



GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER Friday 30th April 2021



Message from the Headteacher

I do not want to spoil the optimistic mood that many now have but I want to remind everyone that COVID is still here. Last week across Durham County schools 29 pupils and 13 staff tested positive and although these numbers are much lower than when the infection rates were at their peak, this still resulted in 988 pupils having to self-isolate. Please can we all continue to follow the Hands, Face, Space rules – just for a little longer. We certainly want to reduce the likelihood that we will have a positive case in our school community which would mean that we need to close bubbles. None of us want that to happen nor do we want to put others in danger.

Please also see the information below explaining how all adults can access free testing kits that can be used at home every week. These tests really help to identify those people who may have COVID but have no symptoms. All of our school staff take the tests twice weekly, and it does offer some piece of mind in relation to the virus.

Internet Safety

Do you know what sites/platforms your child is accessing online? Nearly all of the social media platforms are intended for use by 13 years +. This includes Facebook, Twitter, Snap Chat and Instagram. Please have that conversation with your child about what they are accessing and please read through the accompanying internet safety letter for further help and guidance on keeping your child safe online and as always, we will promote internet safety in school. Even our youngest children are learning about showing five fingers and naming five people they could 'Tell' if they came across something that upset them or worried them; whispering in the dog's ear was one response today so we will work on that one!

I do hope you all enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend

Mrs Riley

Quick Reminder

All children in Bubble 1 -Class Swale and their older siblings, please arrive at school for 8.45am.

All children in Bubble 2 - Class Wear and Class Tees, need to arrive for 9.00am.

This is to ensure the safety of all pupils and parents.

Covid-19 Update

- Residents can book an rapid Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test online at www.bookwhen.com/dcc_testing or contact County Durham Together Community Hub on 03000 260 260 if you have no internet access.
- You can check the location of all County Durham LFD sites, opening times and get directions at <https://countydurham.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk>
- You can also collect LFD testing kits at a community collect sites and pharmacies across County Durham. Find your nearest collection point <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk>
Boots at Barnard Castle
- Lastly you can order a home LFD test kit online to be delivered to your home at Gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests
- Please remember, anyone who takes a home test must always register their result at Gov.uk/report-covid19-result



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Friends of Gainford School

The funding we received from FOGS, our parent action group, is continuing to support technology projects in school. Lots of compost was purchased to help with gardening activities and as long as the netting keeps our playground rabbits away (we have lots!) we should have lots of produce that can be used for cookery projects.

Gold Headteacher Awards

This week awards are for Topic work

Class Swale	Isobel
Class Wear	Jay
Class Tees	Alfie

Dates for your Diary

May Bank Holiday -Monday 3rd May school closed

Break for Half Term -Thursday 27th May

CPD Day for staff - Friday 28th May -pupils not in school

Return to School - Monday 7th June

Secondary School Transition Days

- **Staindrop** 8th and 9th July
- **Teesdale** 8th and 9th July
- **Hummersknot** 5th July

Last Day of Summer Term Wednesday 20th July

Appeal

If you have any empty plastic 1 litre bottles, could you please send them in for Class Wear's capacity work.

After School Clubs - There are currently no after school clubs running this half term, this will be reviewed for next half term taking into account COVID measures.

Breakfast Club and After school Club are separate to this and running as usual. If you need further details about our wrap around care, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

We are a Rights Respecting School

Rights Respecting - Article 24

You have the right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help you stay well.

House points /Dojo points

Well done for hard work and effort in school this week! Cool Cats have come out on top!

DIZZY DOGS

198

FANTASTIC FOXES

195

LEAPING LIONS

144

COOL CATS

201