



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

20th October 2017 Issue 7 Autumn Term 1



HALF TERM HOLIDAY

And Training Day

We hope you all have a super half term holiday together. Please take care of our 'stars' and we hope that we have a healthier next half term. We have had so many 'bugs and viruses' doing the rounds which have affected children and staff. As previously notified and this is on our School Calendar which is on our School Website, we have a **staff training day on Monday 30th October**. School will be closed to the children. We will **reopen on Tuesday 31st October at 8.55am**.

Friends of the GPFS (FGPS)

Welcome Meeting Reminder

It was super to see some new faces at our FGPF meeting on 17/10/17, especially from EYRS. This was very heartening. Thank you to the 'new mums' for coming along and for your very helpful comments.

The next FGPF meeting is on **Tuesday 21st November at 7.00pm** in the School Hall. As the FGPF is a registered charity the first part of the meeting is the AGM. This part looks at voting for FGPF committee members and for the Treasurer, Mrs Seccombe, to present the FGPF accounts. After this we move onto events and support for school. Please do come along, ideas new and old will be most welcome.

Thank you

School Clubs YR2s & KS2

As advised clubs will start straight back after half term from Tuesday 31st October. The children have been informed as to which club they are in. My 3D Art members have a letter to share with their parents about protocols etc. as my club is after school.

A Sad Farewell



As you know, today is Mrs Howitt's last day. She will be a tremendous miss to everyone at GPFS. She has been a valuable, dedicated and very caring member of my staff team who has always been committed to the school.

All the staff and I, and the Governing Body, and I'm sure you as parents and carers wish her every happiness with her new journey with her family in Cumbria. Mrs Howitt will keep in touch with us all. She is so thrilled that Ms Young will be taking over her class and knows that she is leaving her 'stars' in very safe, secure, caring and dedicated 'hands'.

With Love to Mrs Howitt from all at GPFS.

Harvest Assembly

Thank you so much to those of you who were able to attend the special Harvest Assembly. It was fabulous to have the Reverend Michelle Dalston at the assembly explaining the importance of Harvest and people in the World helping each other. The children's contributions were very interesting and the songs were wonderful. Many thanks for the contributions of food produce and toiletries which the Peoples' Kitchen, a local charity for the homeless in our City collected on Tuesday. A group of children helped Keith with packing up all the gifts. He was most appreciative and asked me to say a 'Very Big Thank You' to you all for your generosity.

Autumn Conkers Reminder

In one of my assemblies with the children we have talked about the signs of autumn and had lots of discussion about conkers. I have also focused on the health and safety aspect of collecting conkers, please ask your child to tell you. I have set the children a challenge if they wish to do this:

- To make something interesting with conkers and be as imaginative as possible and if possible linked to maths e.g. number or shape.

The deadline for this is after half term to let the children have time to build up their collection. Deadline is Friday 3rd November. The children will have their photo taken with their 'creation' and this will be displayed with their models. I will be making one as Cole has kindly brought me in a huge bag!

POPPY APPEAL



Year 4 children will be going to each class selling 'Poppies' from **Tuesday 31st**

October. If you would like your child to purchase one, please send in a donation. The poppies are the stick on type. Thank you. As you are aware children in KS2 learning about WWII and hopefully will share some of their learning with classes in school.



The Daft as a Brush annual Christmas Tree Light Switch on is due to take place on **Wednesday 8th Nov @ 4.30pm**. The tree will be bigger & better this year with 40,000 lights. **All children are invited and they can arrive from 4pm for a 4.30pm switch on.**

(There will be no parking on site as the gates will be closed)

Reminder Christmas Productions Dates - Please put the dates on your calendar

As advised in several newsletters. I have finalised the Production dates with Broadway East First School (our school halls inter connect). Exact times will be given nearer the date but please note that the productions for Key Stage 1 & 2 are ticketed due to hall capacity and two tickets per family will be issued. Pre-school, babies and children under First School age are not permitted at the main Productions but will be very welcome at the dress rehearsals. All of our children see each key stage production dress rehearsal so no one misses out unless it is due to unforeseen circumstances e.g. illness. The EYRs productions are not ticketed.

Dress Rehearsals:

Friday 8th December = Morning Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

Friday 8th December = in the afternoon - Key Stage 1 (Yellow, Orange, Green classes)

Monday 11th December = in the morning - Key Stage 2 (Blue, Indigo, Violet)

Monday 11th December = in the afternoon - Afternoon Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

THE PRODUCTIONS

Tuesday 12th December Afternoon Performance = Afternoon Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

Wednesday 13th December Morning Performance = Morning Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

Thursday 14th December Afternoon Performance = Key Stage 1 (Yellow, Orange, Green classes)

Friday 15th December Afternoon Performance = Key Stage 2 (Blue, Indigo, Violet)

Teacher to Parents

The teacher to parent texting system is for **outgoing texts only**. We cannot receive **incoming texts**. Email replies from T2P will be **forwarded to the admin email inbox**. If your message requires urgent attention please **phone the school office**.

What an exciting week we have had in school! *Reception Classes had their Halloween Maths Morning*, *KS1 had a Super Science visit* and *KS2 were visited by a very special lady who came to talk about her experiences during WWII.*

Read on to find out more...



It was lovely to see so many mums, dads and grandparents at the Reception Halloween Maths morning. I popped in to take some photos but really wanted to get stuck in and have a go at all of the fun activities! There was pumpkin ordering, biscuit decorating, witch making, ghost puppets, hat creating and an outdoor quiz. It was difficult to tell who was having more fun – the grown-ups or the children! Thank you so much for supporting the event.

In Key Stage One on Thursday morning we had a visit from Aurelia's mum Briana and her friend Stephen from Northumbria University. The children had great fun labelling part of a skeleton, identifying internal organs and having a good look and feel at the models and deciding where in the body they belong, and using machine and gel to listen to the blood pumping around their body. We are so lucky to have such wonderful parents to offer to come in and give the children these experiences. Thank you!



On Thursday morning we had a very special visit from Margaret who I hope won't mind us telling you that she is a nonagenarian! She talked to the children about when she was a little girl living in South Shields during WWII, how frightening it was, how her place of work was bombed and what it was like in the air raid shelter. Here's what the children had to say about her visit...

Lola: "It was really interesting, she had a great memory and I think she could write a book about it. We learned loads from her"

William: "It was very nice hearing from her what it was like in World War Two. It made me wonder how she survived. It made me feel a bit sad for her at that time."

Thank you so much to Mr Tristram (Margaret's neighbour) who made the visit possible.

Attendance News

Another great week for attendance! Our attendance this week is 98.5%, up from 97.9% this time last year. Thank you for your efforts with punctuality - we have had 17 late marks this week (11 families) compared to 27 last week. If your child arrives after 9am they will receive a late mark.



Classes of the Week!



The attendance cups for this week's best attendance were won by **Orange** and **Indigo** classes.

Well done to everyone

Mrs Lamb



Rosie Dalkin has been awarded her Level 4 GYMNASTICS; Asmina Doshi has been awarded her Level 5 GYMNASTICS and Jay Doshi his Level 6 GYMNASTICS



The following children were invited to sit at the Top Table today for superb behaviour and excellent manners at lunch time! Well done to...

Feesl Alqahtani, Connor Wheatley, Jemima Bond, Tommy Kirk, Ethan Middleton, James Burke and Melody Makvandi. Mrs Lamb



The Mathletics trophy was awarded to Mrs Howitt's Maths group on Monday. A special mention goes out to Tom Ponton and Emilia O Rourke who were our Mathletes of the week. Children were also presented in Monday's assembly with Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates which they had earned on Mathletics. These will be printed and handed out each Monday morning.

Well done!

If anyone is still having issues with accessing Mathletics please let me know. The tech team are really helpful. There was information in October 6th Newsletter but if you need further support please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Lamb



Yes that's right – **72!** Seventy-two parents/grandparents have signed up to attend the Numicon Parent Session on Friday 3rd November from 1:45 – 2:2. We can't wait to see you all there!

