



What a busy week and what a hot one! The children have come to school with an array of hats and caps and it made for colourful and safe break times. Please continue to send your child to school with a hat or cap and apply sun cream before school or send them in with sunscreen. We will just get into this habit when the weather will no doubt change!! Following on from Hoopstarz last week the hula hooping activities are still going strong on the playground. We have recently purchased lots of new playground equipment for all of our pupils and this is helping to keep children active.

School Garden /allotment Area

Our school garden is finally taking shape after accessing funding pre-pandemic. We have new fencing and a new potting shed and our raised beds are all set to go. We currently have rhubarb growing in our garden and I know that Class Swale have plans for a rhubarb pie! We really want to establish a great allotment in the autumn term and develop the gardening skills of our pupils. In the meantime, if you have any plants or seeds that you think we could use feel free to pass them along to us .



BEEBOTS in Class Swale!

Well Mr Martin ventured down to see the little people in Class Swale this week! He worked with them in maths on directions and this linked with simple computing coding skills. The children enjoyed the lesson and worked so well with the activities that the whole class received the gold Headteacher's sticker for fabulous maths work this week. If your child has been telling you about Beebots or you've seen these on Class Swale's Tapestry site they are battery-operated plastic bees that can be programmed to move in certain directions. All good fun and a great way to learn maths and coding skills.

Monday 19th June

School is closed to pupils on Monday 19th June as this is staff development day. Children will return to school on Tuesday 20th

School Photographs

All pupils will have their school photograph taken on Tuesday 20th June. There will be sibling and individual photographs taken as well as class photograph. We usually take a Year 6 leaver' photograph too. If the day is very warm and you would like your child 's photograph taken with their school sweatshirt or cardigan on please send them to school with this and they can wear it just for the photograph. Class Swale class usually have their photographs taken before the other classes as if its later in the day they do tend to be the ones covered in chalk, paint, lunch etc! Judging by the number of wobbly teeth I've seen over the last few weeks we are also going to have a few toothless grins!

Family Games Night June 29th 3.30pm -5.30pm

FoGS are organising a fundraising family games night for June 29th. This will start straight after school at 3.30pm and finish at 5.30pm. School council have suggested lots of games and activities.



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Hopefully we will have lots of games and activities such as Nerf gun challenge, Hook -a -duck, tombola, jar tombola, name the teddy, penalty shoot -out, bottle tombola and chuck a chicken .There will also be refreshments and cakes available .Our super summer raffle will be drawn on the night. Please come along and support us if you can – all are welcome.

If you would like to donate any cakes for the cake stall this would also be wonderful.

School Council

School Council have been very enterprising and have decided to sell ice creams at the Games Night. I shared their ideas for Games Night at the latest FoGS meeting and the children are excited to know that lots their suggested activities will be included.

Gift Bags

Do you have any gift bags we could use for our bottle tombola stall? Either bottle bags or larger gift bags that could accommodate a bottle of wine etc. Just send them in with your child if you have any spare and this will be very much appreciated.

Volunteering in school

We are always on the look out for volunteers to help out in school. We currently have two volunteers who love their time volunteering in school. They support in Class Swale and help with art activities and reading amongst many other things. If you or someone you know has time on their hands please contact school. Any volunteers are subject to the usual safeguarding checks but once these are confirmed volunteers are good to go!

Soft Toys

Have you got any soft toys in very good condition that you can donate to school? We will be holding a soft toy stall next half term. Please send any donations along to school.

Residential Weekend for Mini Disciples/Church links

Claire Mead, who runs the Mini Disciples Club in school and Messy Church at St Mary's Church, is taking some of our Mini Disciples on a residential weekend in Durham in connection with Scripture Union. This has been organised via the church and is not a school lead residential. We know that the pupils who are going are set to have a wonderful weekend and we can't wait to hear their stories on Monday. We really must thank Claire for giving up her time to allow this to happen. The next Messy Church session will be Sunday 25th June instead of the 19th June. All families are welcome.

Educational Visits

Mr Martin's class are heading off to Durham Cathedral on Wednesday and Miss Farley's class are going to South Shields on Thursday. If your child is not having a school packed lunch on these days please ensure your child brings along a packed lunch from home. Please ensure your child arrives at school promptly as we would hate them to miss the trip because they have missed the coach!

Have a lovely weekend

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.

Attendance w/e 16.06.2023

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	99.13
Wear	97.30
Tees	96.10

Gold Headteacher Awards

This week the award is for Maths

Class Swale	Lennie - super number and shape work Whole Class for Beebot maths work (directions and simple coding)
Class Wear	Ada – excellent maths work all week
Class Tees	Kai (accurate mathematical drawing)
Bravery!	Emilia P (accurate reflection work)

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)

If you can help out with Games Night please do get in touch. You could help cover a games stall, sell raffle tickets, service refreshments – volunteers are most welcome

Summer Games night 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 or who has bought or sold raffle tickets for us.



We are a Rights Respecting School

Article 29 (goals of education)

The children have been exploring Article 29.

They have considered how education can support them to develop their personality talents and abilities. Mrs Kidd lead an assembly and it covered areas such as supporting mental health, being treated as an individual, learning about different careers and having access to music sport and art.

This article also covered respect for human rights as well as respect for parents, their own and other cultures and the environment.

Tuesdays – Multi Sports with Kyle 3.30-4.30pm

Wednesdays- Mini Disciples Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm (no session on the 21st June)

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!

Dizzy Dogs	301	FANTASTIC FOXES	293
LEAPING LIONS	240	COOL CATS	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 No session on 21/06/23

Events

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)
27.06.2023	Sports Day	All welcome	1.20pm



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28/06/2023 to 30/06/2023	Transition Day Hummersknott Academy	Year 6	(in school hours)
29/06/2023	Summer Fayre	All welcome	Time 3.30-5.30pm
30/06/2023	Taster Day at Staindrop Academy	Year 5	(in school hours)
06/07/2023 & 07/07/2023	Outdoor Activities at the Hub	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)
18/07/2023	School Production	Class Tees	2pm & 6pm
20/07/2023	YR6 Leavers' Service at St Mary's Church	All welcome	9.15am

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



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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