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| **Coronation Activities**  What a fabulous week it has been in school, building up to the Coronation of King Charles III. Thursday saw all of the staff and pupils dressed in red white and blue; it certainly made a change from our usual green! Some of the older children in school helped to decorate the dining hall and tables and our fabulous catering team provided us with a street party picnic lunch. Class Swale pupils learnt how to print and used their designs to make coronation bunting.  All pupils have learnt so much about the Coronation ceremony itself and Class Swale even carried out their own coronation of King Freddie and Queen Consort Thea in St Mary’s Church. Although they didn’t arrive in a carriage they did arrive on two beautifully decorated bicycles! Class Swale also made crowns and coins out of natural resources during their Forest Schools session.  Class Wear and Class Tees have been working so hard on their Coronation work, writing reports, carrying our research of Kings and Queens and making models of orbs even baking coronation cakes at home! Delicious homework! Class Wear also wrote down their own thoughts and prayers for King Charles.  Each child was given a commemorative coin as a gift from school so look out for this in case they have left it in their school bag!  I must say thanks to all of the staff team for making the week so memorable. Do have a look on our school website as we have already shared some of the photos with you. Teesdale Mercury came along too so hopefully we will feature in their next edition.  **Happy Birthday to Gainford Scouts!**  Many happy returns to 1st Gainford Scouts who have been established since 1968! Wow 55 years! A huge thank you to all of the Cubs, Brownies Beavers and Rainbows who have painted the bins in the village helping to make our village look even better. I could easily spot the children who contributed by their paint covered hands! Many thanks to all of the volunteers within our village who support this group; many of our children attend and as well as learning many new skills, they make new friends and thoroughly enjoy each session.  **SATs Week**  Next week is when our Year 6 pupils sit their Standard Attainment Tests (SATs). They have all been working so hard and have shown so much effort this year. They have had booster sessions in school and have attended after school booster sessions on Wednesday too. We are all very proud of their attitude towards their studies and of the hard work they have demonstrated across the year.  In order for them to have a nice, calm start to the day all Year 6 children are welcome to come into school from 8.30am (through the usual pupil entrance gate). It is incredibly important that they are not late arriving late as this can lead to a very unsettling start to their test.  I have spoken to all of our Year 6 children explaining that the SATS are just a snap shot of what they can do in English and Maths. Before they move onto secondary Mrs Kidd and I will speak with the head of Year 7 in their respective schools so that we can discuss all of their strengths and areas for development including talents in art, sport, leadership, music, science etc.  **Car Boot Sale**  Why don’t you start to have a big Spring Clean and bring a boot full of items along to the Car Boot Sale on Saturday 20th May. Our Parent’s Action Group FoGS have organised this event to raise funds for school.  The Car Boot Sale is open to the public from 10am-12 and there will be teas, coffee, juice and cakes on sale too.  It is free for the public to come along too (although we do accept donations) and only £ 5.00 if you want to bring your car. Cars can arrive at 9.30am. Popping in just for a cuppa and a cake will also help to support our school!  If you would like to donate cakes or biscuits for the day these would be most welcome! Spread the word and keep fingers crossed for a dry day!  I do hope that you enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend, whatever your plans.  Mrs Riley |
| Reminders  Just a reminder that our school day starts at 8.55am and our school playground is supervised from 8.45am. Please ensure that your child does not arrive at school before 8.45am unless they are going to breakfast club as there is no adult supervision before 8.45am. If you do arrive late with your child after the pupil gates have closed please bring them to the main entrance and ensure you hand them over to a member of staff  We are a **NUT free** school. Please do not send your child to school with nut products.  **Summer Fayre Fundraiser**  If you can help by contributing 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   Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. |

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| **Attendance w/e 05.05.2023**  Our Minimum Target is 96%  Well done to all classes who have achieved attendance above our minimum target.  A special well-done Class Swale whose attendance was the best out of the entire school.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Class** | **Attendance %** | | **Swale** | 98.80 | | **Wear** | 96.70 | | **Tees** | 95.80 | | **Gold Headteacher Awards**  This week the award was for Coronation Activities   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Class Swale** | Freddie  Thea  Pippa  Joey | | **Class Wear** | Elizabeth  Erin | | **Class Tees** | Kai  Ava |   Next week the award is for Excellent effort. |
| **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](mailto:gainfordfogs@gmail.com) . **The next meeting is via Teams on Wednesday 7th  June at 7pm. Please join us if you can.**  **Car Boot Sale- Saturday 20TH May 10am-12 (cars from 9.30am)**  FoGS are busy organising our Big Summer Raffle with some super prizes. Raffle Tickets will be available very soon! FoGS are hoping to raise enough money to allow the school to purchase some new staging units ready for the school production in July. | |
| **We are a Rights Respecting School**  **Article 29**  Children in school have been learning about the right to an education that tries to develop their personality and abilities as much as possible and encourages them to respect other people’s rights and values and to respect the environment. | |
| **After School Clubs**  **Tuesdays – Multi Sports with Kyle 3.30-4.30pm**  **Wednesdays- Mini Disciples Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm**  **Mondays- Computing/Online Safety Club – Mr Martin 3.30-4.30pm (first session 15/05)** | |
| **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! Lots of dojo points were given out for fabulous work and behaviour this week and for wonderful contributions for Coronation week activities | |
| **Dizzy Dogs** 227 | **FANTASTIC FOXES**  220 |
| **LEAPING LIONS** 220 | **COOL CATS** 230 |

**Diary Dates – Whole School**

**Weekly**

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| Mondays | E Safety Club 3.30pm-4.30pm | Class Wear & Class Tees | From  15/05/2023 held over 3 weeks |
| Tuesdays | Multi Sports 3.30pm-4.30pm | Y1 -6 | 18/04 25/04 02/05 09/05 16/05 23/05 |
| Tuesdays | Cricket  (In school hours) | Class Wear |  |
| Wednesdays | Mini Disciples  3.30pm-4.30pm | Class Wear & Class Tees | 19/04 26/04 03/05 10/05 17/05 24/05 |

**Events**

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| Throughout May | SATS | Y2 | (in school hours) |
| 09/05/2023 | SATS Week | Y6 | (in school hours) |
| 15/05/2023 & 16/05/2023 | Outdoor Activities | Y5&6 | (in school hours) |
| 20/05/2023 | Car Boot Sale /coffee and cake stall | All welcome | Morning (time tbc) |
| 24/05/2023 | Cricket Festival | Class Wear | (in school hours) |
| 07/06/2023 | Y6 Leavers Service | (Children Only) | (in school hours) |
| 20/06/2023 | School Photos | Whole School |  |
| 21/06/2023 | Durham Cathedral | Class Wear | (in school hours) |
| 22/06/2023 | South Shields | Class Swale | (in school hours) |
| 28/06/2023 to 30/06/2023 | Transition Day Hummersnott School | Year 6 | (in school hours) |
| 29/06/2023 | Summer Fayre |  | Time TBC |
| 30/06/2023 | Taster Day at Staindrop School | Year 5 | (in school hours) |
| 13/07/2023 & 14/07/2023 | Transition Days  Teesdale School | Year 6 | (in school hours) |
| 12/07/2023 & 13/07/2023 | Transition Day Staindrop School | Year 6 | (in school hours) |
| 18/07/2023 | School Production | Class Tees | 2pm & 6pm |
| 20/07/2023 | YR6 Leavers’ Service at St Mary’s Church | All welcome | 9.15am |

**Term Dates**

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| Additional Bank Holiday | School Closed 08/05/2023 |  |
| Whit Week | Closes 26/05/2023 | Reopens 05/06/2023 |
| Staff Training Day | School Closed 19/06/2023 |  |
| Summer Holidays | Closes 21/07/2023 | Reopens 05/09/2023 |