



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

14th October 2016 Issue 6



Reminder – end of half term next week

I am sure everyone is looking forward to the half term holiday. Please remember that Friday 21st is a Teacher Training Day so children won't be in school on that day.

Special Harvest Assembly



We will be having our special Harvest Assembly on Monday 18th October at 9.10 am in the School hall. You are most welcome to attend. **All** children are invited to donate something for our Harvest display. The produce collected will be given to the People's Kitchen whom we have supported for a number of years. The children know that this charity supports homeless people in our City.

The School Council and I will set up a Harvest display of the donated foods on Friday 14th October. If you wish to send in some fresh produce this can be sent in on Friday 14th October or on the morning of the 18th. This will be incorporated into the display. Thank you so much for your support with this.



On Monday 10th October we had a visit from Mrs Kathy Gibson who is a representative from the charity Samaritan's Purse. She told the children all about **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**. The children will bring home a leaflet about the charity and are asked to pack and wrap a shoe box with gifts i.e. small toys (not war toys), school supplies, note books, pens, pencils, rubber etc. Hygiene, i.e. toothbrush, toothpaste, wrapped soap, comb. Other items such as hat, gloves, scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, wind up torch etc would be so beneficial. Please send in your wrapped shoe box labelled with the child's gender and age range to school by **Friday 18th November**. We have, with parental support, backed this charity for a number of years and hope in anticipation that as families we can do this again this year. The children were very touched by Mrs Gibson's assembly which helped them understand that not all children in the world receive presents and are not as lucky as them. They saw a film of children who live in terrible conditions but who beamed when they got their gift. The gifts are given to children no matter what belief or non-belief to bring happiness and let them know that other children in the World are thinking about them.

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.



Volunteers in School

If you would like to volunteer to come in and help in school we would welcome this. However you must be police cleared, now called DBS. It can take a few weeks for checks to be undertaken by the City Council. Please come and get the information from Mrs Maughan in the School Office, she will be happy to advise you. Thank you.

ABSENCE/MEDICINES ETC + SCHOOL

ABSENCE LINE NURSERY TO YEAR 4

Your help is needed

- You are required to contact School on the first day of your child's absence and state the reason for the absence. Please keep the School Office informed of any prolonged illness. If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea they have to be kept off school for 48 hours from the last 'bout'. This is a requirement due to the spread of contagious viruses etc and to protect everyone in school – this has come directly from Public Health.
- If your child has to visit the GP or hospital you are required to come to the school office and get a pass. The only person in school who can authorise an absence is the Head Teacher and NOT the Class Teacher. I have given permission to Mrs Maughan to issue passes for medical appointments. If it is a hospital appointment a copy of the letter would be helpful to have so that we can help with any health needs or requirements.
- Please contact school if your child has developed any allergies; now requires an inhaler due to diagnosis of Asthma or requires prescribed medication. Mrs Wilson and I will be asking to meet with parents who have stated that their child has asthma to discuss a Health Care Plan re inhaler use etc.
- **Could we appeal to all parents to make sure that we can contact them (or another appropriate adult) by phone, should their child be ill or in case of any other emergency. Thank you.**

Friends of G.P.F.S.



Thanks to everyone who came to our first FGPF meeting on Tuesday night - it was excellent! The group discussed some brilliant ideas so we can't wait for Mrs Jane Alley, (chair) to let you know what is on the horizon.

The next meeting, which is the **A.G.M.**, is **scheduled for Tuesday 15th November, at 7pm - everyone welcome.** The first part of the meeting has to be the AGM as the FGPF is a registered charity. This is followed by the general part of the meeting.

The meetings are a great opportunity to meet parents, have a chat and talk about events which could take place for the children, families and for parents/carers etc. We would really welcome new ideas.



Autumn Conkers

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/from conkers and be as imaginative as possible.

The deadline for this is after half term to let the children have time to build up their collection. Deadline is Friday 4th November. The children will have their photo taken with their 'creation' and this will be displayed with their models.

Book Fair Week & Coffee Afternoon on Friday 18th November



The Book Fair will be arriving on **Monday 14th November**; books will be on sale in the School library. This will be **Monday to Thursday of this week** after school for half an hour; **3.30pm – 4.00pm**. However, on **Friday 18th** there will be a Book Fair Coffee afternoon in the School Hall – 2.15pm Parents, relatives can come in to browse without their children, have a chat + visit the School Health Stall get some tips etc. From **2.30pm** 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 **3.40pm** as the Out of School Club must have access to the School Hall for their children. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated

Attendance

Our figure for school attendance to date this term is 97.8% - up from 97.5% last year! Well done!!

Mrs Lamb

Attendance - Classes of the Week!



The attendance cups for this week's best attendance were won by Reception 1 and Green classes. Well done to everyone!

Mrs Lamb

MOBILE PHONES

Please may we remind you about the acceptable use of technology in the school grounds.

Gosforth Park First School recognises that advances in technology means that mobile phone use is integrated into society today. We aim to promote the safe, responsible and courteous use of technology.

Gosforth Park First School does not wish to impose a ban on use of mobile phones or technology. However, we would like to make the following recommendations to promote safe, responsible and respectful use of technology for our school community.

- While in the school building please turn phones or to silent
- If in a school meeting, for example during parent consultation, please ensure your phone is turned off or to silent and do not answer your phone
- When collecting your child please refrain from using mobile technology

Please remember, if uploading any photos to social media sites, you must gain the permission of other children's parents or guardians.

Thank you for your support and co-operation in this matter.

Mrs Lamb DHT / Computing Lead

TOP TABLE



The following children were selected to sit at the **TOP TABLE** last Friday (7th Sept)

Matilda Chandler, Daniel Craig, Joshua Mancini,
Samuel Schofield, Livvy Chard, Jacob Butterworth,
Lauren Schofield



The Chronicle Wish Campaign

Last Year our Gosforth Schools' Trust Members, Jessica and Dexter, along with children from the other Trust schools, chose Daft as a Brush as our School Charity.

The Chronicle Wish Campaign is starting again and gives not-for-profit organisations in the local area the chance to receive a share of £25,000. Please can you help us to support this wonderful charity by collecting the wish tokens and popping them in our Daft as a Brush box which can be found just outside the school office.

Thank you!



Sugar swaps

Swapping sugary snacks and drinks for ones that are lower in sugar can make a huge difference to kids' calorie intake. Not only that, but it's better for their teeth too. Here are a few ideas on what to swap:

- Swap to water, semi-skimmed milk or diluted fresh fruit juice instead of drinks with added sugar like cola or squash.
- Switch to snacks like fresh or dried fruit, breadsticks and unsalted nuts instead of sweets or biscuits.
- Swap to lower sugar cereals, fruit or toast instead of cereals with lots of sugar.

Miss Cogdon

Key Stage 2 Visit to Beamish Museum



Key stage 2 children had a wonderful day at Beamish Museum last week. Here are some of their comments about their visit:

"I thought it was very good and exciting. I really liked some of the homes" (Chloe)

"I thought that the trip was the best in the school. You must see the shops!" (Berti)

"I really liked it because we dressed up and it was like being in Victorian times" (Isla T)

"I really liked the school because we got to find out how the Victorians wrote" (Ewan)