



www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

February 9th 2024 Issue 5 Spring Term 1

Gosforth Park First School



Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the last few months we have been working with a local designer to explore ideas for a new school logo.

We now have four final design ideas and your opinion is very important to us on this. We will be displaying these logos on some sample jumpers in our library throughout parents' evening next week. We would love your input and would like to ask everyone to vote on their favourite. Voting slips will be available on parents' evenings. The children will also be voting on the design they like best!

**Keeping the rainbow was
very important to us!**

New parents often comment that our choice of uniform is confusing. Moving forward we will only make one colour available to purchase.

We also want to make sure that unbranded items are readily available in most supermarkets, and are as cost effective as possible.

This logo will gradually be introduced on school signage and stationery as the refurbishment is completed and will be available on new uniform items from September.

There would be no expectation to stop using the current logo/uniform items. This would be a gradual phasing in of the new logo and we will still welcome items with the current school badge and encourage making use of our pre-loved uniform sale.

We are very excited to hear your thoughts on this next week and will share the outcome of the vote with you very soon.

Again, many thanks for all your comments and feedback.

This is a very exciting new chapter in the life of Gosforth Park First School.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Lamb

Number Day 2024

We raised **£189** for the NSPCC on number day last week. Thank you so much for your generosity.



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

We also received a lovely thank you through the post this week from the Royal British Legion. You raised a wonderful **£205.07** from the Poppy Appeal. Well done and thank you!



Building works

The builders will soon beginning external ground works from the main gate to the new entrance. **This will begin on Monday 12th February lasting until Friday 8th March.** There will be no access along the internal road from our gates to St Oswald's at this time. Please remember to pass on the news to children from GEMs who often use this internal road and to childminders and grandparents.

Mr Marley, Headteacher at St Oswald's, has been informed and will be letting his school community know too. We apologise for any inconvenience caused during this phase of the works.

Thanks
Mrs Lamb



Year 4 Multiplication Check

Year 4 parents- join us on **Tuesday 5th March from 2:45 – 3:20** to find out more about the Year 4 Multiplication Check which takes place in June, what the check looks like and how we are teaching tables in school. Please do not worry if you are unable to join us. We will make sure to send out the information shared via SeeSaw
Miss Pope (Maths Lead) and the Year 4 Team



Healthy School

The Better Health website mentioned in last week's newsletter also has a link to a sugar calculator and a link to the NHS food scanner app. The sugar calculator is quite rudimentary but it does give you a rough estimate of how much sugar is in some every day food and how quickly it can add up. It's definitely worth a look. The scanner app may or not be familiar to you but you can scan your products when you shop and it can reveal a range of healthy swaps. Scroll to the bottom of the page on:

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-snacks/#snack-tips>

Mrs Wells





Parents Evening

Our parent evenings will be held **next week**

Telephone appointments are available on the afternoon of Wednesday 13th February.
Face to face appointments will be held on the following evenings:

Nursery: Tues 13th/Weds 14th/Thurs 15th

Reception HPM: Tues 13th/Thurs 15th

Reception SC: Tues 13th/Thurs 15th

Green: Tues 13th/Thurs 15th

Orange: Tues 13th/Weds 14th

Yellow: Tues 13th/Thurs 15th

Indigo: Tues 13th/Thurs 15th

Violet: Tues 13th/Thurs 15th

Blue: Tues 13th/Thurs 15th

Many thanks
Mrs Lamb



PTFA Meeting

Next mtg is the AGM: Monday 4th March
from 6:15 - 7:15pm in the school hall.
Check out details below about our next event
for grown-ups! **Join us for an evening of
pottery painting at Canny Crafty.**

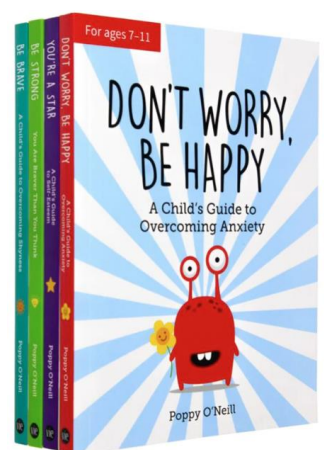


Huge thanks to those of you who were able to attend one of the RISE workshops on Wednesday. We hope you enjoyed the session.

Annie and Gemma held an assembly for the children on Wednesday all about Mental health week and the message this year which is '**Your Voice Matters**'. The children were fantastic at talking about what matters to them and how they can use their voice.

Annie and Gemma also delivered a session for staff on Wednesday after school ***Supporting Children and young People with Anxiety***. They have shared some fantastic resources and some parents may be interested in the books below. Check out the RISE website at www.rise.childrensociety.org.uk for more resources and their Youtube channel at [RISE - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Annie and Gemma will be around on Wednesdays next half term too. If anyone has any questions for either of them, please pop in.



Gosforth Gets Going Zumba!

On Tuesday morning a group of Year 1 children had the opportunity to take part in a **Dance Fuse Zumba** session in our hall with lots of other children from the Gosforth Trust Schools. They had great fun learning new dance steps and moving to the music!

Miss Walsh



Key Stage 1 Healthy Active Lifestyle event

On Monday morning Key Stage 1 took part in a Healthy Active Lifestyle event. The children took part in a range of multi-skill activities and had great fun! Well done to you all!

Miss Walsh



Key stage 2 intra-school basketball



On **Wednesday 14th February**, key stage 2 children will be taking part in an intra-school competition as part of their end of unit on basketball. The children will use their skills that they have learnt this half term and apply them to a game situation.

Please note that **Indigo class** will have P.E on **Wednesday 14th February** this week in addition to Violet class and Blue class.

Thank you,
Miss Walsh

Primary Tennis



On Wednesday, a group of key stage 2 children were selected to take part in a School Games Primary Tennis event. The children took part in a range of fun tennis based stations throughout the morning. The children showed great enthusiasm and excellent sportsmanship throughout the session.

Well done team!

Miss Walsh



Wow- what a performance!

Our KS2 gymnasts showcased their wonderful talents for everyone during today's celebration assembly. The team is off to Royal Grammar School next week for a Gymnastics competition.

We are so proud of you all!



Applying for Nursery Places

Nursery Application forms for places in September 2024 are now available on the school website and from the office.

The closing date for applications is 15th March 2024.

Offer letters will be emailed out on 22nd March 2024.

The deadline for accepting a place is Friday 19th April.

Online Safety

Check out the guide about Monkey Cool below.

Miss Coughlan



The Children's Cancer Run 2024

We would like you and your family to join our school team at the Children's Cancer Run at Newcastle Racecourse, Gosforth Park on Sunday 19th May 2024.

Please ensure that you register online for the event:

Log on to

<https://register.enthuse.com/ps/event/ChildrensCancerRun2024>

Complete your entry form, selecting our school name as the team.

Click proceed to payment to complete the registration for you and your family.

This year there is a new feature that allows our school to have an online team fundraising page with a shared school total. We have been advised on the following: **Once your pupils have registered, that on their fundraising page they go to 'edit display name' and change their display name so that it does not include their full name** and don't update their picture for safeguarding reasons. For example, just first name or initials. If they do not do this then it is possible for external participants to see a child's full name and the school they go to.

Every child must be accompanied by an adult.

Thank you,
Miss Walsh



HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year is on Saturday 10th February and is the year of the wood dragon. Recent years of the Dragon include 2024 (this year), 2012, 2000, 1988, 1976, 1964, and 1952, with the **next Dragon year in 2036** (Year of the Fire Dragon). Dragon is the **5th animal** in the 12-year cycle of the Chinese zodiac signs coming after the rabbit and before the snake.

Nursery have been celebrating Chinese New Year with some fantastic activities, including their own dragon dance!



Kung hei fat choi!

Mrs Easdon (PSHE/RE Lead)



Spanish Food Tasting

As part of our Geography topic about Spain and Spanish culture, children in KS2 enjoyed a food tasting session this week.



Children were all excited to sample a range of traditional Spanish cuisine including olives, paella and even spicy chorizo!

KS2 Team



Pre-Loved Uniform

PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN SELL		PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN NOT SELL
OFFICIAL SCHOOL JUMPERS	£2.50	NON – OFFICIAL JUMPERS
OFFICIAL SCHOOL CARIGANS	£2.50	NON – OFFICIAL CARIGANS
OFFICIAL SCHOOL POLOS	£1.50	NON – OFFICIAL POLOS
GIRLS CHECKED DRESSES	£1.50	GREY BOYS TROUSERS
GREY PINAFORES	£1.50	GREY TAYLORED GIRLS TROUSERS
GREY SKIRTS	£0.50	GREY BOYS SHORTS
GREY GIRLS SOFT TROUSERS	£0.50	DAMAGED OR MARKED ITEMS
SCHOOL BAG (NEW STYLE)	£2.50	
SCHOOL BAG (OLD STYLE)	£1.50	
OFFICIAL PE T-SHIRT/SHORTS	£0.50	

Items are sold from 1 Park Drive, Melton Park NE3 5QB, with a drop off box at the front door. Please REMEMBER items, particularly red, must not be marked as they are unable to be sold on. You can text me Natasha Davy (Parent) on 07736276653. All money made comes back to school to be spent on playground equipment for our wonderful children.

Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date this academic year is **96.8%** up on **95.7%** last year.

Our classes of the week are **Orange Class** with **98.9%** and **Blue Class** with **98.6%**

Well done everyone!

Mrs Lamb



Well done to all of you who completed a gig this week to improve your rock star status.

Lola A, Zayn T, Lauren S, Louie O and **Seth B** have reached rock legend status! Keep using sound check to practice for the multiplication check.

Our top coin earners this week are:

Alexander T, Phoebe E, Jessica F, Francesca D and **Amara C.**

97% of Violet Class used Times Tables Rockstars this week!



Well done Violet Class for having the top activity this week! Well done to **Toby S** who has completed the NumBots story. What a super achievement, Toby, keep completing challenges to continue your NumBots adventure!

Our top coin earners this week are:

Blue – **Henry H**

Violet – **Ava U**

Indigo – **Elia S**

Yellow – **Nihal D**

Orange – **Issam H**

Green – **George K**

Reception (Miss Parsons Munn) – **Emilia W**

Reception (Miss Coughlan) – **Olivia G**

Thank you for all your hard work GPFS, Miss Pope

Advanced Notice of Dates 2023-2024

Updates will be added in red

Week Beginning 12 th February	Parents Consultation Evenings
Wednesday 14th February	KS2 Intra-school Basket Ball – all KS2 to wear sportswear please
Friday 16 th February	Last day of term
	February Half Term Holiday
Monday 26 th February	School reopens
Monday 4 th March	PTFA AGM 6:15 – 7:15 pm in the school hall
Tuesday 5th March	Year 4 Parents Multiplication Check Parent Workshop 2.45-3.20pm
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Friday 8 th March	PTFA Canny Crafty Pottery Painting
Monday 11 th –Friday 15 th March	Science Week
Wednesday 13 th March PM	Reception Classes 'Brush Up' tooth brushing workshop
Thursday 14th March	KS2 Trip to Vindolanda/Roman Army Museum (Info to be sent via ParentPay)
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day
Wednesday 20 th March – Friday 22 nd March	Year 4 Robinwood
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of term
	Easter Holiday
Monday 15 th April	School reopens
Monday 6th May	May Bank Holiday
Friday 24 th May	Daft Day
Friday 24 th May	Last Day of Term
	May Half term Holiday
Monday 3rd June	Training Day
Thursday 11 th – Friday 12 th July	Mr H Onsite Residential for Year 3 children
Friday 19 th July	Last day of term

Staff Training Days

Staff Training Days for GST schools this academic year will be:

- Monday 3rd June 2024

Rainbow Wraparound

Please contact us via

wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

or for any ad hoc bookings

Rainbow Wraparound: 07926 946 565.



If you don't already, please give us a follow on Twitter. Our school account is @GosforthPark1st

Canny Crafty
Ceramic Painting • Craft Cafe

Friday Night Pottery Painting

If you want to have a night out with a difference, in a relaxing, creative and child-free space, then this is the event for you!! Choose your own pottery to paint. Once painted, leave your masterpiece to be glazed and fired and it will be ready to collect in 7-10 days.

Items cost between £14 – £40 depending upon the item(s) you choose to paint.

Family and friends are very welcome.

The PTFA will provide a tasty treat but feel free to bring your own refreshments, nibbles or even order in a takeaway. Pre-booking is essential as places are limited to 32 people..

Your £10 deposit will be deducted from your final bill on the night.

Friday 8th March

6-9pm

Canny Crafty
Salters Road

£15

This includes £10 towards the pottery you choose to paint and a kind £5 donation to our GPFS PTFA



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

RECEPTION, YR 1 & YR 2

TUESDAYS 15:25-16:25

THURSDAYS 15:25-16:25



TEAM FUN



SKILLS



CHALLENGES



GAMES

www.rugbyminis.co.uk/gosforthparkfirst



1st
Class
FREE

Dance classes ages 3-18

Ballet • Theatrecraft • Lyrical
Freestyle Disco • Street



Qualified DBS
checked teachers
Regular showcases
& examinations

IDTA

New Studio!

Cleveland Hall
Football Club,
Easedale Gardens,
Gateshead, NE9 6TA



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

07765466450 www.dancefuse.co.uk info@dancefuse.co.uk

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MONKEY

Also known as Monkey Cool, this platform aims to fill the gap left by Omegle (which has now shut down) by placing users in random video chats with strangers. Participants use their mobile number and Snapchat username to connect to the service, where they can make matches, message other people and join group chats. The mobile version has been removed from the App Store due to safety concerns, but iPhone owners can still access the site via their web browser. The app remains available on Google Play, where its listing claims that Monkey has more than 30 million users worldwide.

AGE RESTRICTION
17+

(although the lack of age verification means that someone younger could easily log in with a false date of birth)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The app claims to use AI to detect sexual content or activity that violates its policies, along with having a 24/7 moderation team. However, reports in the media continue to indicate that explicit content remains commonplace on Monkey (including sexually graphic or violent material) and is therefore accessible to anybody who uses the app – including those aged under 18.

UNDER 18

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

The obvious risk in accepting random video chat partners is that users cannot know what or who they will see on their next connection. Talking to strangers is, of course, potentially dangerous – especially for children who might be persuaded to meet up with these people offline. The app lets users find each other by location, increasing the chances of a child being matched with a stranger from their local area.

?

IN-APP SPENDING

While Monkey is free to download, it nevertheless offers in-app purchases promising to unlock access to premium features. For example, users who wish to make use of 'Knock Knock chat' (Monkey's text-based messaging option), rather than the app's Chatroulette-style random video calling feature, will need to pay to be able to do so.

INTRUSIONS ON PRIVACY

According to Monkey's privacy policy, personal information (such as name, profile picture and date of birth), user-contributed content (any photos, texts, videos and screenshots shared) and each user's browser and IP address are collected. That is a considerable amount of data for Monkey to gather on its users – and all of this information is shared with third parties.



Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Even if you're comfortable with your child using Monkey, it's still important to talk about the potential dangers. It's crucial, for instance, that young people recognise the risks that stem from video chatting with strangers; that they understand not to share identifying information (like their street or school name); and that they know what to do if they are exposed to inappropriate content.



RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASING

If your child is accessing Monkey via an Android device, you can prevent them from making in-app purchases through the device's settings. If you do allow your child to use the site, we'd recommend that you enable this feature: young people have been known to spend significant amounts of money in their desire to unlock more features in apps such as this.



REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Monkey states in the safety section of its site that "people are given the power" and that, to a large extent, Monkey is "self-governing." If a user is exposed to sexually explicit or inappropriate content on the platform, they can select the 'police' emoji in the top right corner of their screen to submit a report for Monkey's moderation team to review.



SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Monkey – or that they may have been exposed to inappropriate or distressing content – it's important to watch for potential indications that they've been affected emotionally. They could be unusually irritable or unable to concentrate, for example, or failing to complete their homework or even to eat regular meals.



Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College



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