



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

6th December 2019 Issue 5 Autumn Term 2



DIABETES UK

KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

In last week's newsletter we informed parents of the wonderful news that we had been nominated for the Diabetes UK Good Diabetes Care in School Award.

We were nominated by Rosie's family who wanted to share a little more about Rosie in this week's newsletter.

Rosie was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes when she was 3 years old, in nursery at GPFS. She's now in year 4.

The care she has received couldn't have been better. She has a wonderful relationship with the staff who work closely with her and if it wasn't for them, we wouldn't feel so worry free sending her to school every day.

I nominated the school for the Diabetes UK "Good Diabetes Care in School" award, because although Mrs Lamb and the team know how grateful we are, it would be lovely to be recognised by this charity, for their care and excellent dedication to Rosie's condition.

Here is a photo of Rosie with her Medical Detection dog Cooper, who you will have seen around the playground with us. He is very popular!



Thank you so much to Rosie's family for sharing this information and thanks to those of you who tried to complete the survey online. I phoned diabetes UK who said that the survey has recently been changed and unfortunately is now only open to parents/carers of diabetic children. Mrs Lamb

PLEASE REMEMBER - Preloved uniform is available to buy anytime through Kate Watkins. Please contact her on 07947846974. Lots of stock available at the moment. This includes not only official school uniform but also grey items priced as low as 50p

nemco

north east music

Mr Hamilton will not be in school for the rest of this term due to the Christmas Productions. We look forward to his return in the New Year.



Christmas Productions

Main Productions

Please note the main productions are for **adults only**. Pre-school children and babies are very welcome at the Dress Rehearsals but not at the actual productions. We don't want to turn anyone away; this so that the children are not distracted whilst performing in their shows. We thank you in advance for your support with this.

Tea, Coffee and Raffle

The FGPFs will kindly, *for the main performances only*, be serving coffee, tea and raffle tickets prior to the performances. Doors will open at 1.30pm for afternoon performances and 9.05 am for the am EYRS performance. Please wait patiently outside until we prepare the hall for the children.

Buggies and Push Chairs

As you will appreciate, we have limited space for buggies and pushchairs. If you do need to bring one, please make sure it is placed at the back of the hall, out of the way of the fire exits.

Many thanks

School Christmas Lunch



This is on Wednesday 18th December. It is also Christmas jumper day and the children can also wear a festive hair band or hat on the day.

If your child usually brings a packed lunch, but would like a school Christmas lunch on this day, this can be ordered through Parent Pay



Nursery had a fantastic time with Rob from Zoo Lab and all of his wonderful animals. Mrs Lamb was a bit surprised to find a rat by the name of Crystal on the loose in Nursery – luckily she was very well trained and when she was asked to go to bed she hopped back into her box! Rob commented on how beautifully behaved our Nursery children were – he couldn't believe how well they sat and listened and how confident they were in handling the animals.



Christmas Parties

On the day of the Christmas Parties children can bring their party clothes in a bag to change into on the afternoon. In the afternoon they will have some games and dancing in the hall followed by some party nibbles which are kindly being provided by the PTA.

The dates are:

Monday 16th December PM KS2 Party

Tuesday 17th December PM KS1 Party

Wednesday 18th December Nursery Parties AM/PM

Thursday 19th December Reception Party



Reception Christmas Craft Morning!

On **Thursday 19th December (9:00 - 10:30)** we would like to welcome you in to class to participate in a variety of Christmas craft activities with your child. The children really enjoy these mornings and it enables parents to see what their child is learning in school.

We will be having a coffee/cake sale throughout the morning to raise funds for early years and would appreciate any contributions. The money raised will be used for making and baking activities. Everyone is welcome to wear their Christmas Jumpers to get into the festive spirit (Parents/Carers included). We look forward to seeing you all then.

Thank you,

The Reception Team



We are very much looking forward to this year's panto, *Cinderella*, at The Exchange Theatre in North Shields.

The trip is planned for the morning of **Wednesday 11th December for Key Stage 2** and **Thursday 12th December for Reception and Key Stage One**

We will be travelling by coach, setting off just after registration, and will return in time for lunch at school.

Your child will need to be in school uniform for this visit.

The cost for this visit will be £5. PTA are subsidising the cost of the trip by paying for transport. Contributions are voluntary and no child will be excluded from the visit if parents are unable to contribute, however if not enough funds are collected then unfortunately the visit won't be able to go ahead. Please consent and send your contribution via Parent Pay by Monday 2nd December. Contributions are non-refundable if your child is sick or absent from the trip.

We will also need lots of parent helpers – please let the office know if you can help and on which day.

Thank you
Mrs Lamb



We were absolutely thrilled to be invited to sing at the Daft as a Brush charity dinner this year. Our wonderful choir (who have only been together since half term) sang five songs to a captive audience. Thank you so much to the parents who brought their children along – didn't they do us proud! I know you'll join me in saying a huge thanks and well done to Mr Patterson who leads the choir. Thank you also to Daft as a Brush on behalf of the children for the invite and for the selection boxes received.

And of course the biggest thank you of all goes to our wonderful children.



On Wednesday, our Year 4 pupils were very excited to be invited over to Gosforth East Middle School to listen to a presentation from Ash Dykes, an explorer and extreme athlete.

Ash recently completed his year-long third 'world first' by walking 4,000 miles along the Yangtze River in China - the first person ever to walk it's length.

This is what the children had to say ...

Aurelia – I didn't think anyone could walk that far!

Ethan – I never thought someone could go that far - walk across Madagascar and Mongolia.

Eleanor – It made people want to do more instead of just staying at home. It makes your ideas go really wild!

Ash explained: "This has been more than a personal achievement; it is unlocking human potential and showcasing that in a world where every corner of the planet is occupied by people, there are still things that haven't been done. I've shared my journeys with millions around the world, with the message 'If I can, then you can too'. We must enjoy this world we live in, but also highlight issues, showcase the positives and most importantly, protect it."

Parents, if you'd like to find out more you can like or follow Ash via [@RTCSTEM](https://www.instagram.com/RTCSTEM)



Classes of the Week!



The attendance cups for this week's best attendance were won by **Reception Miss Coughlan** and **Green Class** this week.

Our attendance this week was 96.8% which is down on last week and last year.

We know that our pupils, as well as much of the region, have been hit with a virus causing headaches, high temperatures, coughs, sore throats and sickness.

We had 31 lates this week (16 families).

Mrs Lamb



Congratulations to the following children who were selected, because of their super behaviour at lunchtime, to join Mr Hindess for lunch on The Golden Table!

Ayah Hussein, Katelynn Anderson, Eva Greenhill, Blake Fahy, Connor Wheatley and Ethan Weaver.



Congratulations to Rosie Holmes who has achieved her stage 3 swimming award.
Congratulations to Millie Anderson who has received a distinction in her junior 1 Stage School exam.



Our Mathletes of the week this week are Zoe Tinnion and Evan Morris. Well done! Our class of the week is **Orange Class - again!**

Reception Application Deadlines

The deadline for applications for children to start school in Reception is midday on 15th January 2019. To find out more and apply online visit

www.newcastle.gov.uk/admissions.

Diary Dates

Please see changes/new additions in red

Monday 9 th December 9:30 am	KS1 Christmas Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 10 th December 2:00 pm	KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 11 th December	KS2 Cinderella Theatre Trip
Thursday 12 th December	Reception and KS1 Cinderella Theatre Trip
Friday 13 th December 9:30 am	Early Years Christmas Production
Friday 13 th December 2:00 pm	KS2 Christmas Production
Monday 16 th December PM	KS2 Christmas Party
Tuesday 17 th December PM	KS1 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December AM/PM	Nursery Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Lunches
Thursday 19 th December 9:00 – 10:30	Reception Christmas Craft Morning
Friday 20 th December	Last day of term
Monday 6 th January	Training Day
Tuesday 7 th January	School re-opens



Christmas Production Raffles

We would like to hold a raffle at each of the three productions. In order to do this, we will need some donations for prizes such as chocolates, bottles, gift sets or anything Christmassy! If you would like to send in a donation there will be boxes at each of the entrances to make it easy for the children to pop them in on their way into school. Thank you for your support.



The Friends of GPFS will be serving Tea and Coffee and selling raffles tickets (£1 per ticket) at the Christmas Productions (not the dress rehearsals, sorry!) on the following dates:

- KS1 Tuesday 10th Dec 2pm
- EYFS Friday 13th Dec 9:30am
- KS2 Friday 13th Dec 2pm



The Money raised at events such as the Productions and the Christmas Grotto all goes back into school to fund various things from subsidising the cost of the Panto trip by paying for the transport for all of the children from Reception through to Year 4, paying for Zoolab to visit Nursery, and paying for the food and drink at the Class Christmas Parties. Your donations and continued support ensure we offer the children the most magical and memorable Christmas term at school. Thank you.

Surprise Visitor!

Last year we surprised the children with a special visit from Santa at his very own GPFS grotto.

Each child received a Christmas themed book and we asked parents to send in a suggested donation of £2 per child. The children loved the Grotto and we have decided to do it again.

On Wednesday 18th December we will be surprising the children, so please do not share the details with them. We are again asking for a suggested £2 donation, which covers the cost of purchasing the books, and hopefully raise a little money for school too. You can send in the cash or pay online on your ParentPay account. We would really appreciate as many donations as possible.

HELP!! We would love to make the gazebo look as Christmassy and magical as it did last year so if you have any spare Christmas decorations we could please borrow/keep please let your class rep or the school office know. If you are able to assist setting up after drop off or tidy up just before pick up we would really appreciate all the help we can get.