



We have had a very busy week in school with visits from music teachers, PE teachers, sports coaches, friends from church and even Daisy the Sprocker spaniel! There has been a busy working atmosphere across the school with lots of preparations for Harvest festival added to the mix too! Two days in school are never the same!

Open the Book

On Friday our friends from church and our local community came along to deliver an 'Open the Book' Session. They retold a story from The Bible and eight of our pupils volunteered to act out some of the parts – mainly sheep, goats and camels! The children were superb! The session was very inactive with children joining in with words, actions and singing. The children were sitting on rugs on the floor rather than chairs, which is always a novelty! They thoroughly enjoyed the visit and can't wait for the next time they come into school. Many thanks to the adults who helped prepare and act out this session. It certainly makes collective worship a lively start to the school day!

Daisy (and Mr Cover) from Pets as Therapy

Well Daisy, our reading dog, went down very well with the children from Class Swale. Eager readers and even some of our more reluctant readers were excited to take their book along to the sunshine room and sit with Daisy and her owner Mr Cover. Miss Collishaw accompanied the children and she could see that they loved the experience too.

"The children loved stroking Daisy and reading their story at the same time. They were really engaged and children and Daisy were very well behaved. "

Esme B," I loved sharing my book with Daisy. We even finished the story!"

Lewis," It was VERY good! I love dogs, I even have one of my own, and I was excited to read my Halloween book to Daisy."

Angus," I read 'Robin Hood' to Daisy. It was good fun. Daisy listened really well and I was reading extra well too!"

Sam, "I loved reading to Daisy and it makes me want to read more. Even though I am already good at reading it made me want to read more and more."

It sounds like a huge success and if it can encourage reading with our pupils it gets a big thumbs up from everyone in school too!

Gainford Art Exhibition

The annual village art exhibition took place at the weekend in the village hall. Every child in school exhibited a piece of work alongside many other pieces of Art from local artists. If you didn't get the opportunity to visit the art exhibition we will have the art work on display next half term when it is our parental consultation night.



Careers Aspirations

As part of building our pupils' aspirations we are inviting different people from different walks of life to come into school and talk to the pupils about their careers, their own learning journey and the skills and personal qualities needed to be successful in their line of work. We are going to have a visit from Jo Pickering, a local artist who has been exhibiting her work at The Whitham, and also visitors from Darlington and Durham Fire Service. Please do get in touch if you would like to deliver a short talk to our children about your work /career.

Dental Health Survey

The NHS has commissioned a Community Dental Survey of 5-year-old children (Reception and Year 1) across the north East in 2023. This involves a quick visual examination and is part of a rolling national programme of dental surveys. These surveys will take place between October 2023 and June 2024. The County Durham and Darlington Dental Service will carry out this in school. Once we have a date for our school survey we will contact reception and Year 1 parents /carers. You may be interested in a 2 - School dental surveys – YouTube

Measles

Although we have had no cases of measles at our school there has been an increase in cases of measles within the UK, mainly within London but also within other areas and schools have been asked to remind parents about the danger of measles and also about the vaccination programme available.

Measles is highly infectious disease that can lead to serious problems such as pneumonia, meningitis and on rare occasions long term disability or death. In recent years the number of children vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella has fallen. Uptake for the first dose of the MMR vaccine in children aged 2 is 89% and uptake for two doses in children aged 5 is 85%. If you are unsure as to whether or not your child has had the vaccine please check your child's health record or check with your Health visitor or your local surgery.

Appeal from Wrap -around- Care

Have you got any board games at home that are gathering dust, but still have all the pieces? Miss Holmes, who runs our Breakfast and After School Club, has recently sorted out the resources she has and would like more board games for the children to play with. She is also looking for any dolls' house furniture /figures; I spotted spider man in there yesterday and he certainly didn't have a bed to sleep in! If you have any donations please send in with your child or drop off at reception. This will be very much appreciated.

Appeal from Class Swale

Do you have any unwanted rolls of wallpaper at home? If so can you please send them in for Class Swale. It doesn't matter about colour/pattern etc as they write and draw on the reverse side. They use them as a resource in class to support and strengthen fine and gross motor skills and they do actually love using this 'big paper'!



Harvest Festival Celebrations

Next week is our Harvest Festival service. We ask that children bring along a donation of fruit, vegetables or tinned/package items. Our service will be held on Thursday 19th October at 9.10am at St Marys Church, Gainford and Rev. Eileen Harrop will lead our service. Everyone is welcome to join us and the children can't wait to sing their songs and show you some of their work. Our worship Leaders will also deliver a part of the ceremony with the support from Sarah Fells our Children's Missioner

Pre -School open Morning

If you or someone you know has a baby or toddler they are more than welcome to come along to our Open Morning on Friday 27th October 9.15-11.30am. There will be refreshments for adults and children and all are welcome. We will be hosting Gainford Baby and Toddler group too. and can't wait for them to visit.

I do hope that you all have a lovely weekend

C Riley

Quick Reminder

Winter clothing

As the weather starts to become colder our lost property box usually starts to over flow with gloves, hats and scarves - rather like a volcanic eruption! Please label your child's clothing so that any lost property can be returned to the rightful owner.

No nut products please!

We do have a pupil in school with a nut allergy. Please ensure packed lunches are nut free and please do not send your child to school with nuts/nut products for a snack.



‘Together we love, learn and flourish’

Please check any birthday cakes to ensure that they do not contain nuts too!

Illnesses

If your child has an episode of sickness and or diarrhoea please keep them off school until 48 hours after their last bout of sickness as this helps prevent the spread of infections.

Attendance w/e 13.10.23

Our Minimum Target is 96%

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

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

Class	Attendance %
Swale	98.75
Wear	100
Tees	97.77

Gold Headteacher Awards

Each week in our Celebration Worship assembly Gold Headteacher’s awards is presented to some children who have excelled when working towards our theme of the week

Awards were for maths

Class Swale	The whole of Class Swale for wonderful singing this week!
Class Wear	Kyle Maddie Super singing /ukulele work!
Class Tees	The Whole class for excellent singing when learning Harvest Festival songs

Diary Dates

Please see our full list of Diary dates for the autumn term at the end of this newsletter

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Multi-Sports

With Kyle for Y2-Y6 First session 12.09.23
Tuesdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm – places available

New Mini Disciples Club with Sarah Fells /Wendy Broderick

Wednesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm First session 20.09.23

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)-Our Parents Action Group

Halloween Disco

FoGS have planned Halloween discos for Thursday 26th October

Class Swale 3.30-4.30pm. Children can bring some casual clothes or a Halloween costume to change into
Class Wear/Tees 4.30-5.30pm. Children can wear casual/party clothes or a Halloween costume.



There will be hot dogs (and vegetarian option), juice and sweets as well as games and dancing

Our parent action group help us to raise funds for our school benefitting all pupils in school. They help with the cost of transport for educational visits to try to keep costs down for families. FoGs also support us to purchase resources and equipment for school and help to organise and fund fun events for our pupils

If you are interested in supporting our school and learning more about FOGS please contact school or drop FoGS an email gainfordforgs@gmail.com

We are a Rights Respecting School

Rights Respecting – This week Mrs Kidd has led a Rights Respecting assembly with a focus on Article 12. Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This principle recognises children and young people as actors in their own lives and applies at all times throughout a child’s life.

HOUSEPOINTS/DOJO points

Well done for all the hard work and effort in school this week! The Dojo points have been totalled up and this week Willow team have come out on top! Well done to everyone in Sycamore!

OAK 400

WILLOW 418

SYCAMORE 377

Diary Dates Autumn Term 2023

Tuesdays – After School Club	Multiskills After School Club starts 12.09.2023 – 7 Weeks	3.30pm-4.30pm with Kyle Swankie
Wednesdays - After School Club	New Mini Disciples Club starts 20.09.2023 – 5 Weeks	3.30pm -4.30pm with Sarah Fells & Wendy Broderick
Thursday 19.10.23	Harvest Festival	9.15am St Mary’s Church, Gainford – all welcome
Thursday 26.10.23	Class Swale trip to Locomotion Museum HALLOWEEN DISCO x 2	3.30-4.30PM Class Swale 4.30-5.30pm Tees & Wear
Friday 27.10.23	Break up for half term /last day at school	
Monday 06.11.23	Pupils return to school	
Thursday 16.11.23	‘Flu Immunisation Day	For Reception –Year 6 pupils
Monday 20.11.23	Teacher Training Day	School closed to pupils
Tuesday 21.11.23	Parental Consultations –Open Night	3.30pm -6pm
Tuesday 21.11.23	Book Fayre Arrives in school	The Book Fayre will be in school for the week



GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER 13th OCTOBER 2023

'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Wednesday 06.12.23 – Friday 08.12.23	Residential to Robin wood -to be confirmed	Class Tees
Wednesday 06.12.23	Class Swale Nativity Performance	1.00pm
Thursday 07.12.23	Class Swale Nativity Performance	9.30am
Tuesday 11.12.2023	School Christmas Dinner Day	
Wednesday 13.12.23	Whole School Pantomime visit (Darlington)	During school day
Thursday 14.12.23	Class Swale Christmas party	
Friday 15.12.2023	Class Tees/Wear Christmas Party	
Monday 18.12.23	Christingle Service	9.15am at St Marys Church, Gainford
Tuesday 19.12.23	Last day in school Break up for Christmas	
Wednesday 03.01.24	Teacher Training Day	School closed to pupils
Thursday 04.01.24	Pupils Return to school	

CPD /Teacher training Days – school closed to pupils

Monday November 20th 2023

Wednesday January 3rd 2024

Monday 15th April 2024

Friday 24th May 2024