



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended parents evening before the half term break. It is so important to work together to ensure we can support your child to be their best self and reach their potential.

We continue to be proud of the progress children are making with their learning but we need your support to ensure all children reach their potential. Please continue to read with your child at home and ensure they have good attendance and punctuality. We know some children have struggled to access Google Classroom on home devices. We plan to have a drop in session so we can help to sort out any technical difficulties. Keep an eye out for the date during this half term.

Lots of activities have been happening in October and it has been great to see so many children represent Gorsewood in different sports. We were also lucky enough to meet Bart Gee. Bart taught us that living with a disability doesn't stop him from achieving things and we too can achieve our dreams. All children welcomed Bart and really enjoyed listening to his story.

I would like to say a huge well done to our Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 children who performed a lovely Harvest Festival Assembly before we finished for half term. Their singing was brilliant and they certainly delivered the harvest message.

We look forward to welcoming our Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 parents/carers for the Remembrance Assembly on Friday.

Miss E Jackson
Headteacher

General Reminders

As the weather is now much cooler, please can you ensure your child has a suitable outdoor coat with them at all times.



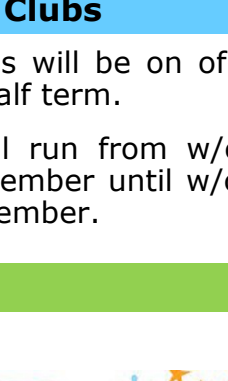
Free School Meals

Parents now have the ability to apply online for Free School Meals.

If you think your child is entitled to free school meals please check your eligibility online using this link: [CHECK/APPLY FSM](#)

Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be on sale from Monday 6th November. Year 6 pupils will be selling them in classrooms. We are suggesting a 20p donation for a poppy. A small amount of other items are also on sale including wrist bands, bracelets and zip tags priced between 50p and £1.50.



Parking Around School

Please can we remind all parents/carers to park safely and responsibly outside the school. Many cars are parking on the single yellow lines and blocking pavements too which is putting children at risk.

Please leave the school gates clear as well as any marked areas including the single yellow lined areas.

The 'Drop & Go' area is often under used and we would encourage parents/carers to use this for an easy drop off. Mrs Newby is always there to walk your child into school.

Our local PSCOs will continue to monitor parking around school.

Thank you for your continued support.

School Photograph Orders

Proof cards have been sent home for school photographs.

Please can all orders be returned to school by 9th November 2023.

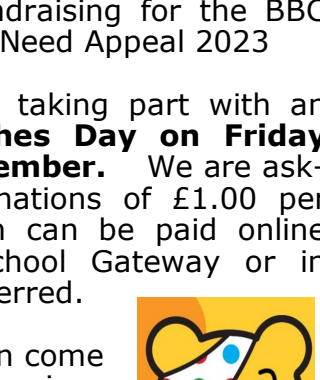
Clubs

New clubs will be on offer this half term.

Clubs will run from w/c 13th November until w/c 11th December.

Reading Books

We have lost lots of our Read Write Inc home reading books. Could we ask all parents/carers to please check at home on book shelves and in toy boxes in case any of these books are hiding or have got mixed up with home books? If you do find any please can you send into school. Books will have this logo on them.



Winter Disco - Tue 5th Dec

We have arranged for a Winter Disco to take place on **Tuesday 5th December 2023.**

YR/Y1/Y2: 4.00pm - 4.45pm

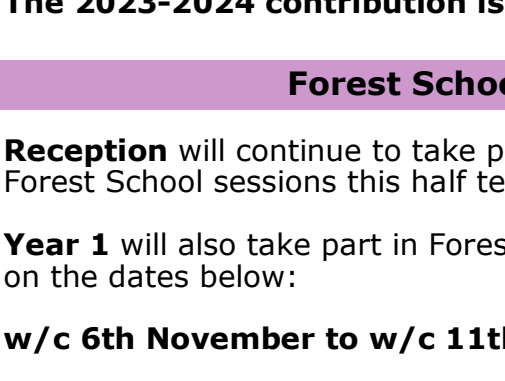
Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6: 5.00pm - 6.00pm

There will be no charge for entry however children will be required to bring a gift for entry (tombola gift).

There will be a tuck shop selling drinks, crisps and sweets. Goody bags can also be pre-ordered for £1.00.

If your child wishes to attend we must receive a booking/consent on the School Gateway.

A separate letter will follow soon.



CIN - Friday 17th Nov

Gorsewood will be joining many others around the UK to participate in fundraising for the BBC Children in Need Appeal 2023

We will be taking part with an **Own Clothes Day on Friday 17th November.** We are asking for donations of £1.00 per pupil which can be paid online via the School Gateway or in cash if preferred.

Children can come to school wearing own clothes and CIN merchandise if they want to.



Odd Socks Day - 13th Nov

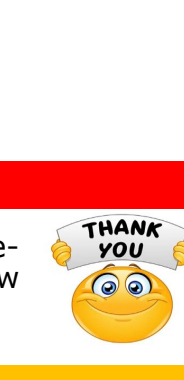
On Mon 13th Nov we will be taking part in Odd Socks Day. Children and staff are invited to come to school wearing odd socks to support anti-bullying.

Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun but it's also an opportunity for everybody to celebrate themselves and appreciate individuality and uniqueness!

Tuck Payments

If you have not yet paid for tuck, please can we ask you to do so as soon as possible.

The 2023-2024 contribution is £10.00 per pupil



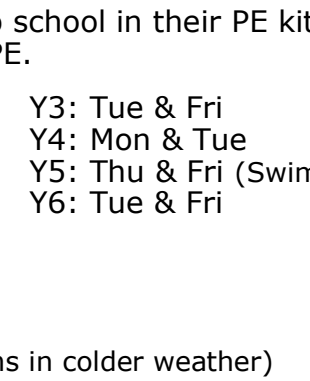
Forest School (Nov/Dec)

Reception will continue to take part in weekly Forest School sessions this half term.

Year 1 will also take part in Forest School on the dates below:

w/c 6th November to w/c 11th December.

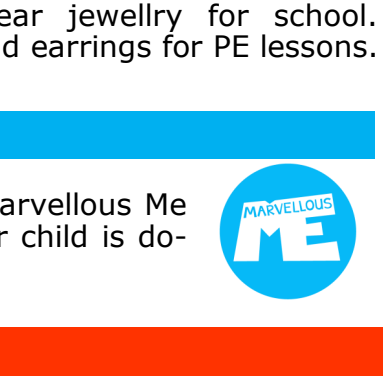
The year 1 Parent/carer session will take place on Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th December from 2.00pm to 3.00pm.



Swimming

Year 5 will be swimming this half term.

Letters will be sent out this week.



Support & Pastoral Support

A reminder that our pastoral team are always around for any support and advice. Jo is always around at the start and end of the school day.

We will always do our best to support all our pupils and families in any way we can.

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

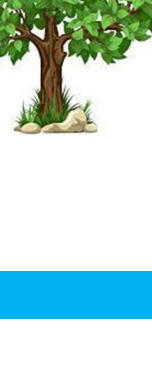
Bikeability

Bikeability sessions will take place this month as below. Please ensure children are dressed appropriately on these days. They will need to wear trainers and have a suitable waterproof coat. If it is cold gloves will also be needed. Gorsewood jumpers/cardigans must still be worn.

- YR = Tue 7th & Wed 8th Nov
- Y1/Y2 = Thu 9th & Fri 10th Nov
- Y4 = Mon 13th Nov
- Y5/Y6 = Tue 14th to Fri 17th Nov

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our recent fundraising efforts. We raised £94.00 for Show Racism the Red Card



Save the Date!



Christmas dates for your diary...

- Fri 8th Dec - Christmas Fair (1.45pm - 3.00pm)
- Thu 14th Dec - Grandparent Festive Lunch
- Fri 15th Dec - Christmas Dinner
- Wed 20th Dec - Christmas Performances (10.00am, 1.00pm & 2.30pm)

PE Timetable



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 & Fri

Y5: Thu & Fri (Swim)

Y6: Tue & Fri

The correct PE kit must be worn by all pupils:

- Plain white T-shirt or Gorsewood T-shirt
- Blue/black shorts (or plain dark jogging bottoms in colder weather)
- Gorsewood PE hoody or Gorsewood sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece

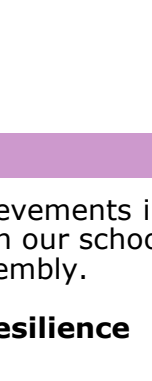
Please note sports kits and gym wear are not PE uniform.

Jewellery

A reminder that children should not wear jewellery for school. Staff will ask children to remove watches and earrings for PE lessons.

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.



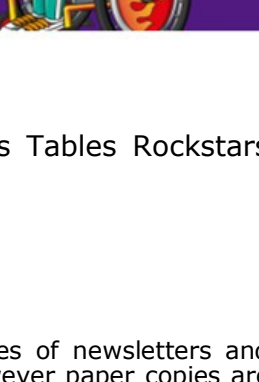
Breakfast Club

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:

Peace

We will be thinking about peace around the world. Our older children will also learn about remembrance and lead an assembly. Poppies will be on sale in classrooms.

"You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you'll join us and the world will live a one." John Lennon

School Houses

You will know that the whole school including staff have now been organised into our school houses. Everyone has now received a badge to show which house they belong to.

The current scores are:

Ash = 4513 **Oak = 3887**

Birch = 3512 **Sycamore = 3808**

Well done to ASH who have collected the most house points so far!

Diary Dates

- Thu 9th Nov - Y5 Brindley Visit
- Fri 10th Nov - Y4/Y5/Y6 Remembrance Assembly (10.00am)
- Mon 13th Nov - Y4 Kingswood Residential (2 nights)
- Thu 23rd Nov - Y2 Foxhowl Residential (1 night)
- Tue 28th Nov - NSPCC Speak Out Assemblies
- Fri 1st Dec - Y3 Stone Age Performance (2.30pm)
- Fri 8th Dec - Christmas Fair 2.00pm (school closes 1.45pm)
- Thu 14th Dec - Grandparents Festive Lunch (2.00pm)
- Fri 15th Dec - Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
- Wed 20th Dec - Christmas Performance (10am, 1pm & 2.30pm)
- Thu 21st Dec - Carols on the playground 1.15pm
- Thu 21st Dec - School closes for Christmas Break 1.30pm
- Wed 3rd Jan - School reopens

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.

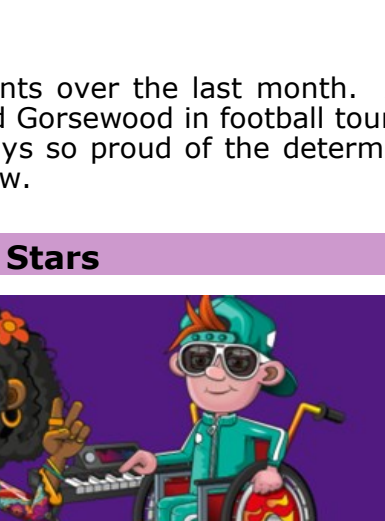
Our new whole school reward is **"To Attendance & Beyond!"**

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 current attendance = 95.29%



Congratulations

October has been a month where we celebrated lots of achievements in school. We have added some extra certificates to link in with our school rules. We celebrate the following during our celebration assembly.

★ **Headteacher Awards**

★ **Always Ready**

★ **Kindness**

★ **Respectful**

★ **Resilience**

Congratulations and well done to all children who have received a certificate - we are very proud of you!

Thank you to those children who have brought in medals, certificates and trophies from home so we can also celebrate achievements out of school.

Sporting Superstars!

There have been a number of sporting events over the last month. A big well done to all children who represented Gorsewood in football tournaments and indoor athletics. We are always so proud of the determination and positive sporting attitudes you show.

Times Tables Rock Stars

WHY ARE TIMES TABLES IMPORTANT?

Follow the link below to find out more about Times Tables Rockstars and the importance of times tables.

TTRS Parent/Carer Info

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**

