



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

21st July 2017 Issue 7 Summer Term 2



LEAVERS AND GOODBYES

Goodbye to our Year 4 leavers and Nursery darlings. On behalf of all my staff and Governing Body, I would like to wish all of our Year 4 'Stars' good luck and every success in their new school. We know that you are ready to move on to the next phase of your learning journey. You have been a super Year 4 and we will really miss you.

We also wish our Nursery darlings who are moving to other settings every happiness and good luck with your Reception year; you will be super. It is with much sadness that some of our Nursery children didn't get a place in our school. I know that this has caused great heartache. Parents are encouraged to contact the Civic Centre Admissions Department and ask to be put on the School's waiting list.

We also have a few families who are moving out of the area and we wish them all the best for the future. It would be lovely to hear from you to let us know how you are getting on.

Finally, thank you so much for all your tremendous support, working in partnership with school and sharing your ideas. The commitment of working together is truly valued; conversations whilst sometimes difficult ensure an open and transparent partnership. We have had such a jam packed, busy year with lots of curriculum enhancements which the children have enjoyed. We hope that you all have a super summer holiday and please look after our 'stars'.

All the staff and I and the Governing Body wish you all a safe, happy and wonderful summer holiday.

School re-opens at 8:55am on Tuesday 5th September. Monday 4th September is a staff training day and school will be closed to children. Don't forget to check our school website for the latest photos and curriculum information which Mrs Lamb and I will be updating over the summer.

Optional Holiday Homework

If the children would like to keep a record of enjoyable things they have done in the summer with pictures/drawings, photos and some writing. I will award gold stars and a certificate. This can be viewed as a holiday memory for them. The deadline will be **Friday 15th September**. Thank you

Building Work

As advised in last week's newsletter, the new heating system has been postponed for the time being. However, we will be coming back to a 'swanky' new roof. No more leaks!



'Ali Baba & the Bongo Bandits', YR4'S LEAVERS' SHOW

This has to be one of the best Leavers' Shows I have seen. The children were ALL on top form. They spoke with clarity, sang brilliantly and the humour was terrific. There was not a dry eye in the school hall! Our children have amazing talents. Thank you so much for sharing these with us all.

My grateful thanks go to Mrs Thorpe and Mrs Wilson for their enthusiasm and patience in directing the show. Thank you to you as parents for supporting with the costumes and your child learning their lines and songs. What a wonderful end to their time at GPFS.

CALLING ALL NEW YEAR 4'S



Just to remind you that you will be swimming the second week back. Tuesday 12th September and you will need to pack your new swimming bag with:- costume, swim hat, goggles (if required) and a towel. Remember all long hair needs to be tied back and absolutely **NO** jewellery is to be worn. For parents and carers who have so kindly offered to walk up with the YR4s to the baths, please could you let Mrs Wilson know if you can't attend as Mrs Wilson then has to find a substitute. Thank you very much for your anticipated support.

Mrs Wilson, Mrs Sara

MESSAGE FOR KS1 PARENTS

For the first week of the new academic year could you please come into your child's class to collect them at **3.20 pm**. This will enable staff to meet parents or the person who will be collecting your child. Mrs Renwick, Mrs Matthewson Miss Walsh and Mrs Hall will be on hand to assist. Thanking you in advance for your support.

- Mrs Howitt=Yellow Yr2
- Mr Phipps = Orange Yr 1 / 2
- Mrs Gordon = Green YR1



Well done to Campbell Chester-Craven in Green Class who invested as a Beaver on 18/07/2017

Well done to Asmina Doshi who has achieved her Level 7 Gymnastics

Attendance News

Our figure for school attendance to date this term is **97.2%**, up from 96.6% last year! Well done!!

Attendance



Classes of the Week!



The attendance cups for this week's best attendance were won by **Orange** and **Yellow** classes! Well done to everyone! Mrs Lamb



Top Table



The following children were chosen to sit at Top Table on Wednesday. Well done!

Kirsten Alley, Lewis Brannigan,
Callum Higgins, Fiza Pervez,
Emilia O'Rourke, Adam Gray and
Zach Hussain



Healthy School

Wishing you a safe, happy and healthy summer!

Tuck shop will re-start from
Monday 11th September

Saying Thank you to our Amazing Lollipop Men!

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the 'Thank you' fund for Jim and Terry our Lollipop men.

Both of them received a beautiful customised card (with all of our photos in it!!), a bottle of bubbly and an INTU voucher so that they can buy themselves some well-earned treats on us!

Terry received his gifts from Pip Walker of GPFS and Dax Hayden of BEFS. Jim was presented with his gifts by Francesca of GPFS and Heston Glassey of BEFS. Both Jim and Terry were very touched and would like to send their sincere thanks to everyone at the schools.



Staying Safe Online



We hope you have a wonderful sunny holiday! If you're having a 'Staycation' this year, or if the weather takes a turn for the worse your child may well be faced with some extra screen time. The latest issue of Digital Parenting from Vodafone <http://www.vodafone.com/content/digital-parenting.html/> (copies outside of the office) points out some of the benefits of gaming such as helping to develop social skills, taking turns and collaborating as well as nurturing strategic and conceptual thinking! General advice is that up to an hour of screen time a day is acceptable. The advice from Vodafone is to set up parental controls on tablets and consoles before putting them in the hands of children. This not only specifies what PEGI age-related games can be played but limits online interactions and sharing as you deem appropriate.

Family gaming tips

1. **Play together** Keep games consoles in communal rooms and play games together. There are a number of active sports titles available for consoles that the whole family can join in with.
2. **Check PEGI ratings** These statutory age ratings help parents identify appropriate games based on their content.
3. **Set up parental controls** Ensure you have specified what content children can access with secure passwords and user settings.
4. **Regular breaks** Screen time studies vary but all agree that regular breaks are essential. Take one every 45-50 minutes.
5. **Check play history** See what your child plays, and for how long, by checking the user history on their profile. For example, on the 3DS this is in the Activity Log APP.

A bit about PEGI ratings

Many video games in Europe are given a PEGI age rating. If you wouldn't want your child to watch an 18 film, you probably wouldn't want them to play an 18 game. PEGI ratings can actually prevent children accessing age-inappropriate games. You can do this by setting age-appropriate parental controls on your child's games consoles and devices.

Mrs Lamb