



## GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 21st October 2022

'Together we love, learn and flourish'



### Message from the Headteacher

#### Harvest Festival

It was lovely to end this half term with our Harvest Festival at St Marys Church. Children in each class had worked on their contributions for the service with a mixture of singing, acting and art work. Our 'Leaders of Collective Worship' group did very well retelling the Parable of the Sower – even with a couple of their group absent. This was the first time that the group had planned and lead a service in church – so very well done! It was so good to see the church full of our school families.

Many thanks for all of your donations; these are being distributed this week by our friends at church. I know that the cooks at Butterwick Hospice and the staff at The Well food bank are always very appreciative of the donations we send through.

#### Class Wear travel back to Stone -Age times!

On Thursday Class Wear pupils had a fantastic stone age workshop delivered by staff from Bowes Museum. The children got to handle lots of artefacts and learnt so much more about this topic.

*"I got to hold an axe that was over 10,000 years old and we made pots out of clay. I really enjoyed it!"*  
Ryan C

*"I enjoyed holding a hyena's skull and using the clay to make a pot. I learnt about life in stone age times. It was fun,"* Anthony

#### Visit from Fire and Rescue Service

Pupils in school, from pre -school to Year 6, had a visit from two fire fighters from Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service. They delivered a session with a focus on fire safety, being safe on bonfire night and also gave them an insight as to what kind of incidents and emergencies they attended. The children certainly learnt a lot during the session and could remember the importantly safety messages.

Ada "I learnt about the dangers of fires. I now know that the fire fighters do other rescues, like when people are struggling in the water and they help at accidents on the road too."

Lucy a "I learnt about fire safety and about being safe on bonfire night. They even rescue animals and humans from trees! They had really cool equipment like oxygen tanks and fire proof suits."

Pippa "I learnt that you have to put sparklers in a bucket of cold water when you have finished and don't put it too near your friends when it is lit."

#### What a Sporty Week!!

##### Tag Rugby for Class Wear

Class Wear have been receiving Tag Rugby sessions delivered weekly by the PE coach, Mr Chrostowski, from Staindrop Academy. This week they went to Staindrop Academy to put their newly acquired skills to the test in a Tag Rugby Competition. The weather stayed fine and the children played well.



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*"I loved taking part in tag –rugby and competing against other schools. It felt really good to get lot of tries and score points for my team, "Oliver*

*I enjoyed the competition.,Our class had two teams taking part and we really supported our other team when they were playing ." Elizabeth*

#### **Class Tees Get Active**

This week Class Tees took part in a Multi-skills Festival at Staindrop Academy. This was a wonderful opportunity to take part in lots of sporting games and activities in a secondary setting.

#### **Sports Leadership Training**

On Friday, eight of our pupils from Class Tees were invited to attend Sports Leadership Training at Staindrop Academy. The pupils who attended were super ambassadors for our school. I am sure they can use some of the skills they learnt to support younger children in our school with games and playtime activities. **Forest School**

For those who aren't familiar with Forest schools it's a great way for children to learn about the outdoor environment whilst being in it! At the same time pupils develop leadership and team building skills and the sessions help to foster self-esteem and build confidence. Class Swale have weekly sessions and this week it was the turn of pupils from Class Tees who had a whole afternoon of Forest School activities delivered by Mrs Muir, our Forest School Lead. They learnt about trees and how to tell the age of trees as well as creating lots of craft items with conkers

#### **E Scooters**

Please find attached a document we have been asked to share on behalf of Durham Constabulary.

#### **Safety in the dark**

As we head towards darker nights the children have been learning about how they can stay safe in the dark. They learnt about reflective clothing and how they can be seen both as a pedestrian and as a cyclist. They also had a recap about road safety.

Remember to turn back your clocks 1 hour from Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Half Term**

We break up for half term today (Friday 21<sup>st</sup>) and school reopens for pupils on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October. Class Tees will still be swimming on the first day back so need to remember to bring their swimming kit.

During half term the work on the school building should be completed with the last of the new windows and a new pupil entrance door being installed. Class Tees and Class Wear will also be painted so will have a fresh new look to return too.

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.  
**Packed Lunches should not contain sugary drinks, chocolate bars, chocolate biscuits or sweets**

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. We have numerous items in the lost property box.

#### Attendance w/e 21.10.2022

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	91.82
Wear	86.88
Tees	86.00

#### Gold Headteacher Awards

Awards this week were for PE/Outdoor Learning  
Well done for the fabulous work this week

<b>Class Swale</b>	Kyle Jessica Charlotte -Great Forest school skills
<b>Class Wear</b>	Dexter Oliver (super tag-rugby skills)
<b>Class Tees</b>	The whole class! Super skills at the Multi skills festival

#### Diary Dates

**Back to school Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**Durham Cathedral Trip Class Swale** – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November

**Flu Immunisations:** Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November

**Children in Need day-** Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November – children can come in non-uniform or in spotty clothing for a £1.00 donation

**School Closure:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November (Staff Training)

**School Disco:** Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November-Class Swale 3.30-4.30pm Tees &Wear 4.30-5.30pm

**Nativity (Class Swale):** Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 10am & Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 1.30pm

#### Extra-Curricular Clubs

**Multi-Sports Spaces Available**

With Kyle for Y1-Y6  
Tuesdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm

**Now Open to Year 1**

**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 2/9/16/23/30<sup>th</sup> November

Just £2 per session and you can join any time!

**Forest School**

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm-5.00pm

Class Tees & Class Wear £6.75



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<p><b>Pantomime at Darlington Hippodrome (Whole School):</b> Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December (details to follow)</p> <p><b>Break up for Christmas:</b> Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p><b>Return to School:</b> Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January</p>	
<p><b>Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)</b></p> <p>We would love to see more volunteers supporting our school so if you are interested in volunteering or just finding out more, please contact <a href="mailto:gainfordfogs@gmail.com">gainfordfogs@gmail.com</a> .</p>	
<p><b>We are a Rights Respecting School</b></p> <p><b>Rights Respecting Article 27</b> You have the right to a good enough standard of living. This means you should have food, clothes and a place to live. The children learnt about the where their Harvest donations would go to and who they would benefit. They learnt how food banks are supporting families across the country</p>	
<p><b>HOUSEPOINTS/DOJO points</b></p> <p>Well done for all the hard work and effort in school this week! The Dojo points have been totalled up and those <u>Leaping lions</u> have come out on top!</p>	
<p><b>DIZZY DOGS</b>      <u>234</u></p>	<p><b>FANTASTIC FOXES</b>      <u>277</u></p>
<p><b>LEAPING LIONS</b>      <u>308</u></p>	<p><b>COOL CATS</b>      <u>283</u></p>

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