



Message from the Headteacher

Well staff and pupils have returned to school with less coughing and sneezing than last term so hopefully we are going to have a *healthy* as well as a *happy start* to our New Year! I do hope that you all had a good festive break although it really does seem an age away now

Teachers are preparing and sending out an overview plan of what topics your child/children will be focusing on this term so please watch out for this.

Children have settled back very well into school and we also have a few new faces to help with learning too. We are hosting 3 trainee teachers -Mr Mercy (Class Wear) and Miss Smith (Class Swale) have started with us this week and Mrs Grieves (Class Tees) will be starting on Monday. Teachers are already enjoying sharing their good practice and expertise with the trainees and on top of this pupils are already enjoying and benefitting from the additional support in class.

Winter Illnesses/Covid

Please find attached information re winter illnesses. Due to high level of 'flu and Covid cases across the country and across our county we have been asked to re send this information, previously sent out during the autumn term.

Although most families are not routinely testing for Covid if your child does test positive please ensure they stay at home for 3 days.

SATS Booster Club

Mrs Kidd and Mrs Maude will be running a free SATS booster Club for all Year 6 pupils. This will take place on Wednesdays (first session Wednesday 1st February) and runs from 3.30pm – 4.30pm. This has proved very beneficial and enjoyable for pupils in the past and offers additional support for Maths and English skills in the run up to SAT week. Pupils also have the opportunity to try out and talk through SAT style questions. This year the SATS (Standard Attainment Tests) will take place from Tuesday 9th May to Friday 12th May and it is essential that pupils are not taken out of school, in the run up to these tests or during SAT week itself. I appreciate the time staff are giving to run this

Volunteers

We always appreciate volunteers in school. If you or a family member feel as though you could give up some of your time to help in school this would be really appreciated. Extended family members like grandparents are more than welcome to volunteer too. Volunteers help with reading, art activities, support in class and we always ask volunteers what they would feel comfortable supporting too. Please contact the school office if you would like to volunteer or know of someone who wants to volunteer. We do have to complete a DBS background check before volunteers can start supporting in school.

Absence from school

If your child is going to be absent from school can you please contact school either via telephone or email as early as possible, pupil absences should be reported daily. School starts at 8.55am and register closes



shortly after. If your child arrives at school after register has closed or if we do not have any notification about why your child is absent then this may be recorded as unauthorised absence

School Council

Mrs Gallagher runs our very active School Council and they help to make lots of decisions around school including which charities to support, what events and clubs we can have in school etc. We believe that pupil voice is very important and our pupils certainly like to have their say and are never short of idea.

Our new School Council members for this term are

Year 1 - Lachlan and Bonnie Year 2- Marley and Harry

Year 3 – Ada Year 4- Georgia and Ryan A

Year 5- April and Seb Year 6 - Becky and

I'm sure they will have lots to contribute as the term goes on

Appeal

Class Swale's new topic is 'Down in the Jungle. If you have any toy jungle/wild animals that you would like to donate to school please send them along.

Summer Fayre (yes, we know it's only January!)

Although it's a long way off we are going to be holding a Summer Fayre this year and it's never too early to start planning!

Now could be the time to re gift that present received over the festive season that you really can't see yourself using even though it was very much appreciated at the time! If you can help by making a contribution of any of the items below this will be very much appreciated.

- Bottles of Alcohol/Wine/Spirits – Bottle Tombola Stall
- A filled jar with or without a lid of items such as hair bobbles, toys, marbles, sweets, pencil, Crayons, rubbers etc – Jar Tombola Stall
- School Uniform in good condition – Preloved Stall
- Bottle Gift Bags
- Tombola Gifts for a Surprise tombola stall – e.g. toiletries/toiletry sets, toys/games, glove/hats, socks, etc

As our trainee teachers come to the end of their first week in our school it is wonderful to hear their positive feedback about the ethos and feel of the school, the calm and productive environment and the wonderful manners and behaviour they've seen demonstrated across the week. We know that our school is a wonderful, exciting and nurturing place to teach and learn but it is always fabulous when visitors to our school think the same



C Riley

Reminders

We are a **NUT free** school. Please do not send your child to school with nut products.

Wrap -Around Care

If you do need to book your child into either Breakfast Club or Afterschool Club please contact the office via email or telephone, this greatly helps us ensure that staffing levels are correct. Likewise, if your child/children are booked in and you need to cancel please notify school as soon as possible.

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 13.01.23

Our Minimum Target is 96%

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

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

Class	Attendance %
Swale	96.21
Wear	91.2
Tees	95.31

Gold Headteacher Awards

Awards were for Maths

Well done for the fabulous work this week

Class Swale	Harry Lachlan
Class Wear	Georgia Elizabeth
Class Tees	Becky Emelia

Dates

Celebration Event: St Marys Church February 13th
2.30-3.30pm (further information to follow soon)

Half Term: Last school day Friday 17th February

Return to school: Monday 27th February

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Multi-Sports

With Kyle for Y2-Y6

Tuesdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm 6 sessions £27
Jan 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, Feb 7th, 14th

Please sign your child up if you want them to attend -places still available



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13th January 2023



Easter Service Tuesday 28th March 2.15pm

World Book Day Thursday March 2nd

Mini Disciples delivered by Claire Mead
Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm 5 sessions £10(£2 per session) **Places still available for the remaining sessions**

Jan 11th,18th,25th, Feb 1st,8th

Please sign your child up if you would like them to attend. This club is full of crafts, drama, Bible stories, games and so much more

Year 6 SAT Booster Club (free)

Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm Feb 1st,8th,15th, March 8th,15th,22nd, 29th April 19th 26th May 3rd

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)

'Smile' if you shop on Amazon!

Do you shop on Amazon? If so 'Friends of Gainford School' could receive a donation from Amazon every time you shop! Just use this link <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> and search for 'Friends of Gainford ' when prompted to select your preferred charity .If you use the <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> address every time you shop FOGS will receive a donation from Amazon. Every little help!

Fogs will be organising a summer raffle to raise funds for new staging units. We are looking to build on the success of last year's summer raffle and try to secure lots of fabulous prizes! If you have a business and would like to donate a prize or voucher or know of someone who has a business who may be keen to donate please get in touch with FoGS.

The money raised from the raffle tickets will benefit all pupils in school. The staging units will also be available for community use

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 is via Teams on Wednesday 25th January at 7pm . Please join us if you can .**

We are a Rights Respecting School

Rights Respecting - Our new School Council members have met this week. They are starting to learn that they have a right to be heard and have their opinions considered.

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 150

FANTASTIC FOXES 136

LEAPING LIONS 177

COOL CATS 155



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