



## **SATS**

Our Year 6 pupils will be sitting their Year 6 Standard Attainment Tests(SATS) next week. They have all worked incredibly hard and I am incredibly proud of how they have applied themselves to their studies and of the effort they have shown across the year. I must say a huge 'Thank You' to Mrs Kidd and Mrs Maude for supporting all of our Year 6 pupils to make such good progress across the year. They are all well prepared and all that we ask is that they try their best next week; I am sure they will. All Year 6 pupils are welcome to come into class for 8.30 am Monday to Thursday so that they can have a relaxed start to the day -they can also have breakfast of toast or cereal if they would like this.

## **Training Teachers of the future**

Jodie Ross is a trainee teacher who has been on placement in Class Tees. As a school we pride ourselves on the time we dedicate to mentoring and coaching others . Mrs Kidd has acted as her mentor and they have shared the teaching over several weeks. It has been a pleasure to see Miss Ross develop her skills as a teacher and to see the exciting lessons she had delivered in class. The children have also really benefitted from having an additional teacher in class. Miss Ross has thoroughly enjoyed her time working with school colleagues and with our children -so much so she is even popping back in to support us with SATS next week .We say a huge thank you and wish her well for her future teaching career

## **Boot Sale**

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 10-12am we will be holding our fundraising Car Boot Sale . School opens for cars/sellers at 9.00am and for the public at 10.00am . You can book a space with school or turn up on the day. We will have a café open selling cakes, scones, sweets, teas, coffees, juice etc and all money raised will be collected by FOGS and will be spent on our pupils from Preschool to Year 6. If you would like to donate cakes, scones or biscuits can you please send in donations on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> May or bring them along early on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>. Any donations will be received with thanks, we hope to see you there and please spread the word ...oh and keep everything crossed for a sunny day!

## **Big Summer Raffle**

Our Big Summer Raffle has been organised by FoGS . There are lots of fabulous prizes included a night at Headlam Hall , a Nintendo Switch, meals for two and so much more! Do have a look at the flyers attached to this newsletter to find out about more fabulous prizes .

We will be sending two books of Raffle tickets home per family. If you are able to sell these that would be wonderful. If you need more please contact the office or if you can't sell the tickets please return them to school .

## **Car Parking Outside of School**

Parking outside of the school gates and in close vicinity to the school has caused some safety concerns for parents and children this week . Wherever possible can I ask that cars are parked close to the village green rather than outside of the school gates; this is only a short distance from our school building and will help to ensure that children and adults are safe at pick up and drop off time .

## **Games Night**



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We are planning to hold a Games Night Fayre on Thursday 27 June . This is always really popular with the likes of Coconut Shys , Hook -a- Dock, Tombola, Nerf gun challenge and so much more . Our pupils love the jam jar tombola and bottle tombola too.

If you can fill a jar with fun items such as toys, marbles, hair bobbles, crayons , rubbers, pencils , toy soldiers etc and send them this would be appreciated . Last year we had jars with socks, gloves even hot chocolate mix with marshmallows! Please save glass jars big or small as we will also be filling them in school.

If you would like to donate a bottle for the Bottle -tombola , or send in a prize for the tombola stall that would be fabulous .

### **Holy Communion / Family Service**

Reverend Canon Eileen Harrop held a Communion Service in school. This was only the second time that this had taken place in our school .It was a special service where all those who had been confirmed could take communion . Our Worship Leaders in school also supported during the service and Sarah Fells, Children and Young People's missionary, helped to plan the service and involve our pupils . If your child has been baptised and if they are considering taking the next step towards communion please do get in touch with Reverend Eileen Harrop or let us know so that we can pass on your details to her .

### **Attendance and Unauthorised Absence.**

Thank you to all parents who support their child's punctuality and attendance at school . We do understand that children can be ill but by ensuring your child is in school as much as possible offers them a greater chance of success with their school work and personal development.

Please note if your child has 7 days unauthorised absence in term time in a 12-week period then the Local Authority can issue a fixed penalty notice to each parent/parents or carers per child. This can be made up from a combination of arriving late, unexplained absences and unauthorised holidays. From September 2024, this will change to 5 days and the fixed penalty's charge will increase significantly.

If your child is ill and unable to attend school please notify school by the start of the school day wherever possible and a call should be made **every day** of their absence. Messages can also be left on our answer machine or an email sent in to school even over the weekend.

Furthermore, if your child has a doctors, hospital or dental appointment, please inform the school office and provide evidence of upcoming appointments when requested.

### **After School Clubs from 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024**

We will be running Multi Sports with Kyle on Tuesday evenings, Mini Disciples on Wednesday evenings, regrettably we are unable to run the Gardening Club due to circumstances beyond our control.

Miss Muir will be delivering Forest School on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 3.30pm to 5.00pm at a cost of £7.50 for Class Wear & Tees and on 10<sup>th</sup> July for Class Swale

This week Class Tees have been reading the poem The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes. They even created an end verse and created fabulous illustrations for the poem using charcoal .



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They have enjoyed PE sessions with Kyle and have worked on PowerPoint presentations all about this summer's Olympic Games .

Class Wear have continued to improve their cricket skills in readiness for the competition at Raby Castle as well as learning about Vikings and Anglo Saxons.

Pippa "Learning about Vikings is fun. They were good at building ships but they were also good at fighting , stealing and robbing ...so sometimes they were not very good at all! This week I loved cricket I didn't know I could even play now I have learnt to bat , field and bowl!"

Class Swale have enjoyed using lots of wonderful ,new Mud-Kitchen equipment purchased with a kind donation from the Parish Council .They had new potion bottles, cauldron pots , and pans and have had fabulous fun in their outdoor kitchen and in class . They even have a brand-new welly cupboard that can be left outside on the decking .... I know our caretaker Mrs Reed will be pleased about this one as she does like a tidy school ! They have continued to learn about Seas and Oceans too.

Preston, "It was really interesting to learn about spider crabs in our Oceans and Seas topic ."

Well it's hard to believe we have packed so much into a four-day week! Hopefully this dry and sunny spell will continue over the weekend .

Have a lovely weekend

C Riley

### Rights Respecting

This week the children learnt about the Olympic Games and they have also started to learn about the Para Olympics. They tried to see how our schools Christian Values are represented in the games with a focus on being inclusive, courageous and supportive. With the games being held during the school holidays this summer and being hosted in Paris hopefully all of the children will get to see some of the athletes taking part .



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**Attendance w/e 10.05.24**

Our Minimum Target is 96%

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

A special well done to Tees attendance that was the best out of the entire school.

Attendance data will be included next week

Class	Attendance %
Swale	89.84
Wear	94.64
Tees	95.83

**Gold Headteacher Awards**

Each week in our Celebration Worship assembly Gold Headteacher's awards are presented to some children who have excelled when working towards our theme of the week. The theme this week was for Handwriting and Presentation

<b>Class Swale</b>	Angus Camilla
<b>Class Wear</b>	Phoebe Pippa
<b>Class Tees</b>	Emily Kai

Next week's award is for Effort /Enthusiasm

**Diary Dates**

Please see our Diary dates for the remainder of the academic year at the end of this newsletter.

**Extra-Curricular Clubs (3.30pm-4.30pm)**

Coding Club -Mondays 3.30pm-4.30pm  
Multisport – Tuesdays 3.30pm -4.30pm  
Mini Disciples – Wednesdays 3.30pm - 4.30pm

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

**Car Boot Sale**

The car boot sale is planned for **Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>**. It's a great opportunity to have a Spring Clean-or a sort out in your attic or garage and bring a boot full of items you no, longer need. We will also have refreshments including a cake stall too.! If you can't come along cakes and scones would make a wonderful donation.

**We Need You!!**

Do you think you could spare some of your time to help with our fundraising activities? We are a small team of parents/carers who work together to raise funds for school that benefit all of the pupils from pre-school to Year 6.

We really need more volunteers who could offer some time to support events in school. We really appreciate any help that can be offered. Can you help out at an event?

If you are keen to support our school and learn more about FoGS please contact school or drop FoGS an email [gainfordfogs@gmail.com](mailto:gainfordfogs@gmail.com)



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**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 have come out on top. Well done! Who will win the house-point trophy at the end of the year? It's a close-run race at the moment!

OAK 170

WILLOW 214

SYCAMORE 219

**Diary Dates – Whole School**

**Weekly**

Mondays	Coding Club 3.30pm -4.40pm	Class Wear & Class Tees	4 sessions 29/04 13/05 20/05 03/06
Tuesdays	Multi Sports 3.30pm-4.30pm	Y1 - 6	6 Sessions – Summer Term 1
Wednesdays	Mini Disciples 3.30pm-4.30pm	Class Wear & Class Tees	6 Sessions – Summer Term 1

**Events**

13/05/2024 to 16/05/2024 incl	SATS week	Y6	
18/05/2024	Car Boot Sale	School Grounds	10am –12 noon
23/05/2024	Raby Castle Cricket	Y3 &Y4	During School Hours
<b>24/05/2024</b>	<b>School Closed &amp; May Half Term Starts</b>	<b>Staff Training (CPD)</b>	
03/06/2024	School Reopens		
03/06/2024	Multiplication Check Week	Y4	
07/06/2024	Gainford Baby & Toddler Group		
10/06/2024	Phonics Screening Week	Y1	
11/06/2024	School Photographs	Whole School	
12/06/2024	Leavers Service	Durham Cathedral Staff & Y6 Only	During School Hours
14/06/2024 to 16/06/2024 incl	Mini Disciples Launchpad Weekend	Mini Disciples	
2			
26/06/2024 to 28/06/2024 incl	Hummersknott Transition	Y6	
27/06/2024 to 28/06/2024 incl	Wyvern Academy Transition	Y6	



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27/06/2024	Games Night & Raffle Draw		TBC
28/06/2024	South Shields Trip	Class Swale & Wear	During School Hours
01/07/2024	Thanksgiving church service lead by Church for Mrs Kidd and Mrs Riley	All welcome	9.10am at St Mary's Church Gainford
10/07/2024 to 11/07/2024 incl	Staindrop Transition	Y6	
11/07/2024 to 12/07/2024 incl	Teesdale School Transition	Y6	
17/07/2024	Key Stage 2 Production	All welcome	1.30pm & 6.00pm
19/07/2024	Colour Run	Whole School	AM TBC
22/07/24	Year 6 Leavers Service	All welcome	9.10am St Mary's Church, Gainford
23/07/2024	Talent Show		TBC
23/07/2024	Break up for Summer		

### School holidays for the 2023/24 academic year

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-opens
Summer half-term 2024	Thursday 23 May 2024	Monday 3 June 2024
Summer 2024	Tuesday 23 July 2024	Thursday 5 September 2024

### School holidays for the 2024/25 academic year

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-opens
Summer 2024	Tuesday 23 July 2024	Thursday 5 September 2024
Autumn half-term 2024	Friday 25 October 2024	Monday 4 November 2024
Christmas 2024	Friday 20 December 2024	Tuesday 7 January 2025
Spring half-term 2025	Friday 21 February 2025	Monday 3 March 2025
Easter 2025	Friday 11 April 2025	Monday 28 April 2025
May Day 2025	Friday 2 May 2025	Tuesday 6 May 2025
Summer half-term 2025	Friday 23 May 2025	Monday 2 June 2025
Summer 2025	Friday 18 July 2025	TBC



**GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL**

**NEWSLETTER 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

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## **CPD Days (School Closed)**

May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024

September 4<sup>th</sup> 2024

January 6<sup>th</sup> 2025