



Merry Christmas

From everyone at Gosforth Park First School



Huge Thanks!

Dear Parents

I know you will join me in saying a huge thanks and well done to all of our wonderful GPFS staff for making this a very special and enjoyable time of year for all of our children with the events and activities that have been taking place in school.

Thank you so much to all of our wonderful families, PTFA and community for supporting us through another challenging term. I hope you all have a happy and healthy Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. Best Wishes, Mrs Lamb.

Topics and Holiday Research Projects

Our topics for next half term are:

Early Years – Space

Space challenges our children's imaginations and creativity through an abstract and exciting concept.



Your child's confidence grows as they are immersed within a classroom filled with limitless possibilities. They can role-play as astronauts and travel to far away planets, design and build spaceships and solve problems related to missions that they have to complete!

KS1 – Pole to Pole

After focusing on the geography of our own locality, Pole-to-Pole takes us on a journey around the world! Children will be studying the geography of different continents and oceans and relating hot and cold areas to their distance from the equator.

KS2 – Hola!

This geography-based topic will teach your children about Spanish speaking countries around the world and immerse them in Spanish art and culture. Children are excited to learn more about Spain, share their prior knowledge and show off their language skills!



Please see the attached Topic Webs below for more information about what your children will be learning across all of our curriculum areas.

Covid-19 Update

Current guidance for schools has not changed despite recent government announcements about the Omicron variant. We will keep you updated with any changes that are relevant to our setting.

We will continue with the following protective measures, which have been reviewed with Newcastle Public Health:

- Staff will be wearing face coverings in corridors and communal areas, including on the doors when greeting children in the morning
- We will be limiting the mixing of children within school and therefore;
 - ✓ Children will be separated into 'bubbles' on the playground
 - ✓ Non-essential lunchtime and after school clubs will be paused
 - ✓ Children will remain with their own classes for lessons and assemblies
 - ✓ Assemblies will be virtual
 - ✓ Children attending Rainbow Wraparound will be separated into 'bubbles' and spaced out in a large, well-ventilated area
 - ✓ Children in KS1 and KS2 will be seated in forward facing rows
- Additional hand sanitising / hand washing for children throughout the school day

If your child is absent from school for COVID-19 related reasons, and they are well enough to work, we are setting work via Tapestry (EYFS) and Seesaw.

Christmas Class Assemblies

I know you will join me in extending our gratitude to all of the Gosforth Park staff who have worked incredibly hard to make our Christmas Assemblies a great success.



It was lovely to be able to welcome you into school and share our performances with you in person. Thank you so much for following our COVID-19 protective measures. We can't wait to have you back again next year.

Mr Hindess

Santa Dash Daily Mile

We were a sight to behold on Wednesday as we took part in a festive version of our much loved daily mile.



What a fantastic way to work up an appetite for our yummy Christmas dinner!

Miss Walsh

Santa's Grotto and Christmas Parties



What a wonderful week we have had! On Wednesday, Father Christmas paid us a surprise visit on his way to the North Pole. All of our children were on his good list (phew!) and were delighted to receive their presents.

On Friday, we all enjoyed our Christmas parties and party food. We would like to extend our gratitude to **Tesco** who generously donated 90 bags of crisps and our good friends at **ASDA** who donated loads of delicious cakes.

We would also like to thank the PTFA for all of their help and fundraising efforts for our school. Emergency Christmas Eve bags have raised an incredible £740, Christmas Movie Nights raised £654.50 and Santa's Grotto raised £186.

Most of all, thank you to our amazing Gosforth Park community for your generosity. You really have helped to make this a Christmas to remember for our children.

Bank Holiday

Please remember that Monday 3rd January is a bank holiday.

School will be open again on Tuesday 4th January.

Enjoy your extra day off!

Household Support Fund

The council has issued just under 10,000 letters inviting parents or carers whose children are in receipt of free school meals to apply for a one off £50 payment for support with their utility bills. More information about the scheme can be found at

www.newcastle.gov.uk/householdsupport

Parents / carers who are not digitally enabled and need support (or who have not received a letter and believe they should have) should call 0191 278 7878 and ask for the Household Support Fund.

Holiday Activity Fund

Local community support for families in receipt of free school meals with young people will continue. There are over 40 local community projects providing holiday activities and facilities will open during the Christmas school holidays. These projects will provide activity sessions and a meal for your child and it is fun and free to attend.

Please follow the link below to find out more about the 40+ projects near you:

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/public-health-wellbeing-and-leisure/healthier-city/activity-and-wellbeing/holiday-activity>

Teacher Training Day

Please note that we have a teacher training day on **Friday 28th January**.

There will be no school or Rainbow Wraparound provision on this day.



Healthy School

As we prepare to celebrate the New Year, it is a time when we often think about new goals and resolutions. It is the ideal time to get the whole family involved in thinking about their health and we can empower our children positively by involving them in setting some goals. It's easier to start with small steps so results can be seen quickly and working towards a reward can also be a motivator. Some ideas can be found on the following blogs:

www.childrens.com/health-wellness/healthy-resolutions-a-family-affair

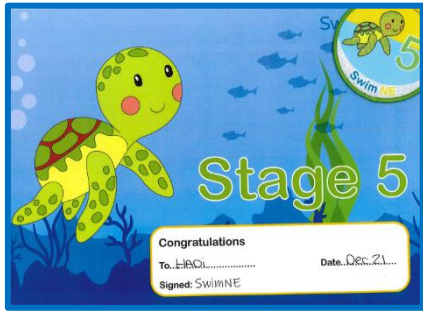
<https://www.mybeautygym.com/new-years-resolutions-your-family-should-make/>

Are you finding it difficult to leave the car at home on the school run while it's cold and wet? How about a walking mileage challenge to help with motivation in 2022. You'll be amazed at how many miles you can accrue on this journey alone and there are plenty of apps out there to record miles walked whenever you decide to go out. From 100 miles to a 1000 miles in a year (yes, it is achievable!), you can download free trackers for the whole family on

<https://www.walk1000miles.co.uk/articles/charts> .

Mrs Wells

Congratulations!



A massive well done to **Hadi** in **Blue Class** who has achieved his Stage 5 swimming award. Keep up the great work, Hadi!



We are incredibly proud of **Ayla** in **Blue Class** who decided that she would like to raise money for the Rainforest Alliance.

Ayla organised her own 'Name a Bear' competition for KS2 and managed to raise an amazing £21

Well done Ayla!



Congratulations to **Erin** in **Orange Class** who achieved her Red Tag grading in Taekwondo on Monday.

Erin was even praised for her knifehand, kicks and blocks by her instructor!



Orange class have been working so hard on Mathletics – you are our 'Mathletes of the Week', well done!

Sahib D, **Alexander G** and **Mais E** are our three highest scorers – wonderful maths work from you all!



This week I looked through the statistics and decided to look at the children with the most correct answers on TTRS – fantastic efforts everyone!

Blue class – **Leo T**

Indigo class – **Sahib D**

Violet class – **Hania P**

Yellow class – **Alexander T**

Orange class – **Alexander G**

Green class – **Evie T**



Our Reading buddies this week are

Matthew C in **Reception** and **Ava U**

and **Alexander G** in **Orange class** - very well done and happy holiday reading everyone!

Mrs Lambert

Attendance

Our class of the week this week with **98.8%** attendance is **Orange Class!**

Our whole school attendance is **95%**

Updated COVID Guidance

When to self-isolate

Self-isolate straight away and get a [PCR test \(a test that is sent to the lab\) on GOV.UK](#) as soon as possible if you have any of these 3 symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

You should also self-isolate straight away if:

- you've tested positive for COVID-19 – this means you have the virus
- someone you live with has symptoms or tested positive (unless you are not required to self-isolate – check below if this applies to you)
- you've been told to self-isolate following contact with someone who tested positive – [find out what to do if you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app](#)

Information:

You may need to quarantine when you arrive in England from abroad. [Check the quarantine rules when entering England on GOV.UK](#)

When you do not need to self-isolate

If someone you live with has symptoms of COVID-19, or has tested positive for COVID-19, you will not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS
- you're under 18 years, 6 months old
- you're taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Even if you do not have symptoms, you should still:

- get a [PCR test on GOV.UK](#) to check if you have COVID-19
- follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#)
- consider limiting contact with [people who are at higher risk from COVID-19](#)

Tell people you've been in close contact with that you have symptoms

Tell people you've been in close contact with in the past 48 hours that you might have COVID-19.

You should tell them to follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#).

They do not need to self-isolate unless they're contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service.

If they get any symptoms of COVID-19, they should self-isolate and get a test as soon as possible.

How to self-isolate

You must not leave your home if you're self-isolating.

- do not go to work, school or public places – work from home if you can
- do not go on public transport or use taxis
- do not go out to get food and medicine – order it online or by phone, or ask someone to bring it to your home
- do not have visitors in your home, including friends and family – except for people providing essential care
- do not go out to exercise – exercise at home or in your garden, if you have one
-

How long to self-isolate

If you test positive, your self-isolation period includes the day your symptoms started (or the day you had the test, if you did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days.

You may need to self-isolate for longer if you get symptoms while self-isolating or your symptoms do not go away.



English

Key Texts: *Just Being Dali*, *The Iron Man*



Non-Chronological Reports

Present Perfect Tense

Fronted Adverbials and Adverbial Phrases

Science

Animals Including Humans

Skeletons and Muscles

Digestive System



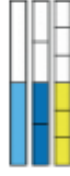
Maths

Multiplication and Division

Measurement: Area (Y4)

Measurement: Money (Y3)

Fractions



PSHE

Living in the wider world (responsibilities)

Physical Education

Quicksticks Hockey

Key Steps Gymnastics

Hola!



Art/DT

Artist Study: Pablo Picasso (Cubism)

Sculpture

Music

Spanish Music: Flamenco

Music Tuition



Topic

Place Study: Spain

Hemispheres and Tropics

Climate



Geographical similarities and differences between an area in the UK, a region in a European country (Spain) and a region within North or South America

Computing

Computing: Coding with algorithms, loops, conditions and events

Religious Education

The significance of the Bible and Easter

Confidence

Challenge

Creativity

Community



English

Texts: Rainbow Bear, Dear Greenpeace



Persuasive Writing

Formal Letters

Writing about Personal Experiences, Real People and Real Events



Science

Everyday Materials

Identify and name everyday materials

Describe the physical properties of materials

Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials



Maths

Multiplication and Division

Length, Height, Weight and Volume (Year 1)

Properties of Shape

Fractions (half, quarter, third)



PSHE

Health and well being

What helps us stay safe?

Physical Education

Gymnastics

Handball

Pole to Pole



Confidence

Challenge

Creativity

Community

Topic

Locate the North Pole, South Pole and Equator

Name the seven continents and five oceans

Place Studies: Arctic, Brazil, UK

Climate Change



Art/DI

Food Technology

Investigating Materials (Collage)

Music

Charanga



Computing

Information Technology: Book Creator

Religious Education

Introducing the Bible through stories



www.Star Strike Soccer.co.uk

Christmas  Soccer  Camp
21st to 23rd Dec Ages 4 to 12
Girls and Boys welcome. 9.15
- 3.30. £15.00 per day.
£40.00. for 3 days.



VENUE: BLUE FLAMES SPORTS CLUB
NE12 9SF. FANTASTIC INDOOR VENUE!
FREE MEDAL  FOR ALL CHILDREN.
PAY AND PLAY. CONTACT GRAEME DOYLE
FOR MORE DETAILS:  07887766460

**TAKE PART IN SOME UPLIFTING FESTIVE
SINGING - IN 'REAL LIFE'!**

WINTER SONGS

with

Beccy Owen's

**POP UP
CHOIRS**

**FAMILY-FRIENDLY.
FREE. BOOKING REQUIRED.**

**Dec 18th
11:00am - 1:00pm**

**Tyne Hall at the
Trinity Centre,
Gosforth**

**email
popupchoirs@gmail.com
to book your free place**