



STEM - Nissan Engagement Day

As we are wanting to raise the profile of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) in school we invited a team from Nissan into school to deliver an engagement day. All of our children from 3 years to 11 were involved in different workshops across the day. They worked in teams to design cars from Lego and there were some amazing prototypes - very creative! We also had a fantastic production line too! They learnt about the Nissan plant (the size of 10 Metro Centres!) and about some of the robotic technology used there. It was a wonderful way for children to learn about the different engineering roles and career opportunities to be had in STEM.

The three staff members from Nissan commented on the fantastic behaviour of our pupils, their wonderful manners and politeness and also their eagerness and enthusiasm to learn; there were lots of interesting questions asked across the day. Although I know our pupils are like this it always makes me very proud when visitors to school can see the same qualities in our children. Well done to them all - it was a fabulous day!

McMillan Coffee Morning

Our Reception and Preschool children went along to the village hall on Friday to support Gainford Baby and Toddler Group's fundraising efforts. They were holding a McMillan coffee morning and our youngest children had worked with Mrs Gallagher to bake some delicious cakes to take along. The children had enjoyed using all of the baking equipment and weighing the ingredients and seeing the finished result. The Warm and Welcome hub were also holding a coffee morning in the village hall so there were cakes galore!

Esme M- "Our cakes tasted very creamy. I felt good for myself giving the cakes to the people."

Esme B- "I enjoyed putting the chocolate chips on the cakes. It felt nice sharing the cakes. It raised money for them too."

Volunteering in school

The new curate at our local church, Reverend Moji, has kindly volunteered to help out in school. She has already met Class Swale pupils and is now coming into school on Friday afternoons after also helping out at Gainford Baby and Toddler group on Friday mornings. Reverend Moji has also offered to share some information about her Nigerian heritage and culture with our pupils and I know that they will be interested in this. If you know of anyone else who would be willing to give up a few hours a week to support in school please ask them to contact school. We would really love to have more volunteers and our pupils do love a visitor to school! We complete a full safeguarding/DBS check before volunteers start and Mrs Linsley can do this for anyone wishing to volunteer. Please spread the word

Educational Visits

Our Year 5 and Year 6 children all have the opportunity to attend a residential visit to Robinwood, Alston. The visit is planned for December and lots of parents and carers came along to the meeting on Monday to learn more about it.



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

It's a great opportunity for developing team building skills, leadership skills and also for promoting independence too. Educational visits are planned across the year for all classes and thankfully FoGS help us with the cost of transport for lots of our visits to help keep costs down for families.

A dog in school??!

Pets as Therapy (PAT) is a national charity that enhances the health and well-being of thousands of people in communities across the UK. Their volunteers and their temperament-assessed pets visit establishments such as care homes, hospitals and schools and bring smiles to many faces. The companionship of a pet can also really boost mental health and well-being. Several years ago we had a lovely lady, who came in to school with her dog Hettie, known as Hettie the reading dog, and it was amazing how eager the children were to sit and read with her even if they had previously been reluctant readers. We now have this opportunity again.

Daisy, a Sprocker spaniel who lives in Staindrop, has already visited Gainford with her grown-ups! They had a tour of the school and the staff were as delighted as the children to see her! They will soon be coming into school every two weeks across the year. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

Secondary School visits

Secondary schools in our area have been busy planning and holding their open evenings. If you do go along to an open evening but would like to arrange another visit, perhaps at a quieter time, our secondary schools are always willing to accommodate this so don't hesitate to get in touch with them.

Gainford Art Exhibition

The annual village art exhibition will take place this week at the village hall. Every child in school will be exhibiting a piece of work alongside many other pieces of Art from local artists. Class Tees have art work inspired by their Raby Castle visit, Class Wear have been experimenting with colour representing the sky at different times and Class Swale have taken Trains as stimulus. The opening event is on Friday 6th October 7pm-9.00pm and there will be more opportunities to view the work on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th 10am-4.00pm. Entry is free so if you have time to call in please do.

Quick Reminder

No nut products please!

We do have a pupil in school with a nut allergy. Please ensure packed lunches are nut free and please do not send your child to school with nuts/nut products for a snack.

Please check any birthday cakes to ensure that they do not contain nuts too!



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Illnesses

If your child has an episode of sickness and or diarrhoea please keep them off school until 48 hours after their last bout of sickness as this helps prevent the spread of infections.

Attendance w/e 29.09.23

Our Minimum Target is 96%

Well done to all classes who have achieved attendance above our minimum target.

A special well done to Class Wear for attendance that was the best out of the entire school.

Class	Attendance %
Swale	89.28
Wear	95.20
Tees	93.75

Gold Headteacher Awards

Each week in our Celebration Worship assembly Gold Headteacher’s awards is presented to some children who have excelled when working towards our theme of the week

Awards were for maths

Class Swale	Sam Jessica
Class Wear	Thea Toby
Class Tees	Joe Emilia

Diary Dates

Please see our full list of Diary dates for the autumn term at the end of this newsletter

Come along to this session to learn more about what your child is learning this term and how you can support this .

Wednesday 11th October 3.30pm -Class Wear Miss Watson - meet the teacher

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Multi-Sports

With Kyle for Y2-Y6 First session 12.09.23
Tuesdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm – places available

New Mini Disciples Club with Sarah Fells /Wendy Broderick

Wednesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm First session 20.09.23

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)-Our Parents Action Group

Our parent action group help us to raise funds for our school benefitting all pupils in school. They help with the cost of transport for educational visits to try to keep costs down for families. FoGs also support us to purchase resources and equipment for school and help to organise and fund fun events for our pupils

If you are interested in supporting our school and learning more about FOGS please contact school or drop FoGS an email gainfordforgs@gmail.com

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 3rd October at 7pm via Teams.**



We are a Rights Respecting School

Rights Respecting – This week Mrs Kidd has led a Rights Respecting assembly with a focus on Black History month. The articles the children focused on were Article 2 (non -discrimination) and Article 30 (children from minority and indigenous groups) They learnt that every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family. They learnt that the convention applies to every child without discrimination , whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status.

HOUSEPOINTS/DOJO points

Well done for all the hard work and effort in school this week! The Dojo points have been totalled up and this week **Sycamore team** have come out on top! Well done to everyone in Sycamore!

OAK 288

WILLOW 270

SYCAMORE 293

Diary Dates Autumn Term 2023

Tuesdays – After School Club	Multiskills After School Club starts 12.09.2023 – 7 Weeks	3.30pm-4.30pm with Kyle Swankie
Wednesdays - After School Club	New Mini Disciples Club starts 20.09.2023 – 5 Weeks	3.30pm -4.30pm with Sarah Fells & Wendy Broderick
Friday 06.10. 23	Flu Immunisation Day	For Reception to year 6 students
Wednesday 11.10.23	Class Wear – Meet the Teacher (Miss Watson)	3.30pm to 4.30pm
Thursday 19.10.23	Harvest Festival	9.15am St Mary’s Church, Gainford – all welcome
Thursday 26.10.23	Class Swale trip to Locomotion Museum	TBC
Friday 27.10.23	Break up for half term /last day at school	
Monday 06.11.23	Pupils return to school	
Thursday 16.11.23	‘Flu Immunisation Day	For Reception –Year 6 pupils
Monday 20.11.23	Teacher Training Day	School closed to pupils
Tuesday 21.11.23	Parental Consultations –Open Night	3.30pm -6pm
Tuesday 21.11.23	Book Fayre Arrives in school	The Book Fayre will be in school for the week
Wednesday 06.12.23 – Friday 08.12.23	Residential to Robin wood -to be confirmed	Class Tees
Wednesday 06.12.23	Class Swale Nativity Performance	1.00pm
Thursday 07.12.23	Class Swale Nativity Performance	9.30am
Tuesday 11.12.2023	School Christmas Dinner Day	
Wednesday 13.12.23	Whole School Pantomime visit (Darlington)	During school day
Thursday 14.12.23	Class Swale Christmas party	



GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

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'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Friday 15.12.2023	Class Tees/Wear Christmas Party	
Monday 18.12.23	Christingle Service	9.15am at St Marys Church, Gainford
Tuesday 19.12.23	Last day in school Break up for Christmas	
Wednesday 03.01.24	Teacher Training Day	School closed to pupils
Thursday 04.01.24	Pupils Return to school	

CPD /Teacher training Days – school closed to pupils

Monday November 20th 2023

Wednesday January 3rd 2024

Monday 15th April 2024

Friday 24th May 2024