



11th November 2022



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Message from the Headteacher

Remembrance

The children in school have learnt about the significance of the Armistice agreement signed on 11th November 1918 and about why some people choose to wear poppies. To coincide with this, work our Leaders of Worship Team helped each class to plan and design a Remembrance Prayer space and these were installed in St Mary's Church for the whole community to use.

Class Swale -Thoughtful Playdough. Children were encouraged to think of someone or something that they were grateful for. They then had to use the playdough to make a model of this and had time to talk about their feelings.

Class Wear 's prayer space focused on the 'The Empty Chair'. This focused on lost loved ones and symbolised the empty chair they leave at the table of our lives. Class Wear pupils wrote down some very thoughtful prayers.

Class Tees Remembrance Ribbons. This focused on world events and issues like the Ukraine War, and natural disasters such as forest fires and flooding. Children considered who had been hurt, who is helping and what or who may have caused this. They wrote prayers and thoughts onto labels and added coloured ribbons of remembrance.

Please try to call in to St Marys Church to see what the children have done. The prayer spaces are there for all to use.

All are welcome to join in with the Remembrance Service in church on Sunday 13th November

Children in Need

Next week on Friday 18th November it is the annual Children in Need fundraising event and the theme this year is 'spotty'. We are having a non-uniform day and if children want to bring along a donation, we suggest a £1, for the appeal then they can come dressed in clothes of their choice. Some of our children have asked about wearing onesies, and spotty pyjamas and this is fine too. Please make sure that any shoes your child wears are suitable for playtimes. On this occasion we can take a cash donation as this will be paid directly to the Children in Need appeal.

School Lunches

We are getting ever closer to the colder winter months. If your child is currently on packed lunch and you would like your child to have a hot school meal cooked freshly on site, please contact Mrs Linsley in the office who can organise this for you. We have email everyone the new menu, which starts Monday 14th November and will commence with week 1.

Wraparound Care

Please can we remind families that the school office should be notified of any changes to your childcare requirements, 48 hours in advance, so that we can plan staffing. Charges will be applied for any missed sessions, where we have not received prior notice.

Key Stage 2 SATS /Bank Holiday



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Although it is a long way off our Year 6 pupils sit their Standard Attainment Tests in May of next year. It is very important that children are in school for preparation for these tests as well as for the test week itself. The tests are due to take place Week commencing Monday 8th May.

The government has now announced that Monday 8th May is to be a new bank holiday for 2023 so tests for the Monday will need to be rearranged and schools are awaiting advice on this. Please support your child by ensuring holidays are not taken in term time to give them every opportunity to be fully prepared.

Community support for our curriculum

When children learn about Religious Education in school they not only learn about Christianity, but they also learn about other world religions. Class Tees are learning about Buddhism, and they had a visit from a member of our local community who is a practising Buddhist. He was able to share with the pupils about what being a Buddhist meant to him. RE offers lots of opportunity for reflection debate and discussion and children in our school are encouraged to accept that others may have different beliefs from their own.

Elizabeth (Class Wear) sums this up very well,

"We are an inclusive school. We value everyone and everyone's opinions whether they are religious or not. We celebrate that we are all different and if we were all the same it would be a boring world!". I couldn't agree more, Elizabeth!

C Riley

Quick Reminder

Flu immunisation

The flu immunisation programme will take place in school next week on 16th November. This is delivered via a quick and pain free nasal spray.

Packed lunches

Please ensure packed lunches are nut free and please do not send your child to school with nuts for a snack. **Packed Lunches should not contain sugary drinks, chocolate bars, chocolate biscuits or sweets**



Lost Property

Please label your child's clothing including PE kit, hats, scarves etc as this will help us return any lost property to the correct pupil.

Attendance w/e 11.11.2022

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	98.2
Wear	92.0
Tees	97.5

Gold Headteacher Awards

Awards this week were for Music
Well done for the fabulous work this week

Class Swale	Harvey Esme M
Class Wear	Erin
Class Tees	Ava

Diary Dates

Flu Immunisations: Wednesday 16th November

Children in Need: Friday 18th November

School Closure: Monday 21st November (Staff Training)

School Disco: Wednesday 23rd November
Class Swale 3.30pm- 4.30pm
Class Tees/Wear 4.30pm-5.30pm

Parents Evening: Monday 5th December (Class Swale will also be held on Tuesday 6th December)

Nativity (Class Swale):
Wednesday 7th December 10.00am
Thursday 8th December 1.30pm

Christmas Lunch: Tuesday 13th December

Pantomime at Darlington Hippodrome (Whole School): Wednesday 14th December

Christmas Parties:
Class Swale – Thursday 15th December

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Multi-Sports
With Kyle for Y2-Y6
Tuesdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Up to and including 12th December 2022

NEW Forest School Session Y2-6
With Mrs Muir
Open to Class Wear and Class Tees
Wednesday 7th December 3.30-5pm £6.75

Mini Disciples delivered by Claire Mead
crafts, songs, drama, Bible stories and so much more!

Open to Class Wear & Tees
Wednesday 3.30-4.40pm 2/9/16th November.
Only £2 per session if you haven't signed up already.



GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL



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Class Tees/Wear – Friday 16th December

Christingle Service Monday 19th December 2.15pm

Break up for Christmas: Tuesday 20th December

Return to School: Thursday 5th January

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)

We would love to see more volunteers supporting our school so if you are interested in volunteering or just finding out more, please contact gainfordfogs@gmail.com.

Thanks to FOGS for supporting with transport costs for Class Swale visit to Durham Cathedral.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 30th November at 7pm via Teams.**

We are a Rights Respecting School

Rights Respecting Article 38

Children have learnt about their right to be protected in times of war. If they are under 15, they should never have to be in an army or take part in a battle.

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 Leaping lions have come out on top!

DIZZY DOGS

176

FANTASTIC FOXES

184

LEAPING LIONS

180

COOL CATS

182