



25TH November 2022



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Message from the Headteacher

Growing Faith Partnership Award

School, church and home work incredibly well in partnership to ensure that all of our school community flourish and thrive. We get involved in community events and projects, church services, Open the Book sessions, support local charities together and so much more. We came together when there was great need for people in Ukraine to support adults and children in such difficult times. So, it was amazing news to hear that we are the very first school to be awarded the 'Growing Faith Partnership Award'. They were also impressed with how we supported parents and helped students during lockdown periods too. We even received a letter from Bishop Paul Butler, the Bishop of Durham, and from the Diocese Director of Education, Paul Rickeard. (please see attached). So, a very well done to everyone at home school and church. We really are a fabulous community!

Children in Need

School Council have chosen several charities and charitable events to support this year and 'Children in Need' was one they certainly wanted to support. The school held a non-uniform day in school raising £72.95! Thank you to everyone for donations sent in. This year's theme was 'Spotacular' and the children didn't disappoint; the school looked very colourful with children in their casual clothes, pyjamas, onesies, football kits and lots of spotty items too! For some reason they always get a little bit more excitable when they are out of uniform so it was good to see uniform return on Monday!

Anti- Bullying Week

Last week the children took part in Anti -Bullying Week. The theme was 'Reach Out' and they showed a very good understanding of who they could reach out to if they saw bullying taking place or if they were being bullied. They also learnt about kinder communities and what they can do to make sure our whole school community feel safe and happy. As part of their Computing curriculum pupils also learnt about cyber bullying and how to keep safe online. Class Tees pupils updated the pupil version of our Anti Bullying Policy and this will be added to our website very soon.

Lydia *'I understand about how to keep safe online like on phones or iPads or when you go on the internet'*

Durham Cathedral

Many thanks to FoGs for funding the coach to Durham Cathedral for Class Swale pupils; this makes school visits more affordable for parents and carers. Class Swale pupils had been learning about the life of St Cuthbert in their RE lessons and they had a wonderful time taking part in different workshops and were truly in awe of Durham Cathedral and its Rose Window. A fabulous visit was had by all they had lots of fun and also learnt so much more about their topic.

Harvey *'I really enjoyed seeing a sword in the cathedral and learning about Cuthbert'*

Charlotte *'Saint Cuthbert was buried in the cathedral.'*

Camilla, *only special people can be buried in the cathedral. It was fun. You can dress up as monk!*



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Mini Disciples

Claire Mead runs a great club 'Mini Disciples' on Wednesdays from 3.30-4.30pm. There is usually a mixture of crafts, drama, Bible stories and singing. There are 2 more sessions on the 30th November and on the 7th December. If your child is in Class Wear or Class Tees they are welcome to come along. It costs £2 per session.

Gainford staff act as Mentors

As a school we like to support the development of students and trainee teachers and to share good practise with others. Mr Martin has been mentoring Mr Arkwright for a 4-week placement in Class Wear and Mrs Kidd is currently mentor for Mrs Thompson who is on a 6-week placement in Class Tees The children have also benefited from having extra adults within each class. As it is Mr Arkwright's last week we send our thanks for all of his hard work and effort and wish him well for the future.

Wonderful music from our old Piano!

It's not just Reverend Canon Harrop who supports us in school, Dr Brian Harrop also visits us weekly and manages to make our very, very old school piano sound like a grand piano! He will be in school over the next few weeks to help us with Christmas carols and songs and will be supporting us with our Christingle service too. Many thanks are sent by all in school.

Disco Fun!

Many thanks to FOGs for organising our two school discos held this week. The discos were very popular with almost the whole school attending. A paper snowball fight as well as musical statues and some freestyle dancing all proved to be popular! It was good to see break dancing on the dance floor too!

I really enjoyed the disco. It was good fun, I got to compete in games and everyone was being kind and inclusive. Lyla

Collection for the Well Foodbank

Thank you for donations so far for 'The Well'. School Council are making a Christmas hamper of goodies to send from school so if you are able to make a donation this would really be appreciated.

I do hope that you all have a lovely weekend

C Riley

Quick Reminder

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 25.11.2022

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	98.9
Wear	95.0
Tees	98.4

Gold Headteacher Awards

Awards were for PE/outdoor activities
Well done for the fabulous work this week

Class Swale	Preston and Harry (orienteering)
Class Wear	Oliver Bethany
Class Tees	Evie and Lyla (swimming)

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

Class Tees/Wear – Friday 16th December

St Mary's Carol Service Sunday 18th December 7pm (featuring our Mini Disciples)

Christingle Service Monday 19th December 2.15pm

Break up for Christmas: Tuesday 20th December

Return to School: Thursday 5th January

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Multi-Sports

With Kyle for Y2-Y6

Tuesdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm

Up to and including 13th 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

Places still available

Mini Disciples delivered by Claire Mead

Wednesdays- **30th November & 7th December**

2 NEW SESSIONS. Only £2 per session!

crafts, songs, drama, Bible stories and so much more!

Open to Class Wear & Tees

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)

FoGS are hoping to fund raise to help us buy a new mobile staging unit. Our ancient, wooden staging units have now seen their last performance and went up in smoke on Gainford's bonfire on the 5th November!



GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL



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'Together we love, learn and flourish'

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 .

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

We are a Rights Respecting School

Rights Respecting Article

The children have been learning about the NSPCC and about the right for all children to be safe. They recognise that they should be listened to and to be able to get help if they need it.

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!

<u>DIZZY DOGS</u>	169	<u>FANTASTIC FOXES</u>	172
<u>LEAPING LIONS</u>	185	<u>COOL CATS</u>	187