



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

After a very cold start to the year it appears we are finally having some milder weather. The weather hasn't stopped our learning though and the recent snow brought lots of excitement and new learning opportunities too.

This month we have started to use Literacy Tree Writing Roots. These resources are book based and cover all requirement of the national curriculum. Our first unit was a whole school book called Peace on Earth. Classes have now started new books so please ask your child what they are reading in class at the moment.

Home Time

We have now switched to using the gates at home time for both arriving and leaving the playground. To ensure we minimise any congestion the gates will open at 3.05pm every day to give parents/carers time to arrive. Children will be dismissed at 3.15pm as usual. The gates will close at 3.25pm.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss E Jackson
Headteacher

General Reminders

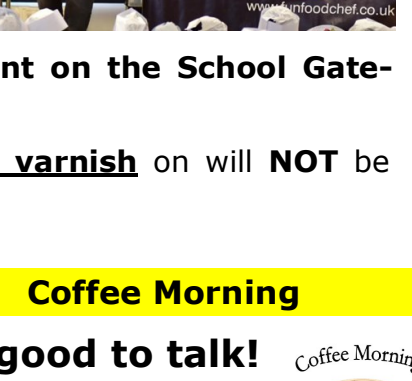
Punctuality

School starts at 8.50am. Please ensure your child arrives before this time so they are in class for 8.50am ready to learn.

The school gates are open just before 8.45am and staff are waiting to greet the children.

NSPCC Number Day - Friday 2nd February 2024

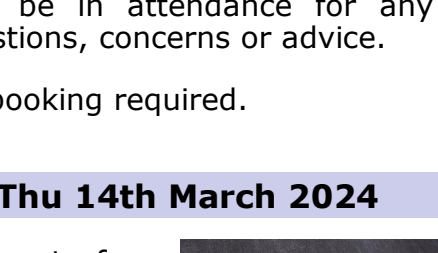
For a £1.00 donation children can come to school wearing their own clothes and number inspired accessories or costumes. Please don't go to any expense to create your number themed outfits/accessories.



Donations can be paid online via School Gateway or at the office.

Fun Food Chef - Thu 1st & Fri 2nd February 2024

We are excited to welcome the Fun Food Chef to school on 1st and 2nd of February.



All classes will take part in an interactive experience as they explore the joys of preparing fresh and, where possible local produce, then even better, tasting some great food!

Please ensure you have given consent on the School Gateway for your child to take part.

Please also note any pupil who has nail varnish on will **NOT** be able to take part.

Swimming

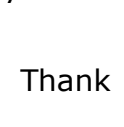
Year 5 will continue to swim until Friday 9th February.

After the half term break Year 4 will swim.

Swimming will take place on a Friday morning. Please ensure you have given consent for your child to take part.

Coffee Morning

It's good to talk!

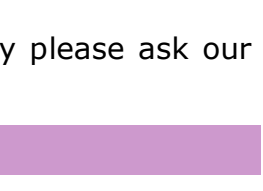


We would like to invite our parents, carers and grandparents to join us for a coffee morning on **Thursday 29th February in the school hall from 9.00am to 10.00am.** The local PSCO will also be in attendance for any questions, concerns or advice.

No booking required.

Parent/Teacher Interviews - Thu 14th March 2024

Parent Interviews will take in school face to face on **Thursday 14th March from 1.30pm to 7.00pm.**



School will close early on this day (1.15pm)

Appointments can be made via School Cloud or at the office. Letters will follow nearer the time with booking details!

Parking Around School

Please can we remind all parents/carers to park safely and responsibly outside the school.



Many cars are still parking on the single yellow lines and blocking pavements too which is putting children at risk.

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 be monitoring parking around school. Thank you for your continued support.

Our school council are looking at a Parking Charter which they will share once it has been completed.

Free School Meals

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

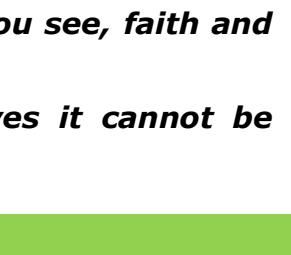
If you think your child is entitled to free school meals please check your eligibility online using this link: **CHECK/APPLY FSM**

FSM holiday vouchers will once again be sent out by email for the February half term break.

If anyone would like any help in checking eligibility please ask our FSW Jo Neilson who will be happy to help.

Forest School

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



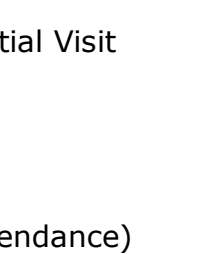
Year 3 will take part in Forest School after the half term break on the dates below:

Y3: w/c 19th February w/c 25th March.

Y4 parents and pupil forest school session will take place w/c 5th February 2024. Booking is via School Gateway.

Support & Pastoral Support

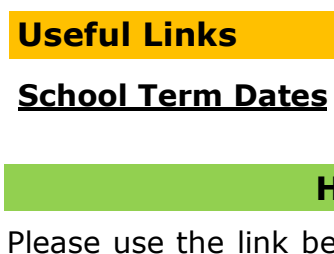
A reminder that our pastoral team are always around for any support and advice. Jo Neilson is always around at the start and end of the school day.



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.

PE Timetable

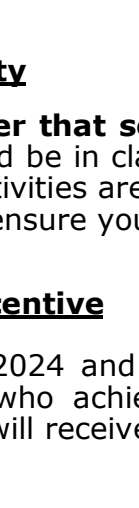


Children should come to school in their PE kits on the days they have PE.

YR: Tue & Fri
Y1: Tue & Fri
Y2: Mon & Fri
Y3: Wed & Fri
Y4: Mon/Tue (F/School) & Fri
Y5: Thu & Fri (Swim)
Y6: Tue & Fri

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.



Twitter



@gorsewoodprimar

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.**

Breakfast Club remains exceptional good value for money. It is subsidised by school and is the cheapest in the area.

In order to keep this service running we rely on the small entrance fee that we charge parents/carers. We would ask for your support in keeping payments up to date so there is no risk of support no longer being able to afford to run the club.

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 (up to 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: **Determination**

We will be learning about how to be determined and why it is so important to have determination.



We will explore strategies we can use if we don't give up when things are difficult and be inspired by people who have overcome great challenges

"When you look ahead and darkness is all you see, faith and determination will pull you through." Drake

"Whilst they were saying among themselves it cannot be done, it was done." Helen Keller

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 = 14844 Oak = 13274
Birch = 11914 Sycamore = 12990**

Diary Dates

- Thu 1st Feb - Fun Food Chef School Visit
- Fri 2nd Feb - NSPCC Number Day
- Mon 5th Feb - Young Voices Event
- Fri 9th Feb - Own Clothes Day (in return for an Easter egg donation)
- Fri 9th Feb - School closes for half term
- Mon 19th Feb - School reopens
- Wed 21st Feb to Friday 23rd Feb - Y3 CHET Residential Visit
- Tue 27th Feb - YR & Y1 Visit to Imagine That!
- Tue 27th Feb - Y6 HPAN Event at The Brindley
- Wed 28th Feb - Y5 Crucial Crew Visit
- Thu 29th Feb - Coffee Morning 9.00am (PSCO in attendance)
- Thu 7th March - World Book Day
- Tue 12th Mar - Y2 Safety Central Visit
- Thu 14th Mar - Parent/Carer Interviews 1.30pm to 7.00pm
- Fri 15th Mar - Y1 Halton Castle & Norton Priory Visit
- Wed 20th Mar - Y5 Norton Priory Visit
- Fri 22nd Mar - Own Clothes Day (in return for an Easter egg donation)
- Tue 26th Mar - Easter Bingo 5pm
- Thu 28th Mar - Rockidz Visit
- Thu 28th Mar - School closes for Easter break
- Mon 15th Apr - School reopens for Summer term

Further information will be sent out for events nearer the time. Consent and payment for visits should be made via School Gateway.

Useful Links

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

Halton Healthy Schools

Please use the link below to access the Parent/Carer Halton Healthy Schools newsletter.

Spring Newsletter

Attendance & Rewards

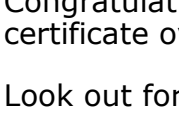
Attendance continues to be a priority for school.

School current attendance = 95.20%



We aim for all our pupils to achieve 95%+ attendance.

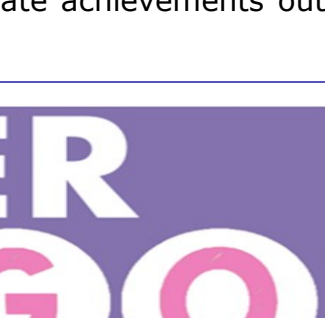
Punctuality



A reminder that school starts at 8.50am and children should be in classrooms by this time. Lots of important activities are completed first thing in a morning so please ensure your child is on time every day.

Spring Attendance Incentive

Between 15th January 2024 and 9th February 2024, every pupil who achieves 96%+ over the 4 week period will receive the choice of a gift or gift voucher.



In addition to this every pupil who achieves 100% over the 4 week period will be entered into a prize draw for the chance to win an additional prize!

Congratulations

We continue to celebrate the following during our weekly celebration assembly:

- ★ **Headteacher Awards**
- ★ **Kindness**
- ★ **Resilience**
- ★ **Always Ready**
- ★ **Respectful**
- ★ **Reflection**

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

Look out for our Twitter posts to see our children with their awards.

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

EASTER BINGO

Tuesday 26th March 2024
Doors Open 5.00pm
Eyes Down 5.30pm

Entry tickets £1.00 per person (On sale from 4th March)

Refreshments available

Fun for all the family
All welcome!

Entry is by ticket only. All adults and children MUST have a ticket. Please ensure you have a ticket to avoid disappointment. We cannot accept payment on the door.

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](#).**