



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

6th January 2016 Issue 1 Spring term



On behalf of staff and governors I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year with happiness, good health and prosperity. Let's hope 2017 is a great year for everyone.

We hope you all had a good holiday despite all the viruses and nasty bugs which were doing the rounds. The children have all come back thrilled to see each other and ready to learn. They all seem to have had such a growth spurt over the holidays too.

Love from everyone at GPFS.

Heating Issue

We are so sorry that we had to close on Thursday 5th January; this was supposed to be our first day back to start the Spring term. Unfortunately we had no power to get the school boilers working. The engineers have worked hard to get the boilers up and running so fingers crossed we will be ok. The school was absolutely perishing and according to the weather forecasters the early hours of the 5th was the coldest for some weeks. This was a health and safety issue for everyone, children and staff. What a start to the New Year! Ironically, we are in the City Council's refurbishing schedule to get a new heating system this year. It will be a major job as the heating system serves both GPFS and Broadway East First School.

School Administrative Staff – Welcome and Changes to Personnel

I would like to welcome Mrs Louise Douglas who is formally starting her role as Senior Admin and Finance Officer to our GPFS School Family and to my staff team. Mrs Douglas is a very friendly, caring person who is looking forward to getting to know the staff, children and you as families.

Mrs Maughan has done a remarkable job running the office since Mrs Rae took up her post at the Civic Centre. Mrs Maughan has wanted to take a step back and will work at GPFS on a supply basis due to her other commitments; we wish her well with her endeavours. Mrs Maughan is a dedicated and very supportive person who is much appreciated by me, governors, staff and the children. I am so glad that she will continue to support GPFS on a supply basis.

Mrs Wendy Eltringham who has worked for us on a supply basis for the last couple of years as an admin assistant will continue to do this; this will be on a weekly basis.

Admin Staff will continue to help you all as much as they can.



Trainees in School

As a school we are linked to Newcastle College and Northumbria University and host trainees undertaking Teaching Assistant training, Early Childhood Training and Teacher training. We have trainees in at the moment from Newcastle College until the end of the summer term and we currently are hosting teaching trainees up to March. This enhances our staffing provision by having additional adults in school supporting the children and working alongside staff to give our 'stars' the best support with their learning and development.

Curriculum

Topic Webs for KS1 and KS2 will be in next week's newsletter and will also be on the School website under Curriculum information. If you have any resources which we could borrow to support your child's class with their topic work we would be grateful for the loan.

OPEN DOOR POLICY

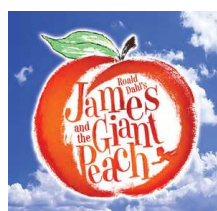
Please remember that you are most welcome to pop in and see staff or myself if you wish to talk / discuss matters. You are most welcome as you do, to see me or phone the office for an appointment. If we all work together this ensures that we give the children our full attention and care. Please note that for class teachers, first thing in the morning when the children come in is not possible; you can pass on a message via Mrs Wilson or myself to pass onto your child's class teacher when we open the door in the morning; if it is something to discuss we'll arrange for the teacher to contact you. Thank you.

EARLY YEARS NEWSLETTERS

Hard copies sent out by Nursery and Reception Staff are pertinent to the Early Years. I would request that EYR's parents and carers don't forget to look at the School Website for the weekly School Newsletter. This applies to the whole school = Nursery to Year 4

Optional - HOLIDAY HOMEWORK FOR MRS SARA – RECEPTION TO YR 4

The children and I had a Literacy, PSHE, media learning experience in the hall on Wednesday before Christmas. The story was 'James and the Giant Peach' by Roald Dahl. I asked the children to make models or, make dioramas or, paint pictures and do some writing about e.g. the characters in the story or write an adventure story for James using all their wonderful literacy skills. I will award certificates and prizes. The deadline for this will be Friday 13th January. Please remember boys and girls that I want to see high quality work and super presentation, your work will be displayed. I look forward to reading your work and admiring your illustrations.



Thank you.

This term – Spring Term

This will be a very busy term, what's new! I will be sending out information re dates early next term in the newsletter. Class Assemblies will be taking place over the next term. The children will showcase some of their learning and this will enable parents to see what they have been doing. The Special Assemblies will take place on a Friday afternoon. 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, raffle etc. This will be to support the class with buying some little extras. The children will come in at 2.40pm to showcase their talents. Dates next week for class assemblies.

We would also like to stagger the 'Come Dine with You' experience across the next two terms. This is where one member of the family can come and have their lunch with their child and enjoy a lunchtime experience. I am in discussions with Mrs Clark, Cook in charge about this.

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.

ROBINWOOD 2017

Many thanks to those parents who have paid for this residential trip in full, and can I remind parents that the **absolute** deadline for payment is Friday 3rd February. School then have to send money off to Robinwood by the Monday and CANNOT subsidise any outstanding amounts.

Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

Mrs Wilson



8 tips for a healthy life:

- **Base your meals on starchy foods: bread, potatoes, pasta, rice, noodles.**
- **Eat lots of fruit and veg**
- **Eat more fish – aim for at least two portions per week and one of these should be oily.**
- **Cut down on saturated fat and sugar**
- **Eat less salt**
- **Get active**
- **Don't get thirsty**
- **Don't skip breakfast**

Miss Cogdon