



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

10th February 2016 Issue 6 Spring term



Dear Parents, Carers and children,



Thank you so much to you all for your good wishes whilst I have been off work with a terrible virus. This did 'knock me for six'. I would also like to thank you for your warm welcome back when I returned to work on Wednesday 8th February. I did miss everyone terribly and the hugs from the children and staff were heart-warming. I would like to thank Mrs Lamb for stepping in for me in her DHT role; she has done a super job and been well supported by the Chair of Governors and staff.



Urgent Half Term Reminder

School closes for the half term on Friday 17th February and **reopens for the children on Tuesday 28th February at 8.55am.** We have a staff training day on Monday 27th February. Please remember to inform family, child minders etc that school is closed to the children on the 27th.

Thank you.

NURSERY INTAKE FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

The deadline for Nursery applications for our school is **Friday 24th March 2017**. Application forms are available from the school office or, are on the school website to download. I have given Mrs Douglas and Mrs Eltringham a list of dates when I am available to talk to prospective new Nursery Parents and show them around our Early Years. Mrs Renwick will also be supporting with parental visits. Please share this information with friends etc. Our wonderful Nursery, like school is always in demand. As a setting we provide 15 hours Nursery education on a part time basis. We do not do the 30hours as we run a 26 capacity morning session and a 26 capacity afternoon session for two separate groups of children. This means that across the day we can accommodate 52 children as opposed to 26 children. Parents are given 5 morning sessions or, 5 afternoon sessions and this relates to younger age children in the morning and older age in the afternoon. The cut off point for am or pm allocation is determined by birth. In the past this has usually meant if a child's birthday is before March-April then they are likely to be offered an afternoon sessions and if it is after this a morning session. Parents and carers have consistently told school that they like the idea of a part time place. We can sign post you to settings within our cluster area which offer the 30 hours if required.



Reminder - Urgent Help Needed – Children's Health

If your child has developed any health issues that we need to know about please contact the School Office ASAP to update your child's health record. This includes diagnosed allergies; asthma; convulsions hearing; vision; toileting needs, kidney, bowel problems; stomach disorders; headaches –migraine etc,etc.

If your child has a broken limb, severe sprain, you must contact school to arrange a meeting with me or Mrs Lamb so that we can put measures into place – risk assessment for the safety of your child.

Medications can only be administered if they are prescribed. We cannot give over the counter bought medications. This is under the directives of the Health Authority. If medication needs to be kept at a certain temperature we do not have a medical fridge for this; advice is to bring it in a small cool pouch with an ice pack.

I have given permission to my admin staff to issue passes for children who have to attend hospital appointments; we are required by the Local Authority Attendance team to ask to see the hospital appointment letter or card. Our children are very important and we endeavour to help as much as we can.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

WHAT'S GOING ON AT GPFS

Previous notice of dates, trips etc have been put on the calendar on the school website. During the course of the term and year there will be additional dates as staff are busy organising curriculum link visits; we will also have visitors in to talk to the children-topic linked etc. Mrs Hall has kindly put the dates on the school website calendar and she will update the website calendar on a weekly basis

- Next FGPFs meeting Wednesday 1st March 7.00pm in school , all welcome
- A group of KS2 children will be attending a Ceilidh event at Gosforth Central Middle School on 16th February 2-3pm with Mrs Thorpe and Mrs Wilson. (Trust event)
- Thursday 2nd March = World Book Day event in school. Children and staff come dressed as a story book character
- KS1 Thursday afternoons for 6 weeks – PE enhancement training 'Enjoy a Ball' with an external PE specialist Mr A. Coleman. Starting on Thursday 2nd March , PE kits needed
- Book Fair week Monday 6th March to Friday 10th March {more information nearer the time}
- Red Nose Day charity event Friday 24th March (morn information nearer the time)
- Year 4 residential visit to Robinwood Activity Centre on Wednesday 29th March to Friday 31st March
- FGPFs Easter Fun Morning = Thursday 6th April
- KS1 topic themed visit to Alnwick Castle on Friday 7th April

Magic Multiskills!

On Wednesday, Yellow Class went to Walker Dome to take part in a multiskills event with several other Newcastle schools. This included lots of different activities in a circuit which focussed on balance, agility and coordination. It was a super morning, with non-stop activity for the children. They certainly achieved their exercise goals on that day!

As well as the activities themselves, we were particularly looking for children demonstrating respect, honesty, teamwork, self-belief and passion.

Many of our children were rewarded with stickers for these qualities, and of course, their behaviour was exemplary!

Here are some quotes from the children:

- 'We had lots of things to do. We just had fun and we were moving on.' Hollie
- 'At the multiskills, we did games like hop scotch and balancing.' Nina
- 'We had lots of fun in Walker Dome.' Jamie
- 'It was amazing, epic and awesome. I loved it!' Hayden
-

Online Safety



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3b6y4j>



Gosforth Trust School Council visit Daft as a Brush

On Tuesday 7th February two members of our school council, Ellie Cook and Leon O'Connor, were invited over to a Trust School Council meeting at Daft as a Brush along with the other Gosforth Trust Schools. We met Brian Burnie, the founder of the charity and were able to ask him some questions. Brian then gave us a tour of the building and the children even had a chance to try out the new ambulance! During the meeting we discussed the possibility of having a 'Daft Day' to support the charity and raise money as a trust. School Council now have the task of organising some 'daft' events. So keep an eye in the newsletter for more information on our 'Daft Day'. Miss Storey

CONGRATULATIONS!

Well done to Joe Thompson (Orange) who has achieved his 15m swimming award and to Jay Doshi (Indigo) who has achieved his 200m swimming award.



The following children from reception Classes were chosen to sit at Top Table today. Well done!

Charlie Davies, James Burke, Freya Buck, Elizabeth Muldoon-Smith, Niamh Cronin, Hedi Collins and Ethan Middleton.

Attendance News

Our figure for school attendance to date this term is 97.1% - up from 96.8% last year! Well done!!

Please remember that the school doors close at 9am and children arriving after this time will receive a late mark on the register.

Attendance - Classes of the Week!



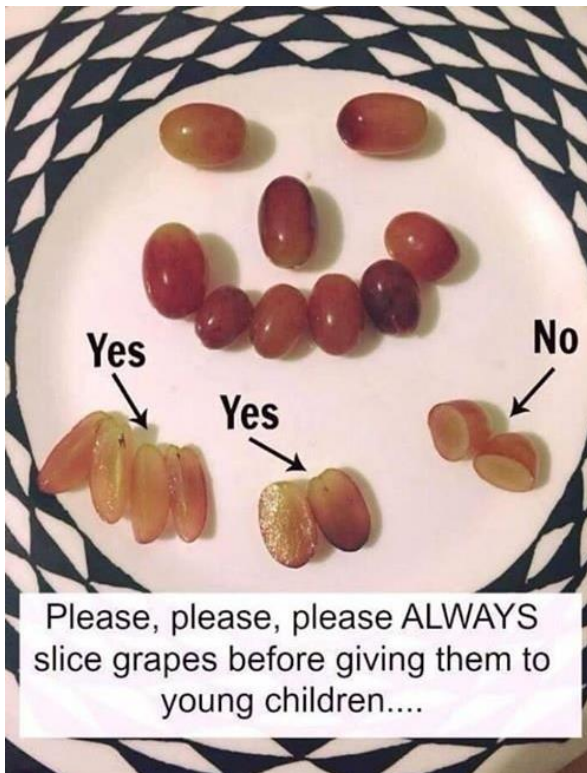
The attendance cups for this week's best attendance were won by **Orange** and **Yellow** classes. Well done to everyone!



Alert - Keeping Safe

Fruit and vegetables from the school kitchen are always appropriately sliced. Parents, please make sure grapes and cherry tomatoes in lunchboxes are sliced too, to reduce the risk of choking.

Thanks



Parent Consultations

Spring Parent Consultations for Reception to Year 4 will be held on **Tuesday 4th April / Thursday 6th April.**

There will be an opportunity to share your child's work with them on **Monday 3rd April** from **9:05 – 10:20** or **2:30 – 3:15.**

We will send you more detailed information nearer the time.

(NB -Nursery meetings will be in the summer term)

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Friday February 17th = Green Class

Friday March 10th = Indigo Class

Friday March 17th = Violet Class

Friday March 24th (Mother's Day) = Morning Nursery 10.40am teas etc children in for 10.55am

Friday March 24th (Mother's Day) = Afternoon Nursery, teas etc 2.15pm children in at 2.30pm

Friday May 5th = Blue Class

Friday May 12th = Reception 1 & 2

Green Class Special Assembly Friday 17th February

Parents and carers will be invited to the School hall for 2.20pm to have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee.

Fundraising will take place with the sale of cakes (nut free please), raffle etc. This will be to support the class with buying some little extras and to help raise money for our school charity The Ghanaian Children's Trust. The children will come in at 2.40pm to showcase their talents.

If you can help, please speak to Miss Walsh.

Please send any donations of nut free cakes in on the morning of the assembly and remember to bring some change for raffle tickets.