



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to welcome everybody back to the new school year and a warm welcome to the Gorsewood family to our new Reception starters and new children in Years 1, 2, 3 and 6.

I was wonderful to see so many happy faces coming back through the gate on Tuesday morning.

Starting a new class or school can be difficult for some children so please be assured that our pastoral team are in classes providing support as it is needed.

Attendance continues to be a key priority this year. Every day in school really does matter. We look forward to working with parents and carers to raise our whole school attendance this year.

As children settle back in to school and re-establish their routines, September is a busy month in school and staff will be working hard to ensure learning is fun! If your child has brought a reading book home, please take the time to read with them. Another school priority is reading and we need home support to ensure every child in Gorsewood is a reader.

I look forward to working alongside you all again this year to help your children achieve their potential and be the best they can be.

Miss E Jackson
Headteacher

General Reminders

Annual Consents - Important

Please can all parent/carers (**not Reception**) complete the consent forms that have been created on the school spider website at: www.gorsewood.halton.sch.uk

You will need to scroll to the bottom of the home page in the right corner and select parent login. You can find the forms under Surveys & Forms "Annual Consent Form All Pupils 23-24" and "Annual Asthma Care Survey"

Please note this must be completed by all parents/carers.

Reception and new parents/carers only need to complete the asthma one as the other form was completed with new starter paperwork.

Paper copies of the consent forms are available from the school office if preferred.

A reminder you can also access the school website parent area on your phone via the School Spider App. If you need a reminder of your parent login, please email the office or use the 'forgotten password' option.

School Uniform Expectations

As we start the new academic year, we would like to take the opportunity to remind everyone about our school uniform. There are advantages for all – parents/carers, pupils and the school, in the wearing of school uniform. The school has adopted a clear, simple dress code for our pupils which is designed to promote high expectations of the pupils as well as a sense of belonging. **We expect all our pupils to wear the current school uniform.**

Staff encourage children to be smart and presentable in wearing the school uniform and we also ask for parents support in this matter.

For safety, particularly during PE and break times, the only jewellery allowed are watches and studded earrings. Parents are requested to ensure that other items of jewellery are not worn in school.

We would like to remind you of our current school uniform:

- Blue Gorsewood Sweatshirt/Cardigan/Fleece
- Grey Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore
- White Shirt or Polo Style T-Shirt
- Black, Flat Sensible Footwear (**No Coloured Trainers, Mules, Jellies, Open-Toes**)
- Grey Shorts/Blue & White Gingham Summer Dress - Summer Term

On PE days children should come to school wearing their PE kits:

- A Gorsewood PE kit with black pumps or trainers for outdoors
- OR**
- Plain white t-shirt, black/blue shorts, black pumps or trainers for outdoor
- ALSO**
- In colder weather dark tracksuit/jogging bottoms can be worn with a Gorsewood PE hoodie or Gorsewood sweatshirt/cardigan/fleece.

Please note school PE hoodies will not be considered as general school uniform and cannot be worn on non PE days.

If a child comes to school wearing PE uniform/hoodie or a non-uniform top they will be asked to take it off and if cold change into a spare school cardigan/sweatshirt.

Please note football kits, gym wear and other sports items are not PE uniform.

Tuck

We have been fortunate enough again this year to secure some additional funding towards the cost of tuck. We are therefore asking parents/carers for a contribution of **£10.00 per pupil for the full academic year.**

If you would like your child to have daily tuck (fruit), payment needs to be made online via the School Gateway. **The payment option is now live.**

If you do not want your child to have tuck please let the office know and we will remove the charge from your School Gateway account.



Cost of Living

We are aware of the increased energy costs, inflation and cost of living pressures that are affecting everyone.

We will always do our best to support all our pupils and families and do what we can to subsidise where possible. All visits will be subsidised by school.

If your child is not currently in receipt of free school meals and you think you may be eligible you can check eligibility and apply using the link below.

<https://www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/EducationandFamilies/Schools/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>

Please note even if your child is an Infant receiving a universal free school meal we would still encourage you to follow this link and apply for an eligibility check if you are unsure.

We would also like to remind you that if you require help with school uniform please call into school as we have a selection of nearly new items available.

If at any point you feel are struggling please contact school so we can offer advice and support.

Pastoral Support

We are fortunate to have our own Family Support Worker - Joann Neilson - in school. Jo can work with parents/carers on lots of things including home behaviour, routines, fussy eaters or to just be a listening ear!

Jo is always around at the start and end of the school day.

Mrs Marsh and Mrs Smith are also part of part of our pastoral team and work with children in school.

We also Viv Kay who is our school counsellor.

Clubs

Clubs for Y1 to Y6 will start w/c 18th September and will run for 6 weeks. Reception clubs will be on offer next term.

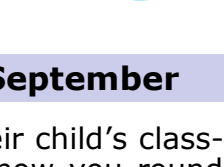
All bookings need to be made via the School Gateway.

Information will be sent out soon.

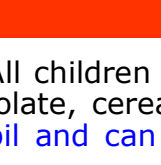


Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our recent fundraising efforts.



We raised an amazing **£1006.00** at the summer fair for school funds. Thank you! This money has been used to buy some exciting equipment and resources throughout school.



Coffee Morning & Cake Sale - Friday 29th September

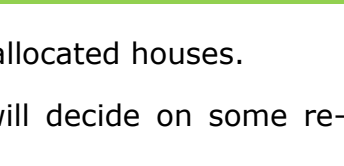
It's good to talk!

We would like to invite our parents, carers and grandparents to join us for a general coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. This event will just be for the grown ups!

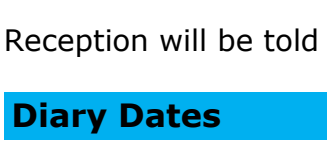
This will take place on Friday 29th September in the school hall from 9.15am until 10.15am.

Refreshments and treats will be available in exchange for a donation during the session. No booking is required.

Following the coffee morning, later on in the afternoon children will be invited to purchase cakes/biscuits. Children will not need more than 50p for this.



PE Timetable

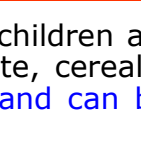


A reminder children should come to school in their PE kits on the days they have PE.

- YR: Tue & Fri
- Y1: Tue & Fri
- Y2: Mon & Fri
- Y3: Tue & Fri
- Y4: Mon & Tue
- Y5: Mon & Thu
- Y6: Tue & Fri (Swim)

Marvellous Me

Please make sure you have signed up to Marvellous Me so you can be kept updated with what your child is doing in school each day.



Visit the Classroom! - Tue 12th & Wed 13th September

We are pleased to invite all parents/carers to visit their child's classroom. This will give your child the opportunity to show you round their new classroom and enable you to meet the classroom staff.

Please book online via the School Gateway if you wish to attend.

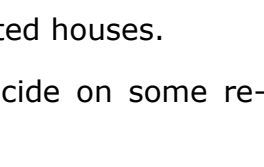
Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs daily from 7.30am until 8.30am. All children attending receive free breakfast which includes hot chocolate, cereals, bagels and juice. **The cost to attend is £1.00 per pupil and can be booked online via the School Gateway.**

Early Bird Drop Off runs daily from 8.30am. There is no charge and children can also access free breakfast. No booking is needed.

School Uniform Orders

Uniform orders should be made through the school office. Please note we no longer carry a lot of stock on site so please allow time for your order to be processed (around 2 weeks).

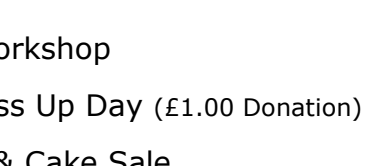


When your order arrives we will send you a text message to arrange payment and collection.

Value of the Month

This month our value is: **Self Belief**

Starting a new academic year can be challenging so we will focus on **self belief** so all children will learn that they can do it!



School Houses

Children will continue to earn points for their allocated houses.

When we have the new school council we will decide on some rewards for our winning house each half term.

Our 4 houses are:

Ash, Oak, Birch and Sycamore

Reception will be told what house they are in over the next week.

Diary Dates

- Tue 12th Sep - Visit the Classroom (after school)
- Wed 13th Sep - Visit the Classroom (after school)
- Tue 17th Sep - SEN Support Meetings
- Wed 18th Sep - SEN Support Meetings
- Thu 19th Sep - Y6 Safety Central Visit
- Thu 26th Sep - Whole School Birdman Workshop
- Thu 28th Sep - Roald Day Delicious Dress Up Day (£1.00 Donation)
- Fri 29th Sep - Macmillan Coffee Morning & Cake Sale
- Tue 10th Oct - School Health in School for Nasal Flu Vac Program
- Thu 12th Oct - School Photograph Day
- Thu 12th Oct - Parent Interviews 1.30pm to 7.00pm
- Fri 27th Oct - School closes for half term
- Mon 6th Nov - School reopens
- Thu 23rd Nov - Y2 Foxhowl Residential (1 night)

Further information will be sent out for events nearer the time.

Useful Links

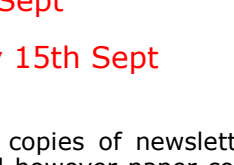
- [School Term Dates](#)
- [School Website](#)

Attendance & Rewards

Attendance continues to be a priority for school.

Our new whole school reward is **"To Attendance & Beyond!"**

Each week if your child's class has attendance of 96% or above they will receive the reward of an extra playtime the following week.



Classes who achieve 100% attendance for the week will receive an extra treat!

Everyone can help to earn their class a reward!

School Gateway Reminders

Currently payment/consent is due for:

- **Tuck** - Payment of £10.00 due for all pupils for yearly tuck (fruit)
- **Y6 Safety Central Visit** - Payment/consent due by 15th Sept
- **Y6 Swimming** - Consent due by 12th Sept
- **Y2 Foxhowl Visit**: Next payment due by 15th Sept
- **Y5/Y6 Edinburgh Visit** - Next payment due by 29th Sept
- **Y3 CHET Visit** - Next payment due by 29th Sept
- **Y4 Kingswood Visit** - Next payment due by 15th Sept



A reminder we no longer send out paper copies of newsletters and letters. All communication is sent by email however paper copies are available if requested. **If you are not receiving any communications please update the office with your email address [here](#).**