



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Message from the Headteacher

World Book Day

This year was the 25th anniversary of World Book Day and we have certainly been celebrating this for many years here in school. Children across the school took part in lots of exciting activities to celebrate World Book Day. They turned up at school wearing fabulous costumes representing many of their favourite characters. Children also brought in and shared their favourite books.

Class Swale had Alice in Wonderland as their theme. They loved listening to the story, played pin the tail on the Cheshire Cat, decorated spoons with their favourite characters and followed this up with a Mad Hatter's Tea Party on the afternoon. Miss Farley and Mrs Gallagher also joined in the fun as Tweedledee and Tweedledum!

"I liked reading the book Simon the Sock and getting dressed up as him!" Lachlan.

"I liked listening to the dinosaur story and getting dressed up as The Hulk," Harvey.

Class Wear listened to the story of 'The Koala Who Could' and learnt about being resilient and coping with change. The story really inspired them to take part in reading, writing and art activities and they even learnt how to draw a Koala!

Not only did Class Tees read stories in English, during their French lesson they listened to the Princesse et le Petit Pois (Princess and the Pea) learning lots of new French vocabulary. During the afternoon they worked really cooperatively to write World Book Day quizzes with some quite tricky questions!

"We are so lucky to have so many books to read. My favourite authors are Cathy Cassidy, Cassandra Claire and Jaqueline Wilson and they really inspire me." Alicia-Grace

"I enjoyed reading Gangster Granny and dressing up as Hermione Grainger was so much fun," Sophie

World Book Day really helps to generate a love for books and enthusiasm for reading in general. It is a fabulous opportunity for children to share their favourite books with their friends and to introduce them to new authors and genre. To see the children 'lost in a book' is always fabulous to see and the children have introduced me to new authors and books too. Look out for photographs in the Teesdale Mercury and possibly the Northern Echo.

Hope you spotted some of Class Tees enjoying their Italy Day in this week's Teesdale Mercury; some super pics!

Class Swale celebrated Shove Tuesday

Thank you to any parents and carers who came along to Class Swale's Forest School Session on Wednesday. This was a wonderful opportunity for anyone with pre-school aged children to see how much fun their child can have whilst learning in our EYFS setting. The children had been learning about Lent and were more than happy to eat pancakes in the rain whilst wearing their bright yellow waterproof outfits! A great afternoon was had by all.

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 on 01325 730274 or via our email address gainford@durhamlearning.net.

TCR Hub -Book Fest

Just a reminder that The Hub in Barnard Castle are planning lots of great activities to coincide with World Book Day. This runs from Friday 4th to Sunday 6th March



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Appeal – We need your plastic milk bottle tops!

If you have milk cartons at home that have plastic milk bottle tops can you please save and send in the milk bottle tops. We are going to recycle these into a fabulous work of art. This recycling/art competition could win us £5000 to spend on our playground!

Covid -19 Measures

Although many of the Covid measures have now been lifted there is a still a risk of serious illness, particularly for the vulnerable among us. We will continue to ensure that our school is adequately cleaned, is well ventilated and that good respiratory and hand hygiene measures are promoted with rigour within the school. On 21st February the Government announced the Living with Covid-19, link below:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19

This step removes the remaining legal restrictions used to manage the pandemic and moves the management of the disease towards the Public Health standard approaches for managing infectious diseases.

Self-Isolation and close contacts

Whilst the legal requirement for cases to self-isolate was removed from 24th February, adults and children who test positive for Covid-19 will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

Guidance for individuals provided by the UK Health Security Agency:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

The national Public Health advice is that anyone who has tested positive for Covid-19 should self-isolate at home for at least 5 full days, with LFD testing starting from 5 days after the day symptoms started (or the day the test was taken if there are no symptoms) and be undertaken daily until there are two consecutive negative tests at which point self-isolation may end provided the case has no fever/high temperature. The advised self-isolation period for cases ends for all cases after 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset.

The guidance for individuals states that children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting whilst they are infectious.

There is no requirement for close contacts and household contacts of cases to self-isolate or undertake 7 days of LFD testing and this includes unvaccinated adults. However, I am sure that many of you will agree that by taking tests when we have come into close contact with a positive case this can help to protect all of our friends and families.

I do hope that you all have a lovely weekend

Mrs C Riley

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.



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Attendance w/e 04.03.2022

Our Minimum Target is 96%

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

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

Class	Attendance %
Swale	99.52%
Wear	97.65%
Tees	97.78%

Gold Headteacher Awards

Awards this week are for Reading and there have been lots of opportunities for this in the run up to World Book Day

Class Swale	Preston Lewis
Class Wear	Ryan A Georgia
Class Tees	John Ava

Diary Dates

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

Return to School Monday 25th April

School closed (additional Jubilee Day) - Friday 29th April

School closed Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May

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

Tuesday 22nd March Class Wear and Tees 3.30-5pm **FULL**

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

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

Forest School Club with Mrs Muir

Wednesday 30th March 3.30-5.00pm open to

Class Wear and **also Year 5 – spaces available**

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

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)

The next FoGS meeting is on Tuesday April 5th 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



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

We are a Rights Respecting School

Rights Respecting –Articles 29 (goals of education)31 (leisure play and culture)

As part of World Book Day children have been learning about the right to relax and play., the goals of education and about access to the media.

Linking in with the current situation in the Ukraine they have also been learning about the right for children to be protected from War and the right to have adequate food, water and shelter.

HOUSEPOINTS/DOJO points

Well done for all the hard work and effort in school this week! The Dojo points have been totalled up and those Cool Cats have come out on top! It was very close this week!

DIZZY DOGS	150	FANTASTIC FOXES	153
LEAPING LIONS	150	COOL CATS	155