



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

13th October 2017 Issue 6 Autumn Term 1



Training Day / Half term

A reminder that we break up for the half term holiday on Friday 20th October. This is also Mrs Howitt's last day. We have a staff training day on **Monday 30th October** and school will be closed to the children. We will reopen on Tuesday 31st October at **8.55am**



Autumn Conkers

In one of my assemblies with the children we have talked about the signs of autumn and had lots of discussion about conkers. I have also focused on the health and safety aspect of collecting conkers, please ask your child to tell you. I have set the children a challenge if they wish to do this:

- To make something interesting with conkers and be as imaginative as possible and if possible linked to maths e.g. number or shape.

The deadline for this is after half term to let the children have time to build up their collection. Deadline is Friday 3rd November. The children will have their photo taken with their 'creation' and this will be displayed with their models. I will be making one as Cole has kindly brought me in a huge bag!

Friends of the GPFS (FGPFS) Welcome Meeting Reminder

On behalf of the FGPFS chair, Mrs J Alley, mum of Thomas in Yellow class, there will be a welcome meeting for parents, carers in the school hall on Tuesday 17th October at 7.00pm. You are all most welcome to come along, have some refreshments and nibbles and get to know what the FGPFS is all about, how you can be involved with supporting the school and having fun. We do hope that parents of our new children in Nursery and Reception come along as well. As you all know, once your child joins GPFS you automatically become members of the FGPFS.

MOBILE PHONES REMINDER

Please may we remind you about the acceptable use of technology in the school grounds.

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

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.

Mrs Lamb DHT / ICT lead

POPPY APPEAL



Year 4 children will be going to each class selling 'Poppies' from **Tuesday 31st October**. If you would like your child to purchase one, please send in a donation. The poppies are the stick on type. Thank you.

As you are aware children in KS2 learning about WWII and hopefully will share some of their learning with classes in school.

KS2 have a very special visitor next week, a delightful lady who will share her experiences and memories of living as a child in England during WWII.

Parent Consultations

Reception to Year 4

Thank you so much for the wonderful turn out. It was so heartening to hear the very positive comments from parents of how children are supported by class teachers and staff in school. Your comments on how you as parents felt supported were much appreciated. Your children are our key priority, home and school working together is so important. I know that a couple of parents couldn't attend due to unavoidable circumstances. I would appreciate it if you could contact your child's teacher to rearrange your ten minute appointment at a mutually agreed time to discuss your child. If this is done by the end of next week then 100% of you will have met with your child's teacher and for those whom I asked to meet it will be 100% too.

Well done and thank you everyone.

School Clubs YR2s & KS2

Children in YR2, YR3 and YR4 will have brought home a club letter inviting them to make a 1st, 2nd, 3rd choice of a club they wish to join (YR2s have two choices). The clubs are run by school staff. The deadline to return the reply slips is Wednesday 18th October. Your child will be notified as to which club they have been allocated by Friday 20th October. Oversubscribed clubs will run on a rolling programme so that the children will get a turn (not Young Journalists). If your child is in my 3D Art club they will come home with a letter explaining protocols etc. as this is run after school. Clubs will start from Tuesday 31st October.

Christmas Productions Dates - Please put the dates on your calendar

As advised in last week's newsletter I have finalised the Production dates with Broadway East First School (our school halls inter connect). Exact times will be given nearer the date but please note that the productions for Key Stage 1 & 2 are ticketed due to hall capacity and two tickets per family will be issued. Pre-school, babies and children under First School age are not permitted at the main Productions but will be very welcome at the dress rehearsals. All of our children see each key stage production dress rehearsal so no one misses out unless it is due to unforeseen circumstances e.g. illness. The EYRs productions are not ticketed.

Dress Rehearsals:

Friday 8th December = Morning Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

Friday 8th December = in the afternoon - Key Stage 1 (Yellow, Orange, Green classes)

Monday 11th December = in the morning - Key Stage 2 (Blue, Indigo, Violet)

Monday 11th December = in the afternoon – Afternoon Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

THE PRODUCTIONS

Tuesday 12th December Afternoon

Performance = Afternoon Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

Wednesday 13th December Morning

Performance = Morning Nursery, Reception 1 & 2

Thursday 14th December Afternoon

Performance = Key Stage 1 (Yellow, Orange, Green classes)

Friday 15th December Afternoon Performance = Key Stage 2 (Blue, Indigo, Violet)

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our school council members had their first meeting this week! They all did a great job telling me all about how GoNoodle was going in classes. They have all been given their shiny new school council badges and are wearing them with pride! Our school council members are...

Evan Morris, Jessica Waters, Joe Grantham, Esme Coles, Harry Beall, Abigail Samples, Alex Jackson, Serena Midas-Panayi, Mandana Baigi, Ryan Middleton, Claude Spence, Daisy Wrigley, Archie Wells and Tilly Chandler, Theo Midas-Panayi, Layla Higgins and Francesca Geddes

Mrs Lamb



Have you heard about GoNoodle? We have been using this in classes daily since September, usually after playtime, to 'activate kids' bodies and brains'. The children are really enjoying it and some of our school council members had this to say...

"When children get all scribbly scrubbly and fiddly you can use GoNoodle to stop that. It gives you a little brain break."

"If you've been doing really hard work you need to get that out of your mind by using GoNoodle so you can keep going with the hard work."

"The stress reliefs really help you to calm down when you've been running around." It's free and available from home too!

Mrs Lamb

Friends of Gosforth Park First School

Hi,

Welcome to the new parents and children in Nursery, Reception and throughout the school who have joined us since September. We have had a great start to the new school year and have lots of fund raising ideas and fun planned.

Next Tuesday (17th) we have our first meeting of the year. Please join us for drinks and nibbles in the hall for 7pm start. All new parents and existing parents welcome. We have lots to discuss.

We have our Christmas school disco booked for Sunday 3rd December 3pm until 4.30pm. Put the date in your diary and be ready for ticket sales in November, last year's event was a sell out! I will soon be asking for volunteers to help out on the day, if you can help please let me know. Remember you have to stay and supervise your children at the disco so why not help out too?

We also have the dates for the Christmas productions so I will soon be setting up a rota for volunteers to help with tea and coffee for each class.

All the money we raise funds activities and equipment for our children at school.

If you want to volunteer or chat about any of these events or ideas for new events I can be found in the playground each day.

Jane Alley

Mum of Thomas in Yellow class

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the assembly on Monday 9th of October I shared information as appropriate about Jim Connen our beloved Road Crossing Officer, our 'Lollipop Man' with the children. The children understood that Jim was very special to us all and that we hold and treasure him in our hearts. We decided that we would do some pictures of Jim and make a special card from all of the children at GPFS for his family. I am still waiting to hear from the City Traffic department if they are able to share his family's address so that we can send the card etc. As you can imagine we need to hear and find out what the family's wishes are. We are all devastated and in shock. I will keep you informed as soon as I receive any information.

Year 4 Swimmers



Please remember to bring a coat for swimming on a Tuesday!

Mrs Wilson

MINI AND JUNIOR **GREAT NORTH RUN**

Please can all Mini and Junior Great North Run slips for September 2018 be returned to school by Thursday 19th October.

Thanks,
Miss Walsh

Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating our Harvest Festival on **Tuesday 17th October at 9.10am** and we are delighted that Revd Michelle Dalliston will be leading our assembly. As always, we will welcome donations for the People's Kitchen.

The charity provides a 'Harvest Wish List' for all who are willing to give. This includes **tinned meals, vegetables, fruit and soups; tea, coffee and instant drinking chocolate; household items such as dishwashing cloths, pan scrubs, freezer bags, laundry wash tablets and general toiletries** are also welcome. **Please note** that fresh fruit and vegetables are **not** required because it is not possible to use them immediately.

Please send any donations in with your child next on **Monday 16th October**.

Thank you again for your support.

Mrs Gordon

People's Kitchen- Harvest ***Donation Request***

A lovely lady called Mary Kelly came and spoke to the children about the role of the People's Kitchen. The children listened attentively and asked very sensible questions. She asked the children to say a big thank you to you all for sending in donations of tinned products and toiletries. She informed the children that they can't give a bed to the homeless people in the City but they have shower facilities now; hence the request for toiletries. If you haven't already sent donations in, I would be very grateful if you could send things in on Monday.

Outdoor Classroom Day!

On Thursday 12th October we enjoyed outdoor classroom day! The children took their learning outside and engaged in lots of outdoor activities including a climbing wall and an obstacle course!

The children demonstrated fantastic determination and technique in order to make it to the top of the climbing wall! The children were very sensible listening to the health and safety instructions from Boris and Gordon and then had great fun climbing!

Sam = "It was good! It was high and I liked it!"

Adam = "It was really fun because I do enjoy climbing!"

Ellie = "It was really, really high and I was the first one in the class to hit the buzzer at the top!"



Due to the Early Years children being too light in weight for the climbing wall (they wouldn't be able to abseil down... they'd still be up there!) they took part in an obstacle course. The children crawled through camouflage netting and tunnels, navigated their way along a rope maze, jumped, hopped and skipped along the stepping stones and ran to the finish line, cheering their team on along the way!

Lauren: "I liked going through the tunnels!"

Nathan: "Climbing through the nets was my favourite!"

Oliver: "We had to cross the stepping stones. I tried really hard!"

Outdoor learning improves children's health, engages them with learning and leads to a greater connection with nature. Play not only teaches critical life skills such as resilience, teamwork and creativity, but is central to children's enjoyment of childhood.

We all had a super day!

Miss Walsh



KS1 also had a visit from Gill from the RSPB who took the children around the grounds searching for different animals and plants.

Evie: "I loved looking in the pond."

Joe: "It was great to search and see what we could find."

Lauren: "I enjoyed flipping logs and stones to find insects."

Mrs Gordon

Attendance News

Another great week for attendance! Our attendance this week is 98.6%, up from 97.9% this time last year.

We have had 27 late marks this week (13 families).



Classes of the Week!



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

Well done to everyone
Mrs Lamb



Sean Peng has achieved his 100 metre swimming badge and his Level 4.

Henry Craig has achieved his 15 metres swimming badge.

Top Table



The following children were invited to sit at the Top Table on Thursday for superb behaviour and excellent manners at lunch time! Well done to...

Megan Surrage, Turki Alqahtani, Aroosh Mirza, Campbell Chester-Craven, Lauren Schofield, Blake Fahy and Asmina Doshi. Mrs Lamb



The Mathletics trophy was awarded to Mrs McClurg's Maths group on Monday for scoring the highest combined points on Mathletics. A special mention goes out to Callum Dalkin and Scott Sidney who were our Mathletes of the week. Children were also presented in Monday's assembly with Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates which they had earned on Mathletics. These will be printed and handed out each Monday morning.

Well done!

Mrs Lamb



Some of the children have been coming to tell me that they have already completed their Family Learning Challenge in their Family Maths Scrapbooks. Well done – I hope you've enjoyed the activities! These are to be handed in after half term when children and teachers will celebrate them together in class.

Thanks

Mrs Lamb

