



Family Games' Night

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Games Night on Thursday. The weather was kind and the children had a lot of fun trying out the games. FoGS members, school staff and some of our older pupils worked together on this event and I really appreciate them giving up their time to organise and run this event. THANK YOU! We sold lots of cakes, tea and coffee too! The event raised £500 and along with the Big Summer Raffle this was an amazing **£1800** in total. Money raised will be put towards new staging units and other resources for school as well as supporting educational visits for each class.

Our Big Summer Raffle was drawn on the night and the winning numbers were.....

Prize	Ticket number	Prize	Ticket number
Nintendo Switch (Maypole Digital)	655	Beamish Museum tickets	134
Heck Hamper	333	Morrisons hamper	276
Overnight stay Headlam Hall	279	Mole Country Stores voucher £20	446
Elizabeth Chamberlain Jewellery	316	Pilate and Beyond 1:1 session	927
Bowes Museum family pass	307	Build,Bounce,box @ The Warehouse gym voucher	926
Raby Castle family pass	1560	Angel Hair Design Cut and blow dry	271
DeepdaleTherapies-massage voucher	376	Box of chocolates	236
Afternoon Tea- CrossView Tea Rooms	128		

We must say a **HUGE** thank you to all of the businesses who donated prizes and for everyone who bought and sold tickets on our behalf. We really appreciate the generosity of everyone involved.

All of our prize winners have now been notified.

Sports' Day – New date!

After all of the wonderfully sunny days it was so disappointing to get rain on our planned Sport's Day. We do understand that many parents and carers book this day off work so that they can attend. It has been tricky to find a date when everyone is in school as our Year 6 pupils are going to visit their respective secondary schools and we also have The Hub visit and the production rehearsals too! Hopefully we will see some of you at our rearranged



Sports' Day on **Wednesday 19th July**. If you can make it, please make your way to the community sports field as we aim to start **at 1.20pm**. All are welcome. We will have some chairs already set out for spectators but you can also bring your own chair along if you like. **Fingers crossed for a dry day!** Children can come to school in their PE kits on Wednesday too.

Year 5 Taster Day at Staindrop Academy

As well as holding a summer school for Year 5 /6 pupils Staindrop Academy always offer opportunities for our Year 5 pupils to experience a full day in the secondary setting. On Friday 30th June our Year 5 pupils visited Staindrop Academy and took part in lessons such as German, PE and Science. They all looked fabulous in their Science lab' coats and enjoyed using the science equipment and resources and learning new skills, the visit certainly helps the pupils to gain a better understanding of what a day in secondary school is really like.

Ryan – "I liked all of it! I think the Science lesson was the best because we used new equipment and learnt new things."

Community Garden Project

On Thursday 29th June Adam White, from Teesdale Action Partnership, and Councillors James Rowlandson and George Richardson visited school to officially open our refurbished allotment area. The councillors funded this project and we really appreciate how they continue to support us with various capital projects. Teesdale Action Partnership are wonderful at coordinating our funding bids We now have new paving, fencing, a potting shed, a new mud kitchen and lots of gardening equipment to ensure we can really develop our pupils' skills in this outdoor environment. Hopefully other groups such as Cubs /Beavers can make use of this facility too. Watch out for a news article in the Teesdale Mercury.

Luba and Ruslan

After hosting Ruslan and Luba from Ukraine during the autumn term the children and staff in school are always eager to hear how they are doing. They initially moved to Romania then onto Egypt. Luba, Ruslan and their older sister have been busy attending Ukraine school on- line and they finished for the summer at the end of May; their mum certainly wished that the school year ended a bit later in the year as their on- line schooling has helped to keep them focused. Our children remembered how difficult on- line learning was for them. Their parents had still hoped to move closer be able to access Odesa in Ukraine as they have elderly relatives still in Ukraine. However, the devastating impact on this region after the bombing of the Kakhovka Dam meant that this was not possible. Our pupils saw photos of the family and the children certainly looked very happy and healthy, although our pupils did recognise how difficult and different life must be for them to be away from family, friends, school and their home country. We keep them in our prayers and hope that there will be a resolution to this devastating, ongoing conflict.

The Hub Visit

The majority of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils will be visiting The Hub in Barnard Castle on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th July. They will be taking part in lots of outdoor and adventurous activities and also have team building and leadership opportunities too. I am sure it will be a wonderful experience of them and I know that they will have lots to say when they return to school each day. Unless your child has ordered a school packed lunch they will need to bring their own packed lunch on these two days. they will also need a change of clothes. I know that they will have a fabulous time!



Secondary School visits

I am sure that next week will be quite a bit quieter in school as most of our Year 6 pupils will be visiting Staindrop Academy or Teesdale Academy. One of our pupils went to visit Hummersknott last week and they said this was great way to experience the secondary setting before actually starting in September.

- Teesdale dates are -13th and 14th July
- Staindrop dates are 12th, 13th & 14th July

Rebecca," *The visit was really enjoyable. I had Spanish, French, Design Technology, Music, Science, English and Maths lessons. It was really helpful to spend some time in the school before I start in September and I got to meet new people and my form tutor too. When I came back to Gainford Primary it seemed so small compared to Hummersknott!* "

School Organisation

For the next academic year, we will have the following organisation

- Class Swale - Miss Farley & Mrs Gallagher (Preschool Lead)
- Class Wear Year3/4 – Miss Watson
- Class Tees Y5/6 Mrs Kidd

Miss Watson will be teaching Class Wear from September 2023. We are very excited to welcome her to our school team; she certainly impressed us all at interview and with her fabulous teaching skills and she will be visiting us next week to learn more about the children she will be teaching. She is very excited to have the opportunity to work at our school and to work within such a lovely village and supportive community. Mr Martin and Miss Farley will be meeting with Miss Watson to help with the change -over of teachers.

Moving Up Morning

On July 13th the children will experience a 'Moving Up' morning where they will spend the morning with their new class and teacher. As most of our Year 6 pupils will be visiting their secondary schools on this date it makes an ideal opportunity to 'roll up 'to the next year group. Some children can get anxious about a move especially a move from Infants to juniors and this supports our pupils to be ready for that move in September.

Mrs Riley

Reminders

We have had a few children absent recently with a sickness bug. If your child is sick or has diarrhoea please ensure they stay away from school for 48 hours from their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

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.



Attendance w/e 30.06.23	Gold Headteacher Awards														
Our Minimum Target is 96%	This week the award is for supporting our school														
Well done to all classes who have achieved attendance above our minimum target.															
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Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)

A huge thank you to all members of FoGs for all of their fundraising efforts this year. We are a small school with a small but very proactive parents' action group. Money raised by FoGS benefits all children in school. We are always on the look out for more volunteers to share ideas, help plan activities or to help to run activities in school

If you would like to come along to the next FOGS Teams meeting in the autumn term please do get in touch with school or by contacting FoGS directly - gainfordfogs@gmail.com

We are a Rights Respecting School

Article 38

The children had an update on their Ukrainian friends and about article 38; You have a right to protection in times of war. If you are under 15 you should never have to be in an army or take part in a battle.

Clubs this week

Tuesdays – Multi Sports with Kyle 3.30-4.30pm

Wednesdays- Mini Disciples Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm

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 **Dizzy Dogs** have come out on top! It was very close this week!

<u>Dizzy Dogs</u> 301	<u>FANTASTIC FOXES</u> 293
<u>LEAPING LIONS</u> 240	<u>COOL CATS</u> 264



Diary Dates – Whole School

Weekly

Tuesdays	Multi Sports 3.30pm-4.30pm	Y1 -6	Last session 11/07/23
Wednesdays	Mini Disciples 3.30pm-4.30pm	Class Wear & Class Tees	Last session 19/07.23

Events

06/07/2023 & 07/07/2023	Outdoor Activities at the Hub	Majority of Year 5 & Year 6	(in school hours)
13/07/2023 & 14/07/2023	Transition Days Teesdale Academy	Year 6	(in school hours)
12/07/2023 & 13/07/2023	Transition Day Staindrop Academy	Year 6	(in school hours)
14/07/2023	Brass Band visit		10.30-11.30am
16/07/23	Messy Church St Mary's Church	All families welcome	3.30pm-5.30pm
18/07/2023	School Production	Class Tees	2pm & 6pm
19/07/23	Sports' Day	Whole School All welcome	1.20pm -3.20pm
20/07/2023	Yr6 Leavers' Service at St Mary's Church	All welcome	9.15am – 10.15am



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2023/2024

Holiday	Closing Date	Date Re-open for Teaching Purposes
Summer 2023	Friday 21 July 2023	Tuesday 5 September 2023
Autumn Half Term 2023	Friday 27 October 2023	Monday 6 November 2023
Christmas 2023	Tuesday 19 December 2023	Thursday 4 January 2024
Spring Half Term 2024	Friday 16 February 2024	Monday 26 February 2024
Easter 2024	Thursday 28 March 2024	Tuesday 16 April 2024
May Day 2024	Friday 3 May 2024	Tuesday 7 May 2024
Summer Half Term 2024	Thursday 23 May 2024	Monday 3 June 2024
Summer 2024	Tuesday 23 July 2024	TBC

Teacher Training Days 2023-2024

In Term Time

Monday 4th September 2023
Monday 20th November 2023
Wednesday 3rd January 2024
Monday 15th April 2024
Friday 24th May 2024