



# Gosforth Park First School

[www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk](http://www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk)

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 Issue 1 Autumn Term 2



## WELCOME BACK !

### **Welcome back after the half term holiday break**

Wow, the children all seem to have had a growth spurt! I hope that you all had a good week with our 'Stars'. I know that some families were affected by Chicken Pox and the sickness bug. Unfortunately we have started off this week with the sickness, diarrhoea bug and children have had to be sent home. This bug as advised by School Health means that children have to be off for 48 hours to stop the virus from spreading. Last half term four members of school staff were hit by the virus which was picked up from the children. This does have an impact on staffing as I have to source supply teachers to cover the classes. At the start of this half term one member of staff has gone down with the sickness/diarrhoea bug. Please don't send your child into school if they are complaining about feeling ill e.g. have had a bout of diarrhoea or have sickness even if they say they want to come to school. It is super that the children want to come to school and can 'bounce back' quickly but they could still be carrying the bug hence, the 48 hours ruling.

You have to inform the School Office if your child is going to be absent from school on their first day of absence, there is an absence line to inform us if your child is off ill and you have to give a reason. If your child is off for more than 48 hours please keep the Office staff informed. Your support with this is much appreciated.



This year this special event with Pudsey is on Friday 17th November.

There will be more news next Friday from Miss Cogdon about the day.

## THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN

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NEWCASTLE

We received a lovely letter last week from *The People's Kitchen*...

Dear Children

I am writing to thank you for sending all the food that you collected at your Harvest Festival service to The People's Kitchen.

This year we are finding that more people than ever are in need of a hot meal and so the gifts that you sent are very important to us. Our store rooms were running low over the summer period, but thanks to generous people like you, they are filling up again. The poor and disadvantaged people who come to us for help will be able to look forward to hot meals during the winter.

When you go home, please will you thank your family and everyone who helped you to collect this food. You should be proud that you have been able to help so many needy people.

Yours sincerely

Marilyn Campion  
Administrator

## Autumn Conkers Reminder

**Deadline extended from Friday 3rd November - a request from the children-  
Now Monday 13th November**

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 children will have their photo taken with their 'creation' and this will be displayed with their models.

## POPPY APPEAL



Year 4 children will be going to each class selling 'Poppies' from **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**. 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, 0000 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)

## Christmas Productions

### Reminder Christmas Productions Dates

**Please put the dates on your calendar**

As advised in several newsletters. The dates for the Dress Rehearsals and Main Productions are in the list below. 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. The EYRs productions are not ticketed.**

This part is very important: 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.**

This is at the request of staff to minimise distractions for the children and to give them the opportunity to 'perform' as if they were a theatre production. 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.

**Dress Rehearsals: Pre-school, babies and children under First School age welcome**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December = Morning Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

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

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

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December = in the afternoon – Afternoon Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

**THE PRODUCTIONS Adults only at the Productions**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December Afternoon**

**Performance** = Afternoon Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December Morning**

**Performance** = Morning Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December Afternoon Performance** = Stage 1 (Yellow, Orange, Green classes)

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December Afternoon Performance** = Key Stage 2 (Blue, Indigo, Violet classes)

## **STOP PRESS**

The Flue Sniff Vaccination will be administered by School Health on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Letters will be sent out by School Health in the next couple of weeks.

## **Book Fair Week & Coffee Afternoon**

The Book Fair will be arriving on **Monday 13th November**; books will be on sale in the School library. From the amount of money raised from the sale of books, school is given a ' % of purchase ' to get books for the children in school. Mrs Renwick our Literacy Curriculum leader will give some more information about this in next week's newsletter.

Your opportunity to buy books will be from **Monday 13th** after school for half an hour **3.30pm - 4.00pm, in the School Library, Monday - Thursday.**

**On Friday 17th October** there will be a Book Fair Coffee afternoon in the School Hall at **2.20pm**. Parents, family and carers can come in to browse without their children and have a chat. **From 2.40pm** parents can collect their children to visit the Book Fair in the hall. I will sanction an early finish from **3.00pm** only to children who have visited the Book Fair and who are with their parents, carers. The Book Fair **has to close at 3.30pm** as the Out of School Club must have access to the School Hall for their children. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

## **FGPFS Change of Date - Children's Christmas Disco**

The FGPFS Children's Christmas Disco will be on Saturday 2nd December 3.00pm – 4.30pm. See the information below from the chair of the FGPFS. There will also be activities and stalls with a Christmas theme available for the children to access and have fun.

## **Friends of the GPFS (FGPS)**

### **Meeting Reminder**

The next FGPFS meeting is on Tuesday 21st November at 7.00pm in the School Hall. As the FGPFS is a registered charity the first part of the meeting is the AGM. This part looks at voting for FGPFS committee members and the Treasurer, Mrs Seccombe, will also present the FGPFS 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

### **CHRISTMAS IN GHANA**

As you know we are collecting small Christmas gifts to send off to the children in the Orphanage which we support in Ghana.

Thank you so much for the gifts so far and we will be collecting up until Monday 20<sup>th</sup>. We have got a band of helpers itching to start with the Christmas wrapping and Drawstring bags have been ordered for every child in the Orphanage which their presents will be put into.

If you are struggling to find anything suitable, there is a suggestions list attached.

Many thanks

Mrs Thorpe and Mrs Wilson

### **A message from Cumbria ...**

Thank you so much for all the cards, gifts and kind messages received. I am lucky to have worked with such lovely families at GPFS over so many years and I will certainly miss it. I am currently getting to grips with unpacking and acclimatising to the Cumbrian weather!

With all my best wishes,

Mrs Howitt

# The Friends of Gosforth Park First School

Thank you to everyone who attended the Friends of Gosforth Park PTFA meeting before half term, it was great to see some new parents getting involved.

We have a book fair scheduled for week of 13th to 17th November and would like volunteers to help out Monday to Thursday after school 3.20pm until 4.00pm and on the Friday afternoon from 2pm until 3.20pm. If your able to help please let me know as I am compiling a rota. If you're not able to help, please come and buy a book to support the school.

We also have the school disco scheduled for Saturday 2nd December 3:00 – 4:30 and I am looking for volunteers to help at the event. As this event is not manned by staff children must be supervised by parents/Carers so why not help out while they have fun! Siblings are welcome to attend but must have a ticket. Tickets will go on sale on Friday 17th November at the book Fair. Last year's disco was at hall Capacity so tickets are essential.

If you need to speak to me about any of the PTFA events, I stand outside the yellow class door most mornings and evenings. You can also email

[2005friends@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:2005friends@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk) or my mobile is 07796843356.

Jane Alley  
Mum of Thomas in Yellow class





## WE HAVE A BRAND NEW MARKET STALL!!!

Wow! Just look at this! Mr Cogdon has made the children a real market stall to sell our Healthy Tuck Shop goods from at morning break. We are very grateful to him for giving up his time to make this. A lot of hard work has gone into it and as you can see, it certainly is a deluxe model

Each Monday morning, on the large board underneath the shelter there will be a printed list of what the children can purchase. Everything is priced at 20p to make life easy for our stall holders.

Mrs Wilson



We had a lovely visit from Jessica Murphy from St Oswald's in assembly this morning. She talked to the children about the work done at the hospice and how your money helps to provide wonderful opportunities and activities for the sick children. Did you know that over the past couple of years school has raised a total of £12, 290.27? Thank you so much for your support and generosity.

Mrs Lamb

### Attendance News

Another great week for attendance! Our attendance this week is 98.4%, up from 97.8% this time last year. Thank you for your efforts with punctuality - we have had 13 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 **Green** and **Indigo** classes.

**Well done to everyone**

**Mrs Lamb**



Joe Thompson has achieved his 50m swimming award.

Fraser Seccombe has been awarded his Orange belt in karate.

**Well done!**



The Mathletics trophy was awarded to Mrs Thorpe's Maths group on Monday. A special mention goes out to **Dhyanesh Athiraman** and **Nina Gumbrill** who were our Mathletes of the week.

Well done!



We have had most of the Family Maths Scrapbooks returned this week. Please return these, if you haven't already, by Monday as they will be celebrated in class next week. They will then be returned with a new activity on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Numicon**

If you couldn't attend the Numicon Parent Session but would like to purchase some Numicon, a copy of the order form is available at the office. If you have any queries please pop in to see me.

Mrs Lamb



## **Present ideas for Ghana shoe bags**

Pens



Notepads



Rubbers



Pencils

Sharpeners

Crayons

Pencil cases

Friendship bracelets

Things for craft

Sequins

Beads

Pritt stick

Socks

Underwear

Nail varnish

Party bag toys

Bouncy balls

Toy cars

Stickers

Puzzles

Brainteasers

Small boxes of Lego

Small soft toy

Jacks

Dice games

Pack of cards

