



Consultation re-joining a Multi Academy Trust

As I am sure you have read in my letter sent out this week ,after reviewing feedback from the consultation process the governing body did decide that as a school we should continue to look to join Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust . We also spoke to our pupils and School Council about this and we will continue to keep parents, carers and pupils informed of any further developments. Governors, as well as Mrs Kidd and I, will continue to support the school with this process and we will work with the trust to ensure that changes to leadership of the school are as smooth as possible.

We all have the best interests of the school, staff and its pupils at heart. Reverend Canon Eileen Harrop has also passed on her support on behalf of the church community. I must thank you all again for contributing to the consultation process and for the Governing Body for considering all of the feedback .

A busy week in school

Class Swale were looking for signs of spring as part of their Easter work and had a wonderful walk to the river. They also saw people wild water swimming on a very cold day; this led to a discussion about water safety and how the children can keep themselves safe in and around water so lots of learning in our lovely local environment .

Class Tees have had a busy week developing PE skills with Kyle, continuing with drumming lessons, Vex Go lessons in computing and fabulous work in English. They have also had additional English and Maths booster sessions to continue to develop their knowledge , skills and application in these subjects.

Class Wear were tasting fruit this week in their English lesson.... but all in preparation for writing instructions to make a delicious fruit salad; a very tasty lesson! They have worked very hard in French ,both with written and spoken French, and have worked well in their Art lessons too.

Singing in school

Singing Club was really popular this week with lots of children eager to learn new songs with Miss Cherrie .We have also started to sing our Easter songs in preparation for the Easter Service on Wednesday 27th March at St Mary's Church . Everyone is welcome to this service so we would love to see lots of family members coming along to join in the celebrations .

Easter Competition .

We are holding our ever -popular egg decorating competition . Your child just needs to take a boiled egg (they can use more than one if they like) and let their imagination run wild. In the past we have seen some amazing ideas and designs There will be prizes for each class and we will also have an adult section - if parents/carers are feeling creative! All entries need to be brought into school on Thursday 28th March, our last day of term.

World Book Day



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

World Book Day is next Thursday March 7th and during the afternoon children will have the opportunity to work in house teams rather than in their usual classes. Children can dress up as a character from a story/book and bring in books from home to share in their house teams . Teachers have planned activities for the day .

Friends of Gainford School

FoGs are planning lots of activities to help with fundraising

- Spring Term Disco

If you would like to help out at the discos arranged for 13th March please do get in touch. Class Swale will have their disco at 3.30pm -4.30pm and Class Tees and Class Wear will have there's from 4.30-pm -5.30pm

- Car Boot Sale

On Saturday May 18th FoGS will be holding a car boot sale. I know its quite a long way off but if you are planning on a spring clean and have lots of things that you no longer need then this could be a great opportunity to declutter and support the school at the same time. There will be coffee, tea , cakes and scones available so even if you are not wanting to buy or sell you can always call in to our pop -up cafe . If you would like to donate cakes or scones put the date in your diary as all donations would be greatly appreciated . The money raised will benefit all of our pupils.

- Summer Raffle

We will, be holding our Big Summer Raffle again this year . Last year it helped us to raise funds towards the purchase of our new staging units .We already have some big prizes donated with a stay at Headlam Hall being one of them . If you would like to donate a prize please do get in touch with school or FoGS .

Year 6 Booster

The Year 6 Booster Club is back on next Wednesday for all of our Year 6 pupils.

Gainford Baby and Toddler Group

On Friday 22nd March at 9.30am Gainford Baby and Toddler group will be holding their session at our school . It will have an Easter theme .Everyone is welcome and there will be refreshments available for adults and children. It's a wonderful group, usually meeting in Gainford Village Hall ,and a great way for parents and carers of babies and toddlers to get together .There will be lots of play equipment suitable for babies and toddlers .Please spread the word as it would be wonderful to support this fabulous group.

Secondary School Places

Today our Year 6 children have all been allocated places at their chosen secondary schools for the new term in September . During the summer term we will support all of our Year 6 children to prepare for the move to secondary . They will all have the opportunity to experience life in their chosen school during transition days in the summer term and we will also have visits from staff from the feeder secondary schools.



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Our Parent Support Advisor, Rachel Stevens, will also be available to help and support with transition to Year 7 .

I do hope that you all have a good weekend .

Regards

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

Appeal

If you have a bike helmet you no longer need we would love you to send it into school .We need helmets for children 6+



‘Together we love, learn and flourish’

Attendance w/e 01.032024

Our Minimum Target is 96%

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

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

Class	Attendance %
Swale	100
Wear	100
Tees	95

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 Writing

Class Swale	Harriet Jasper Preston
Class Wear	Sophie Toby
Class Tees	Georgia Dexter

Diary Dates

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

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Multi-Sports with Kyle for Y2-Y6
Tuesdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm – places available

Mini Disciples Club with Sarah Fells /Wendy Broderick Wednesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm

New Singing Club with Miss Cherrie Thursdays 3.30pm-4.30pm

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

If you are keen to support our school and learn more about FoGS please contact school or drop FoGS an email gainfordforgs@gmail.com.

We Need You !!

On March 21st at 8.45 am and 3.15 pm you are welcome to call in to school and learn more about FoGS . 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 . We will have a current member of FoGS available to speak with. Hopefully we will be able to recruit a few more volunteers so watch out for the flyer !

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 housepoint trophy at the end of the year ?

OAK 407

WILLOW 407

SYCAMORE 439



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Diary Dates

Weekly

Tuesdays	Multi Sports 3.30pm-4.30pm	Y1 - 6	5 Sessions – Spring Term 2
Wednesdays	Mini Disciples 3.30pm-4.30pm	Class Wear & Class Tees	5 Sessions – Spring Term 2
Wednesdays	SATS Booster Club	Year 6	06/03 13/03 27/03 17/04 24/04
Thursdays NEW	Singing Club with Miss Cherrie 3.30pm-4.30pm	Y1-6	29/02 07/03 14/03 21/03 28/03

Events

07/03/2024	World Book Day	Whole School	During School Hours
13/03/2024	School Disco	Class Swale Class Wear & Tees	3.30pm-4.30pm 4.30pm-5.30pm
20/03/2024	Multi Skills at Staindrop	Class Tees	During School Hours
25/03/2024	Parents Evening	Class Wear & Tees	3.40pm to 6pm
26/03/2024	Parents Evening	Class Swale	3.40pm to 6pm
27/03/2024	Easter Service	St Marys Church All Welcome	9.10am
28/03/2024	Break up for Easter		
15/04/2024	School Closed	Staff Training (CPD)	
16/04/2024	School Reopens		
13/05/2024 to 16/05/2024 incl	SATS week	Y6	
18/05/2024	Car Boot Sale	School Grounds	AM TBC
22/05/2024	Raby Castle Cricket	Y3 & Y4	During School Hours
24/05/2024	School Closed & May Half Term Starts	Staff Training	
03/06/2024	School Reopens		
03/06/2024	Multiplication Check Week	Y4	
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	
26/06/2024 to 28/06/2024 incl	Hummersknott Transition	Y6	
10/07/2024 to 11/07/2024 incl	Staindrop Transition	Y6	



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11/07/2024 to 12/07/2024 incl	Teesdale School Transition	Y6	
19/07/2024	Colour Run	Whole School	AM TBC
23/07/2024	Break up for Summer		

Term Dates

Spring Half Term	School Closes Friday 16/02/2023	Reopens Monday 23/02/2024
Easter Holidays	School Closes Thursday 28/03/2023	Reopens Tuesday 16/04/2024
Staff Training	School Closes Thursday 23/05/2024	
May Half Term Holiday	School Closes Thursday 23/05/2024	Reopens Monday 03/06/2024
Sumer Holidays	School Closes Tuesday 23/07/2024	Reopens Thursday 05/09/2024