



### Message from the Headteacher

#### Class Swale

This term Class Swale's topic is 'Terrific Trains!' They are learning about how trains have changed over time and also about the life and work of George Stephenson. They are learning about materials in Science. In RE they are learning about the importance of the Bible to Christians so they had a walk to St Mary's Church and found a bible that was from the 1600's!

Esme M- "I went to church and I saw a Bible and it was massive! I think it was older than you. Mrs Riley"

Camilla, "I saw a giant Bible and it was very, very old. It is a special book that is important to Christians. It was more than 400 years old!"

#### Class Wear

In Class Wear the children are learning about Ancient Egypt and in Science they are learning about forces and magnets. In RE they are learning about different faiths including Hinduism and Christianity. Each Thursday they are having a music lesson delivered by a specialist teacher, Ms Coulls, from Durham Music Service so I am sure we will soon be hearing sweet music along the junior corridor!

Maddie," I really liked learning clapping games and rhymes."

Pippa," Music was fun because I felt as if we were all working as a team. I felt as if we all joined together to enjoy Music. "

#### Class Tees

Class Tees had a wonderful visit to Raby Castle on Thursday morning-once issues with troublesome transport had been sorted out! They learnt so much about the history of the castle and will be completing lots of follow-up work in school around this topic.

Kai, "I was really impressed with the display of 39 muskets, 2 swords and 4 flintlocks. The history is really interesting."

Emily, "The housekeeper's room was really interesting as it had pink and white marble water jugs and beautiful wall paper too."

Dexter "I enjoyed seeing the kitchen with all of the equipment, like knives and spoons, hanging on the wall. I got to see the mechanism for the furnace and how it worked. I am looking forward to learning more about its history too."

#### Meet the Teacher

**Please feel free to call into school at the times below to meet your child' class teacher-it is fine to bring children with you**

- Class Swale -Miss Farley-**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September this starts at 3.30-4.00pm** This is also a chance for parents and carers to learn more about our phonics scheme and about how they can support their child with reading /phonics



- Class Wear Y3/4 Miss Watson **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 3.30-4.00pm**
- Class Tees Mrs Kidd **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 4.30-5.00pm** There is also an information session for Robinwood

### **School Council**

Each class has now voted in their new School Council members. They will meet with their class then with Mrs Gallagher weekly.

- Year 1 Harvey and Harrison
- Year 2 Charlotte and Lewis
- Year 3 and Year 4 Maddie, John and Ada,
- Year 5 Dexter and Bethany
- Year 6 Emily and Anthony

I am sure they will have lots to say and lots of ideas to bring to the meetings! Our House Captains will be voted in on 20<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Secondary School Open Evenings**

Our local secondary schools are inviting **Year 5 and Year 6 pupils, parents and carers** along to their open evenings. Here are the details below.

**Staindrop Academy** Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 5.30-6.30pm

**Teesdale Academy** Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 5-7.30pm Welcome from Headteacher at 5.30pm and 6.30pm

**Hummersknott Academy** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 6.30-8.30pm

C Riley

### **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.



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

### The school day

The school day starts at 8.55am and ends at 3.30pm. Unless your child is already at Breakfast Club please aim to have your child arrive at school so they can line up with their class and enter school at 8,55am. Our school gates open at 8.45am and children are welcome on the playground from then. We end the day at 3.30pm.

### Lost property

Please label your child's clothing including PE kit, hats etc as this will help us return any lost property to the correct pupil. You do not need to buy name tags- even writing your child's name or initials on the clothing labels can help to reunite lost clothing with the correct owner. there is usually a large label on the inside of sweatshirts etc Uniform is expensive and our goal is to have a lost property box that is empty or at least one that doesn't resemble a mountain!!

### Attendance w/e 15.09.23

Our Minimum Target is 96%

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

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

Class	Attendance %
Swale	99.22
Wear	83.93
Tees	88.11

### 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 this week were for PE and outdoor learning

Class Swale	Franco Esme B
Class Wear	Freddie Joey
Class Tees	April

### Diary Dates

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

### 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

If you are interested in supporting our school and learning more about FOGS please contact school or drop FoGS an email [gainfordfogs@gmail.com](mailto:gainfordfogs@gmail.com)

### We are a Rights Respecting School

#### What is a Rights Respecting Approach?



# GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023



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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 OAK team have come out on top! Well done to everyone in OAK!

OAK 382

WILLOW 337

SYCAMORE 320

### Diary Dates Autumn Term 2023

Tuesdays	Multiskills After School Club starts	3.30pm-4.30pm with Kyle Swankie
Wednesdays	New Mini Disciples Club starts 20.09.2023	3.30pm -4.30pm with Sarah Fells & Wendy Broderick
Tuesday 26.09.2023	Nissan Engagement Stem Day whole school	In school
Wednesday 20.09.2023	Mini Disciples After School Club	3.30pm-4.30pm with Sarah Fells
Wednesday 27.09.2023	Robin Wood Presentation for parents /carers	
Thursday 19.10.23	Harvest Festival	9.15am St Mary's Church, Gainford – all welcome
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
<b>Monday 20.11.23</b>	<b>Teacher Training Day</b>	<b>School closed to pupils</b>
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 until 24/11/2023
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
Wednesday 13.12.23	Whole School Pantomime visit (Darlington)	During school day
Thursday 14.12.23	Class Swale Christmas party	
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	
<b>Wednesday 03.01.24</b>	<b>Teacher Training Day</b>	<b>School closed to pupils</b>
Thursday 04.01.24	Pupils Return to school	



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### **CPD /Teacher training Days – school closed to pupils**

Monday November 20<sup>th</sup> 2023

Wednesday January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024