



GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER Thursday 28TH April 2022



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

I do hope that you all managed to have a break over the Easter bank holiday weekend. We did have three staff with Covid and also some families with Covid so not the best way to spend a bank holiday but all are now well and back to school. We are now at the 'Living with Covid' stage and continue to reinforce hand washing and good respiratory hygiene in school. We also ventilate our rooms and have air purifiers in each classroom. Hopefully the warmer weather will soon be here so that we don't need heating on whilst our windows are wide open!

On the topic of heating we are all aware of the increase in utility bills and the demands on family finances. This is also applicable to school. Our energy costs for gas and electricity are increasing from £8000 during the last financial year to £19,000 in this financial year and are predicted to be £37,000 for 2023/24. A truly astronomical price rise and a much larger percentage of our school budget which would be much better spent on our pupils. We can only hope that the government look to support both families and businesses with costs in the future. If you are a family in need of further advice regarding benefits, working tax credits etc we do have a Parent Support Advisor, Rachel Stevens, who can offer confidential help and support. She has a wealth of experience and has also supported families with issues around Special Educational Needs, separation and bereavement. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with school if you would like a confidential appointment.

If your circumstances have changed and you think that you may be entitled to free school meals please get in touch with Mrs Linsley in our school office who can check this for you.

I hope you have seen the recent additions of the Teesdale Mercury with some lovely pictures of our children at the Easter church service, and also Class Swale children litter picking around the village.

Each class has started their new topics this term and will be covering work in the build up to the Queen's Jubilee. Class Swale's topic is The Queen followed by Pirates so a real contrast! Class Wear are continuing to learn about Vikings, plants in science then moving onto Josephine Bowes and the history behind Bowes Museum. Class Tees are learning about the African continent and countries within it.

There has been a wonderful busy productive environment in school with children working hard and playing well together. This week we had a replacement cook for two days who commented on the exemplary behaviour of our children and on their wonderful manners and helpfulness and she even said, "I had no idea that schools like this even existed- please ask me back! "We think that we are a fabulous school with wonderful pupils but it is always lovely to hear the positive comments from visitors new to our school

Car Boot Sale Fundraising Event -can you donate cakes or books?

FoGS are holding a Car Boot Sale on Saturday May 7th 10am-12am. Entry is free or you can donate on the day, cars are charged at £5.00.

There will be coffee, tea and juice on sale. We will also be holding a cake stall too so if you would like to donate cakes these can be brought into school by Friday 6th May. We are also wanting to hold a book stall for children and adults so if you have any books in good condition that either you or your children have finished with and no longer want please donate them to school.



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Lateness

The majority of our pupils arrive at school in good time for the start of the school day and we really appreciate this. Our school day starts at 8.55am and arriving on time allows children a short time to socialise with their friends and ensures a smooth, settled start to their day as they come into school with their class and class teacher. Children can be quite unsettled if they have to come into class or collective worship after their class has already arrived and after the register has already been taken. Some lessons also start at 9.00am. Can I please encourage parents and carers to ensure that children are in school by 8.55am. Children arriving late also have to be admitted by the main entrance taking Mrs Linsley away from the many morning jobs that she has to do. Your support with this will be very much appreciated.

Let's hope for a sunny Bank Holiday weekend and we will see the children back at school on Tuesday

C Riley

Reminders

We are a Nut- Free school

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

Covid Information

- Adults with symptoms of a respiratory infection and who have a high temperature or feel unwell should try to stay at home and avoid contact with others until they can resume normal activities and no longer have a temperature
- Children and young people who are unwell and/or have a high temperature should follow the same advice.
- Adults with a positive Covid test result should try to stay home and avoid others for 5 days
- Children with a positive Covid test are advised to stay home for 3 days

Attendance w/e 27.04.2022

Our Minimum Target is 96%

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

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

Class	Attendance %
Swale	94.09%
Wear	95.28%
Tees	92.03%

Gold Headteacher Awards

Awards made by class teachers for weekending 08.04.2022 were for excellent effort.

Class Swale	Marley John
Class Wear	Lucy Ada
Class Tees	Ava John

The Year 6 children have all worked very hard this week in preparation for their SATS in May. Excellent effort by all!



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Diary Dates

Additional Jubilee Day for school: Friday 29th April - school closed

Bank Holiday – Monday 2nd May school closed

Car Boot Sale – Saturday 7th May 10 am -12noon held at school

School Photo Day – Tuesday May 17th

Half Term Break – Last day of school Thursday 26th May

Return to school - Monday 6TH June

Teacher Training Day School closed to pupils - Monday 20th June

Last Day of Term - Thursday 21st July

Return to School - Wednesday 7th September

Clubs for the Summer Term

Clubs are £4.50 for the hour session or £6.25 for 1 hour and 30 minute sessions

Football Club Tuesdays 3.30-4.30pm with Kyle Open to Year 1 pupils from Class Swale and Class Wear pupils. 3rd,10th,17th 24th May

Gardening Club Thursdays 3.30-4.30pm with Miss Farley Open to Class Swale, Wear and Tees pupils 5th,12th,19th,26th May

Computing Club 3.30-4.30pm Mr Martin Open to Tees and Wear pupils

6th, 13th (not 20th) 27th June, 4th 11th July

Forest School Club Wednesday 18th May Mrs Muir 3.30-5.00pm Open to Tees and Wear

Athletics Club with Kyle Tuesdays 3.30-4.30pm Open to Class Wear and Tees

6th,14th,21st,28th June 12th July

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

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)

The next FoGS meeting is on. Tuesday 10th May at 7pm 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.

We are a Rights Respecting School

Rights Respecting – Article 17 Every child has the right to reliable information from the media. This should be information that children can understand. The government must help protect children from materials that could harm them

Pupils have been learning about the media and how not all information shared in the media is in fact accurate or factual. They have continued to learn about working safely on line.



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HOUSEPOINTS/DOJO points

Well done for all the hard work and effort in school this week! The Dojo points have been added up and those Leaping Lions have come out on top! Only a 4 day week this week but still lots of dojo points given out for super manners, excellent work , helpfulness and fabulous effort .

DIZZY DOGS **80**

FANTASTIC FOXES **79**

LEAPING LIONS **94**

COOL CATS **89**