



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Message from the Headteacher

Well, we have come to the end of the first half term of 2022 and what an eventful and busy term it has been. Starting off with the disappointment of cancelled events due to Covid and ending with the celebrations of all that the pupils have achieved so far this year. We are still living with and coping with Covid almost two years on but with infection levels falling, the vaccination programme rolled out and with Covid measures lifting in many areas of society we are all hopeful that the rest of the year will continue with light at the end of this very long tunnel. Your support throughout this term has been very much appreciated as we try to ensure the health and safety of our whole school community. It really does look like we will get back to a more 'normal' normal with our whole school community sharing events and activities together

Cleaner Required

As our caretaker is currently absent from school we are hoping to recruit an additional cleaner to fill in for her. If you know of someone who may be interested in helping us out please get in touch with school after the half term break.

School Council share their love.

Some of our school council members decided that St Valentine's Day was a great opportunity to show how much they care for everyone in school. They decorated biscuits and shared them with the rest of the pupils in school; what a kind gesture!

Italy Day

When Mr Martin came to school dressed as a gondolier all set to board a narrow boat in Venice and Miss Collishaw arrived dressed as a rather fabulous pizza I knew it must be 'Italy Day' for Class Wear. The children wore the colours of the Italian flag and various other costumes and had a fabulous day. They started the day with collective worship and even the Lord's Prayer was in Italian! They built famous Italian landmarks, listened to opera music, and carefully followed instructions to make their own pizzas. In maths they used Roman numerals. It was a fabulous way to link all of their learning in lots of subject areas. Look out for photos in the Teesdale Mercury too.

World Book Day

World Book Day is the first week back after half term, on Thursday 3rd March. Children can come dressed as their favourite book/film character. There is plenty of time over half term to think about costumes. We do know that some children do not like dressing up so this is optional. It will be a week full of exciting activities and lots of opportunities for reading too.

High 5 Netball Tournament

On Wednesday we sent two teams from Class Tees to the high -5 netball tournament at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Mr Goodfellow, the PE teacher from Staindrop Academy, had coached the whole class this term and our pupils had worked extremely hard to develop the skills to play. Both teams won their groups and were very proud of their achievements. During the tournament the children were great ambassadors for our school with others commenting on their good behaviour and the great team spirit of our pupils. A great success! Read the write ups below written by the children!



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Netball Tournament

(From Team A's point of view)

On the 16th of February, Gainford school went to a netball tournament at Newton Aycliffe. I was in A team whose other players were Alice, Ellie Louise, Meya, George, Laurence, Zach and Becky.

We started off very quickly with a 1-1 Draw against Ingleton. We then followed up with a 2-1-win vs Cotherstone. Team A were playing brilliantly with quick passing. Then we had two unfortunate games where we had good shots but were unlucky, with a 2-1 loss to Ramshaw and a 5-0 loss to Ingleton.

We soon reeled it back with a 4-2 win against Cotherstone and a very intense last group game vs Ramshaw, where we won 2-1 to get into the final.

In the final, we knew we had to start quickly because the final was only a two-minute game. Straight away, I scored with a nice pivot and a shot, but then Ingleton brought it back scoring with only twenty seconds left.

Becky did a quick pass to Zach who threw it to me and then from me to George. The referee shouted, "Two seconds," and George switched on and passed it to Laurence, who pivoted into the box so he could score and then had a quick shot. The game ended after he scored with us all cheering.

In the end both of Gainford's team won with everyone taking part. It was a great day and well played by the other teams too.

Joe Kelsey

Netball tournament

(From Team B's point of view)

On the 16 of February, Gainford school went to an epic netball tournament. The first game we played was Gainford vs Ingleton. Ingleton scored 1 point and Gainford scored 1 point. After that, Gainford was against Cotherstone. Gainford got three points and Cotherstone got 1 point. Gainford's great goalie, who was called John, saved a lot of goals!

For the third game we were against Ramshaw who got 2 points. Sadly, Gainford got 0 points. After that we went against Ingleton again and we got three points and they got zero. Somehow, I knew it would be much harder. Our next game was against Cotherstone again and something in my body just told me we were going to lose. However, Gainford got 8 points and Cotherstone got 0 points!

On our last game before the final we were against Ramshaw. We thankfully didn't let them score but we did not either. We drew. I thought we had lost. When we got announced for the final, I was so shocked! It was a miracle! Everyone was so happy and so was team A of Gainford.

By Aiden

I think you will agree we have some budding sports writers !

TCR Hub -Book Fest

The Hub in Barnard Castle are planning lots of great activities to coincide with World Book Day. Please have a read of the attached leaflet to find out more information about the exciting events they have planned for children of all ages .

Half Term

Next week is the half term break. I do hope that it isn't filled with Storm Franklin and Storm Gladys who are next on the list! We return to school on Monday 28th February.

Have a safe half term

C Riley



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Quick Reminder

Please ensure packed lunches are nut free and please do not send your child to school with nuts for a snack.

When children are collected at the end of the school day will you please ensure that they do not climb on the school walls or run up the lane next to the school; this lane still has cars that may come down at the end of the school day.

Attendance w/e 18.01.2022

Our Minimum Target is 96%

Well done to all classes who have achieved attendance above our minimum target.

A special well done to Class Tees for attendance that was the best out of the entire school.

Class	Attendance %
Swale	93.81%
Wear	93.33%
Tees	97.04%

Gold Headteacher Awards

Awards this week are for Speaking and Listening. Amongst other things they may be for discussion, presentations, contributions in class or collective worship and speech work with phonics.

Class Swale	Pippa Jessica
Class Wear	Oliver Lucy
Class Tees	Alice Jay

Diary Dates

Break up for Half Term: Friday 18th February

Return to school: Monday 28th February

World Book Day: Thursday 3rd March

Easter Disco – Wednesday 6th April

Class Swale 3.30pm -4.30pm

Class Tees and Wear 4.30pm to 5.30pm

Easter Service – Wednesday 6th April - St Mary's Church 9.15am

Break up for Easter: Friday 8th April

Extra-Curricular Clubs

These clubs will take place after half term

Multi-Sports

With Kyle for Y2-Y6

Tuesdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm – places available

Easter Craft Clubs with Mrs Gallagher

Monday 4th April 3.30-4.30 -open to Class Swale pupils

Tuesday 5th April 3.30-5.30 Open to Tees and Wear pupils

Forest School Club with Mrs Muir

Wednesday 30th March 3.30-5.00pm open to Class Wear

Booster Club Wednesdays for Year 6 pupils Last session is 4th May.

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)

The next FoGS meeting is on Tuesday 1st March at 8pm. This will be via teams. If you would like to come along or even just find out how you could help with up-and-coming fundraising events then please contact Gainfordfogs@gmail.com

