



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

15th September 2017 Issue 2 Autumn Term 1



Fantastic achievements by our darlings! We are all very impressed with your fitness, stamina and commitment. Congratulations also go to Mrs Armstrong who did the half marathon. It was inspirational to see the runners, the crowds cheering all the runners on, the atmosphere was electric.



TOPIC WEBS FOR KS1/KS2

Topic Webs for your child's Key Stage can be found on the School website but as this is the first one we are sending out a hard copy for you. This will give you an insight into what the children will be learning about this term to support them with developing their skills, knowledge and learning. If you have any resources or artefacts to support the Topic work and are willing to loan them, your child's teacher would gratefully welcome them.

Clothing & Water bottles etc etc

Please ensure that ALL clothing including shoes are named. We appear to have started the new term and new school year with a mountain of un-named clothing and shoes etc in our lost property box!

Children need to bring in a named filled water bottle each day and take it home on a daily basis. The bottles are for water and NOT juice as advised from School Health. Your support with this is needed.



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

Holidays and Unauthorised Absence

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 (not illness) 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. Thank you.

Urgent - SECURITY & SAFETY

2nd notification

1. 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.
2. 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. This does not apply to the staggered collecting of Reception children.
3. 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.
4. 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
5. 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.

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.

Acceptable use of technology – polite request

Gosforth Park First School recognises that advances in technology means that mobile phone use is integrated into society today. We aim to promote the safe, responsible and courteous use of technology.

Gosforth Park First School does not wish to impose a ban on use of mobile phones or technology. However, we would like to make the following recommendations to promote safe, responsible and respectful use of technology for our school community.

- While in the school building please turn phones off or to silent
- If in a school meeting, for example during parent consultation, please ensure your phone is turned off or to silent and do not answer your phone
- When collecting your child please refrain from using mobile technology eg please don't use it on the School site

Please remember, if uploading any photos to social media sites, you must gain the permission of other children's parents or guardians. Thank you for your support and co-operation in this matter.

Gosforth Park First School Governing Body
& Mrs Sara Headteacher

Sickness

Remember if you child has been sick or had diarrhoea they must be away from school for 48 hours after their last bout (as instructed by Health). We have already had a few cases already in school and know that there are cases of Noro Virus in the City.

Pupil Safety

Please can parents or carers not approach children in the playground unless you wish to speak to a childminder or parent. A parent or carer approaching a child without their parent's knowledge can cause upset. If there are any matters I can help with or Mrs Lamb my deputy, then please come and speak to us.

Curriculum Enhancements

- This half term KS1 & KS2 are accessing specialist PE teaching from Mrs Smurthwaite. This is every Wednesday until half term.
- All KS2 classes on a Thursday are accessing Ukulele tuition from Mrs Knighton from Newcastle Music Service; this will be for the year.
- KS1 have singing and percussion tuition with Mrs Knighton on a Thursday for a term.
- KS2 children are continuing to have Spanish lessons every Thursday from Ms Bainbridge who is teacher from Lingo Tots. Ms Bainbridge has taken over from Mrs McGregor who is on maternity leave.
- YR3s will have a squash taster session with Richard Vitty on Thursday 21st September
- EYRs will access Yoga Bugs in the spring term

More information to follow

Attendance News

Another great week for attendance! Our attendance this week is 97.9%, up from 97.1% this time last year.

We have had 15 late marks this week (10 families).



Classes of the Week!



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

Well done to everyone
Mrs Lamb

Medical Alert Assistance Dog (MAAD)

Special School Assembly

On Monday 18th September, we are very fortunate to have a visitor to our school assembly, Bridget Elliott, from the Medical Alert Assistance Dog organisation with a special guest. The special guest is a dog called Cooper which lives with one of our families. He supports one of our darlings in school who is diabetic. Cooper will wear a red coat which will identify him as a 'MAAD' dog. He will be coming onto the school site on a daily basis with the family. Bridget will be telling 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 will be bringing in leaflets to hand out to each child, please check your child's reading folder on Monday.

A risk assessment for this visit has been carried out and no child will be in direct contact with Cooper. This should be very exciting and informative for the children and staff. I'm sure that you will agree that this is a positive action for us all to help one of our darlings in school.



Well done to Campbell Chester-Craven who is now invested as a Beaver!

