. Kyle Swankie takes the session and many of our children already know him from the sports sessions he delivers at the community field in Gainford. The children were fabulous, and it was wonderful to have finally re- introduced one of our pre covid activities.

### **Royal Mail Heroes Stamp Design Competition**

All children in school are going to be taking part in the Royal Mail Design a Heroes Stamp Competition. Designs need to honour the key worker and volunteer heroes of the coronavirus pandemic. This is a national competition, and eight winning stamp designs will be used on royal mail stamps. As with all of the Royal Mail Special Stamps each of them will need to be approved by Her Majesty the Queen before being sent to print. With £1000 of vouchers for each winner *and* their school and more prizes for regional winners we are keeping fingers crossed that we see one of our pupils' heroes on a stamp very soon!

### **Students in school**

This term we are hosting a teaching student in Class Tees as well as two Teaching Assistant students in Class Swale so quite a few new faces. As a school we pride ourselves on the high-quality support and mentoring we give to students. Lock downs and school closures caused huge disruption to the training of education students, so we are more than happy to support them this term; they are already proving to be fantastic support for the staff and pupils. All of our students take LFD Covid tests before coming into school in line with our risk assessment.

Have a lovely weekend! Mrs Riley

### **Covid-19 Update**

Please take the time to read the accompanying letter. It has updated Covid information as well as important information on how you can book in for LFD tests or order tests for use 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.



**GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**NEWSLETTER Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021**



**Preschool**

We currently have 11 children in our pre-school, and they are thriving in the exciting setting we have to offer. If you have younger children at home and you would like to ensure that they have a place at pre school you can register them with us once they reach their first birthday. Please contact Mrs Wickens for more information on how to register.

If you would like to learn more about pre-school, please contact school and one of the Swale Team can answer any queries.

**Gold Headteacher Awards**

This week awards are for being tidy and organised. Lots of children thought it might be tricky for them to have a chance at this award, so we have also focused on improvement in this area!

<b>Class Swale</b>	<b>Grace John Miss Farley- huge improvement !!</b>
<b>Class Wear</b>	<b>Evie Rory</b>
<b>Class Tees</b>	<b>Adam Isaac</b>

**Dates for your Diary**

**Break for Half Term - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

**CPD Day for staff - pupils not in school Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May**

**Return to School Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

**Last Day of Summer Term - Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

**Secondary School Transition Days**

As our Year 6 children are now in their last term at primary school, where did the years go, secondary schools will be organising transition days. Last year these were virtual visits online but hopefully this year our Year 6 children will actually get to spend time in their new schools before starting in September.

Staindrop Academy Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> & Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July

Teesdale School tbc

Hummersknot tbc

**We are a Rights Respecting School**

**Rights Respecting - Article 29**

Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

**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 it is a draw between Lions and Cats this week!

DIZZY DOGS

166

FANTASTIC FOXES

163

LEAPING LIONS

185

COOL CATS

185