



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

### Message from the Headteacher

Well after a hot and sunny start to the term the autumnal weather has certainly arrived. On very wet mornings when children arrive at school our routine is that they can come straight into school from 8.45am and go to their classrooms. Although we love the outdoors here at Gainford Primary we don't want children soaked to the skin before the school day has even started! There is always a member of staff on gate duty to see your child safely into school from 8.45am. Although we would like to have all pupils in school so we can start our school day at 8.55am if you do arrive late with your child please bring them to the main entrance door where they can be handed over to Mrs Linsley.

### House Teams School Council /House Captains

On Wednesday our new House Teams voted in their Captains and vice Captains. Children in Year 5 and Year 6 could put themselves forward for the roles and had worked on presentations to share with all of the children in their team. They spoke about their qualities for leadership. All children who put themselves forward were awarded 5 dojo/house points; we were very impressed by them all. All pupils voted and the votes were counted and our newly appointed Captains and Vice-Captains are .....

| House Team | Captain | Vice-Captain |
|------------|---------|--------------|
| Oak        | Emilia  | Elizabeth    |
| Willow     | Emily   | George       |
| Sycamore   | April   | Ivy          |

Congratulations to all of our new Captains and vice-Captains!

### Playground Buddy System

Children in Year 5 and Year 6, from Class Tees, have the opportunity to become a playground Buddy. They encourage pupils to play together in an inclusive manner and introduce the younger children to new playground games. They are always on the look-out for any child who has not got anyone to play with or who may have fallen over. They take their role very seriously and are a fabulous help to the staff on duty. The younger children really love their support too.

Jessica "I really like it when a Buddy comes to play with me. They are really kind!"

### New Mini Disciples Club

Sarah Fells, our new Children, Young People and Families' Missioner has now started Mini Disciples Club every Wednesday 3.30-4.40pm. Supported by Wendy Broderick (many thanks) the children who attended had a fabulous session. This club is £3.00 per session and if your child wants to come along and give it a try please contact the office. Sarah is also involved with the family session **Messy Church** (next session is Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October and the youth club session, **Youth Saints**, will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October, both held at St Marys Church, Gainford. If you would like to learn more please email [saintmarys@gainfordwinston.church](mailto:saintmarys@gainfordwinston.church)



### School Council

On Tuesday Mrs Gallagher held the first School Council Meeting of this year with all of our new representatives attending. Two of the school Council members told me about some of their ideas.

Dexter – *"We talked about clubs that pupils could run in school such as Lego Club and a Dance Club. We also want to support the foodbank this year."*

Bethany *"We also want to put a Buddy Bench in school so that if someone is feeling sad or can't find someone to play with they can sit on the bench then our playground Buddy can come over to help them."*

### Staindrop Academy PE coaching

Megan Turnbull is the new PE teacher from Staindrop Academy who visits school every Tuesday afternoon. She has already started coaching Class Wear this term and they are really enjoying the lessons. They are focusing on Tag Rugby. Miss Turnbull will work with every class over the course of the school year and staff will also benefit from watching and supporting a PE specialist.

Harry *"I liked it when I scored in rugby because I got to celebrate with my friends!"*

John *"I learnt how to throw the ball from your side. It was really good fun."*

### Cricket Sessions at Barnard Castle

If your child is interested in playing cricket, a junior training session will start on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at Barnard Castle (6pm-7pm). The club is looking for new junior players to join the club. Children aged 5 years and above are very welcome to come along to the winter training. They have 5 junior teams (U9s, U11s girls' softball, U11s, U13s & U15s). Please contact the Clubs junior coordinator, Scott Hedley on 07590537953 or by email [smh281994@outlook.com](mailto:smh281994@outlook.com) if you are interested in your child /children joining the club ahead of our winter training.

### Piano Lessons

If you are interested in you or your child learning the piano please see this message from Rudi Eastwood at the Tapiola Piano and Music Studio, Barnard Castle.

This is an exciting opportunity to study at The Tapiola Piano School. The lessons are 30 minutes in duration and take place after school hours at our studio in Barnard Castle. There may also be the opportunity to learn during the school day. Students are encouraged to participate in concerts, music examinations and festivals, whilst also benefiting from tutorials on our creative YouTube channel. Our annual Christmas concert is hosted at the prestigious Bowes Museum, just around the corner from our studio. For further information, please visit [www.tapiolapianoschool.com](http://www.tapiolapianoschool.com) or contact Rudi Eastwood on Tel: 07972 151346/Email: [rudi.tapiola@gmail.com](mailto:rudi.tapiola@gmail.com)  
We look forward to welcoming new students!

### Wrap Around Care

We offer Breakfast Club from 7.45 am and Afterschool Club up to 5.30pm. Please contact Mrs Linsley in the office if you need any further information. If you do need to book your child/children into Wrap Around Care can you please let us know as soon as possible; when numbers are high we need to employ a second member of staff to support. Likewise, if your child is booked in to one of the clubs but you need to cancel please inform us as soon as possible. Thank you for your support with this.



### **Parent Support Advisor**

We have a Parent Support Advisor, Rachel Stevens, who visits our school on a weekly basis. She is a fabulous help and is a great link between school and home. She supports several schools in our local area and offers support with areas such as attendance, supporting families with children who have a Special Educational Need, assisting with transition meetings for moves to secondary school amongst many other things. Many of our parents and carers have really benefitted from her support over the years. She is fabulous at sign posting families in the right direction for support services and can help with form filling too. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you think that you would like her support.

### **Free School Meals**

If your circumstances have changed and you think that your child may now qualify for free school meals please do get in touch with Mrs Linsley in the office as she can look into this for you. This also applies if your child is in Class Swale - although all children from Reception -Year 2 receive a free school meal, if you do qualify due to benefits etc this can generate more funding into school to help support your child's learning.

### **Gainford Baby and Toddler Group**

If you have babies and toddlers in your family Gainford Toddler Group meet at the village hall every Friday morning from 9.30-11.30am. It's a great group and a chance for parents of younger children to get together and for children to interact with others of a similar age. On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October we will be hosting their session at our school from 9.30am and are really looking forward to meeting new parents and children. Please spread the word about this wonderful group (find them on Facebook) and about our session on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs 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.

#### **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 by 8.55am. Our school gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am 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 22.09.23**

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 for attendance that was the best out of the entire school.

| Class | Attendance % |
|-------|--------------|
| Swale | 98.20        |
| Wear  | 87.90        |
| Tees  | 95.00        |

**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 writing

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Class Swale</b> | Harriet<br>Bonnie |
| <b>Class Wear</b>  | Marley<br>Isobel  |
| <b>Class Tees</b>  | Emily<br>Georgia  |

**Diary Dates**

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

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

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 4.30pm** Class Tees -Mrs Kidd **Robinwood Information** /Meet the Teacher

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 3.30pm** -Class Swale Miss Farley Meet the Teacher/Supporting your child with phonics/reading

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm** -Class Wear Miss Walton -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



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### 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 for school.

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

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October via Teams.

### We are a Rights Respecting School

**Rights Respecting** – This week Mrs Kidd has led a Rights Respecting assembly with a focus on The International Day of Peace (21<sup>st</sup> September). Building a peaceful world needs all people everywhere to have their rights protected and respected.

Article 38: governments must not allow children to take part in war.

Article 39: children must receive support to help them recover their health, dignity and respect following recovery from trauma and re-integration.

### 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 265

WILLOW 264

SYCAMORE 276

### 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 |
| Tuesday 26.09. 23              | Nissan Engagement Stem Day whole school                            | In school   |
| Monday 25.09. 23               | Robin Wood Presentation for parents /carers, Also Meet the Teacher | 4.30pm to 5.30pm                                  |
| Wednesday 27.09.2023           | Staindrop Academy Open Evening                                     |   |
| Wednesday 27.09.2023           | Class Swale – Meet the Teacher (Miss Farley)                       | 3.30pm to 4.30pm                                  |
| 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   |



## GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

### NEWSLETTER 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023



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|                                      |  |   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 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                  |
| <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 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                  |   |
| 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<br>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                      |   |

#### 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