



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

6th October 2017 Issue 5 Autumn Term 1



We're making Maths Magnificent!



Look out for your **Family Maths Scrapbook** and **Making Maths Magnificent** booklet in your child's reading folder. These were sent out to all children today from Reception to Year 4. If you have any questions or comments please get on touch or pop in to see me in the ICT suite on parent consultation evenings. Mrs Lamb



Our lovely new Mathletics trophy was awarded to Mr Phipps' Maths group on Monday for scoring the highest combined points on Mathletics. A special mention goes out to Asmina and Jay Doshi 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!

Mrs Lamb

Numicon Parents Session

60 parents have signed up (52 families, 62 children). Here is the breakdown of children per year group who will have parents attending.

- Nursery – 6
- Reception – 15
- Year 1 - 7
- Year 2 – 12
- Year 3 - 12
- Year 4 – 10

We can't wait to see you all! It's not too late if you haven't signed up already. Please reply before Monday 16th October by returning the slip or emailing me at

Leanne.lamb@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk.

Due to the nature of the delivery and the numbers expected we request that babies and toddlers do not accompany parents to this session.

Thanks

Mrs Lamb

Friends of the GPFS (FGPS)

Welcome Meeting

On behalf of the FGPF chair, Mrs J Alley, mum of Thomas in Yellow class, we would like to invite you to a welcome meeting for parents, carers in the school hall on **Tuesday 17th October at 7.00pm**. You are all most welcome to come along, have some refreshments and nibbles and get to know what the FGPS is all about, how you can be involved with supporting the school and having fun. We do hope that parents of our new children in Nursery and Reception come along as well. As you all know, once your child joins GPFS you automatically become members of the FGPF.

REMINDER: NUT FREE ZONE

Due to severe allergies, the school is a NUT FREE ZONE. Please don't send your child in with any nut products e.g. in Packed Lunches. We don't want to have to ring 999!

From time to time parents ask if they can bring in treats to celebrate their child's birthday. This is fine if you ensure that they are NUT FREE E.G. NO TRACES, and made on a nut free line. I would like help on this please so that we can give a list of products to parents. A volunteer to do this would be fabulous. Please would you let the school office know that you can do this. ASAP would be greatly appreciated. In the past we know that Cadbury's Chocolate buttons and Rolos were OK but a check would need to be done. Thank you.

Buggies

I have had requests asking if buggies for younger children can be left on the school site. This is not possible as we don't have capacity for buggies to be left outside EYRS (this area has to be kept clear – fire escape route). The areas for the bikes and scooters are not for buggies.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

RECEPTION TO YEAR 4

We look forward to seeing you all on your Parent Consultation evening either on **Monday 9th October or Wednesday 11th October**. Please check your child's reading folder as I have sent some invites out in an envelope to parents asking to meet with you; please don't worry this is not a negative thing, it is to catch up with you about some aspects of your child's life at GPFS. Please remember the consultations are for you and not for the children and are for **10 minutes only**. There will be some seats outside of the classroom where you will be able to sit and wait for your turn. On the evening, you will receive some information, tips to support your child with literacy and maths work. There will also be a Parent/School partnership-agreement form which we request you sign. Class teachers and children will have signed their agreements; this is to reflect how we all work together for the children e.g. in partnership.

Mrs Lamb DHT, will be based in the ICT suite to help parents with accessing Mathletics, PurpleMash and Maths of the Day. The ICT suite is situated near Violet class (up the first staircase turn left =ICT suite).

Yellow class parents- Ms Young will be joining Mrs Howitt at the Parent Consultations so that she can meet all of you. Ms Young has been in school undertaking hand over work with Mrs Howitt and working with the children.

Head Lice Alert

We have had two cases of head lice in school and have been informed by children's parents. Please can people be vigilant and check their child's hair regularly. There are products available at supermarkets and chemists. If in doubt, Google National Head Lice Advice. Contrary to rumour only two cases have been reported. In no case does this signify neglect. Head lice like clean hair!

Leave of Absence -Urgent Reminder

I am obliged to notify you that from September 2013 the Government Regulations came into effect with regards to holidays in term time. No holidays are permitted during the school term. Head Teachers can only grant leave in exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised absence can result in Local Authority fines and prosecution as directed by Central Government. The Government does not view holidays as exceptional circumstances. Please come to see me if you have any major difficulties and wish to discuss matters with me or put it in writing. Leave can only be granted in exceptional circumstances, if leave is taken without permission then your child/ren will have an unauthorised code on their school attendance record. All attendance is tracked by the Local Authority Data Team and each school in the City and schools across the country are monitored. We are doing so well with our attendance and Mrs Lamb my DHT keeps you informed on a weekly basis with the statistics. Thank you for your attention and cooperation with this matter it is appreciated.

TRAINEES IN SCHOOL

Every term we host trainees from Northumbria University who are training to be teachers in school. They work alongside class teachers and are a great support for the children in supporting them with their learning. In EYRs we will be hosting trainees from Newcastle College who are undertaking Early Childhood Studies and this also provides our children with additional adult support.

Gold Star Awards

The first person to achieve their 10 Gold Star Certificate and Prize was Finn Walker in Reception 1. Well done Finn!

Urgent - SECURITY & SAFETY 3rd Notification

1. **When collecting your child at the end of the day** KS1 and KS2, your child's class teacher will bring the class to the exit door. We request that you collect your child from the class teacher. Any children who have not been collected by 3:35 are brought down to the school office to be collected from there. **All the children and staff know that children must only go to the adult who usually collects them unless we have been informed otherwise.**
2. **Outside gates** – we need your help. Please ensure that they are closed. There are signs on the gates. Your support with this is much appreciated.
3. **End of school day** – we request that at the end of the day parents, carers etc. don't open the gates and come on site until 3.20pm Staff could be teaching PE/Games lessons outside. This ensures that we don't have people wandering around the site when our children are outside.
4. **Internal door outside school office** – are controlled electronically. Please note that you won't just be able to go down the corridor. You must see Admin staff first.
5. Please do not allow your children to climb or swing on the Early Years red railings. Keep children behind the white line and do not allow them to climb the ramp or steps. This also applies to the railings outside the School Office
6. Children and adults must not ride their bikes or scooters once you have entered the school gates. This can result in people being knocked over. **It has happened.**
7. Please ensure that children do not come onto the school site without a key adult who must stay with them until the children have come into school at 8:55 am.

Can I please remind parents that bikes and scooters are left on our site at your own risk.

Please ensure that your child's bike or scooter is named as some children have the same models. Thanking you in advance for your support.

Medical Alert Assistance Dog (MAAD) Cooper (as already advised)

You will all have seen Cooper the dog on the site, he lives with one of our families. He supports one of our darlings in school who is diabetic. Cooper wears a red coat which identifies him as a 'MAAD' dog. He comes onto the school site on a daily basis with the family. At the special assembly which Bridget from the (MADD association) undertook a few weeks ago, she told the children all about Cooper's role and the 'dos & don'ts' when he comes onto the site with his owner. He will not be in school, only on the site at drop off and pick up times. You will be aware of other Medical Assistance dogs e.g. for visually and hearing impaired people who need support. Bridget has sent in some Assistance Dogs UK entrance door stickers to indicate that Assistance Dogs are welcome on our school site.

Brigit has sent a link for you to find our more information about Assistance Dogs UK

To find out more please visit

www.assistancedogs.org.uk

Thank you everyone for your support.

CHRISTMAS

This year we have decided not to do Operation Christmas Shoe-box and do something completely different which is closer to the children's hearts.

As you know we help the King Jesus Orphanage in Kumasi in Ghana.

The children there have **never** had a Christmas present and we have been given a list of all the children's names (all 90 of them), gender and ages and thought that this year we could send them all their very first Christmas presents, wrapped and tagged with their name on from their friends here at GPFS.

We hope you will all give this idea a great deal of thought and support us with this. More information to follow.

Mrs Wilson

Christmas Productions Dates - Please put the dates on your calendar

As advised in last week's newsletter 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)

ABSENCE/MEDICINES ETC + SCHOOL ABSENCE LINE NURSERY TO YEAR 4

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 diarrhoea they must 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 instruction is from Public Health. We have already had four staff off with the 'bug'.

If your child has to have an urgent visit to the GP or a hospital appointment 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 Eltringham /Mrs Douglas 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 will continue 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.

Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating our Harvest Festival on **Tuesday 17th October at 9.10am** and we are delighted that Revd Michelle Dalliston will be leading our assembly. As always, we will welcome donations for the People's Kitchen which provides hot meals and support for anyone who, for many different reasons, find themselves in dire straits. This is a critical time for this excellent charity, which is based near St James' Park, because it is when the warehouse is replenished with goods to sustain it through the year to come.

The charity provides a 'Harvest Wish List' for all who are willing to give. This includes **tinned meals, vegetables, fruit and soups; tea, coffee and instant drinking chocolate; household items such as dishwashing cloths, pan scrubs, freezer bags, laundry wash tablets and general toiletries** are also welcome. **Please note** that fresh fruit and vegetables are **not** required because it is not necessarily possible to use them immediately.

Please send any donations in with your child next **Friday 13th October** or on the following **Monday 16th October**.

Thank you again for your support.

Mrs Gordon

Attendance News

Another great week for attendance! Our attendance this week is 98.6%, up from 97.9% this time last year.

Punctuality has been better this week! We have had 23 late marks this week (16 families).



Classes of the Week!



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

Well done to everyone

Mrs Lamb



Congratulations to Joe Thompson who has achieved his 25m swimming award.

Congratulations to Asmina Doshi who has achieved her Level 6 Gymnastics Award and Jay Doshi who has achieved his Level 8 Gymnastics award.

Well done everyone!



Having trouble accessing Mathletics at home?

I had a lovely chat with the technical team this morning who were very helpful! They understand that some users have been having issues with flash. Here is their advice...

When logging onto a computer or laptop we recommend using the web browser Google Chrome and following the steps below:

- Copy and paste the following into your search browser: `chrome://settings/content`
- Select Flash
- Ensure that the 'Allow sites to run Flash' is turned on and 'Ask First' is turned off

Alternatively, if you wish to use a different browser, please click the link below to find out how to enable Flash on your browser.

- For Internet Explorer, see [Enable Flash Player for Internet Explorer.](#)
- For Internet Explorer on Windows 10, see [Enable Flash Player for IE on Windows 10.](#)
- For Firefox on any OS, see [Enable Flash Player for Firefox.](#)
- For Safari on Mac OS, [see Enable Flash Player for Safari.](#)
- For Google Chrome, see [Enable Flash Player for Chrome.](#)
- For Opera, see [Enable Flash Player for Opera.](#)

When logging in on the iPad, you are able to access the new Mathletics student console via the browser on the device rather than using the APP.

If parents have any questions you are more than welcome to contact us on 0117 370 1990 or email support@3plearning.co.uk

Mrs Lamb

