



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Message from the Headteacher

We have had a wonderful week in school with all classrooms being very busy with exciting lessons and projects. All children are starting to work on items for our Easter Service and it will be wonderful to see everyone back in church, celebrating together in St Mary's Church on the 6th April.

Covid Cases

We have had a couple of Covid cases in school and we appreciate that parents are following Public Health advice and keeping children at home until they have had 2 negative test results from days 5 and 6 onwards. This is certainly helping to keep infection rates low. If your child is absent from school due to Covid and well enough to do school work this will be provided for them. Thank you for your support with this.

Congratulations to Reverend Canon Eileen.

Eileen Harrop who is the Reverend for St Mary's church in Gainford, and who is also a school governor, had much to celebrate recently. In a wonderful service at Durham Cathedral she was installed as a non-residential Canon in recognition of her contribution to the Cathedral's work on the Pilgrimage Trails. Everyone at school sends a huge 'Congratulations' as we are all very proud of the work she has done. However, it is still very good to know that she will still be our Reverend here in Gainford. The children are looking forward to seeing Reverend *Canon* Eileen at our Easter service this term and saying 'well done' in person.

Ukraine Appeal

Many thanks for the donations received over the last two weeks. Although we emptied our reception area of many bags and boxes of donations last Friday it was soon full again! These will be on their way to Poland on Sunday along with two old refurbished ambulances that have now been kitted out with first aid materials. We can still take donations you have to offer although these may need to be taken to a different charity for transportation due to the risks at the Polish border. More of the children's messages of hope accompanied your many gifts.

Message in a Bottle Top

Our Message in a Bottle Top art project shares an inspiring and important message for all of our pupils about turning rubbish into treasure. They will be learning about wastefulness happening right under their noses and learn to create something amazing out of the things they have around them. They will be making an art mural or sculpture inspired by and showcasing the creatures and wildlife they would love to protect using the very waste that harms them. This art work is going to be made out of plastic bottle tops so please keep sending those bottle tops in; they can be from any bottle or container eg milk, cola, pringles, sauce etc. This should be a fun activity but one with an important environmental message. Help out and get the whole family joining in. Have a look at the link below to see previous finalists. If we do win it is a £5000 prize to spend on our playground!

<https://www.composite-prime.com/message-in-a-bottle-top-winners/>



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 either mornings or after school please get in touch with school

Mrs Mennell is also retiring at the end of the summer term. She currently works as a lunch time supervisor and also supports the caretaker as a school cleaner. If you are interested in any of these posts please contact school as we will be recruiting in the near future .

Snacks

All of our infant children up to Year 2 have fruit for a snack at school via the Free Fruit Scheme. Children do not need to bring a snack to school but if you would like your child to bring a snack can you please ensure this is a healthy snack and not items such as crisps or chocolate.

If your child forgets to bring their water bottle to school we do have some spare bottles at school. Your child can also re fill their own bottle during the day. Teachers actively encourage their pupils to drink water in order to stay hydrated across the day.

As the mornings and evenings become lighter I am sure this is having a positive impact on all of us. Going to and from school or work in the dark is never much fun. Let's hope that Spring brings with it some warmer weather and more time to be outside which can only have a positive impact on everyone's well-being. It does seem to have been a long winter, even without the snow!

Enjoy the weekend *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.



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Attendance w/e 18.03.2022

Our Minimum Target is

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	95.24
Wear	95.88
Tees	96.67

Gold Headteacher Awards

Awards this week are for Homework

Class Swale	Arthur Joey
Class Wear	Oliver Dexter
Class Tees	All Year 6 pupils this week!

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

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Multi-Sports

With Kyle for Y2-Y6

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

Easter Craft Clubs with Mrs Gallagher

Tuesday 22nd March 3.30-4.30pm open to Tees and Wear (1 space left)

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 (1 place left)

Forest School Club with Mrs Muir

Wednesday 30th March 3.30-5.00pm open to Class Wear (2 places left)

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

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)

The next FoGS meeting is on Tuesday 5th April 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



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We are a Rights Respecting School

Rights Respecting –

We have continued to look at the rights of the child to have food, shelter, time to play and time to go to school. This has been reflected in the messages written by our pupils for the children in Ukraine

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!

DIZZY DOGS

176

FANTASTIC FOXES

141

LEAPING LIONS

146

COOL CATS

184