



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

As we hopefully move towards warmer weather, we look forward to the exciting activities and events we have planned for over the coming term. We have our World Book Day activities and our Easter celebrations over the next few weeks.

Our Year 6 children continue to make us proud with their resilience and determination as they prepare for their upcoming SATs. It is also lovely to see our Reception children shining as they approach each day confidently and show a real curiosity in all around them.

I would like to say a huge well done to our Year 3 children who attended CHET. It was a brilliant trip and our Year 3's showed independence, perseverance and great team work. Everyone who attended had lots of fun and it was a delight to be on the trip with the children.

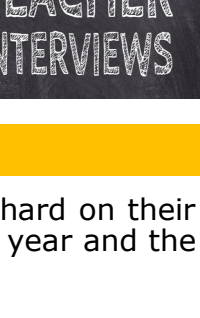
Thank you for your continued support.

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.

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. **Booking is open now.**



Assessments

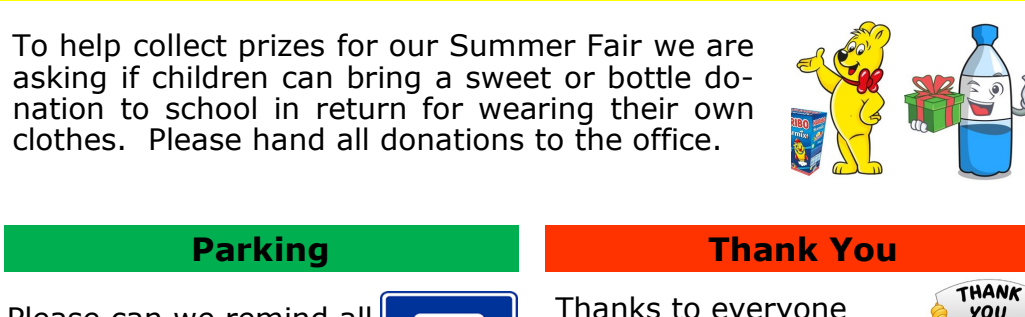
During March and April all our children will be working hard on their learning. All national assessments are going ahead this year and the following year groups will be taking part:

- **Y1: Phonics screening (June)**
- **Y2: SATs (May)**
- **Y4: Multiplication Check (June)**
- **Y6: SATs (7th to 10th May)**

Teachers will be holding meetings to provide parents/carers with information about these assessments.

If you require any further information please speak to class teachers.

World Book Month



World Book Month posters have been sent home and paper copies are available from the office. Please see reminders below:

- Breakfast Read - Tue 5th Mar & Thu 7th Mar 8.30-8.50am (book online)
- Family Campfire Stories - Wed 6th Mar & Wed 13th Mar (book online)
- Dress Up Day - Thu 2nd March
- Family Book Exchange - Every Friday in March (after school)

World Book Month Competitions

- Toilet/Kitchen Roll Challenge - Entries in by Mon 25th March
- Reading Challenge - Entry forms in by Mon 25th March
- Extreme Read Photos - To be Tweeted any time in March

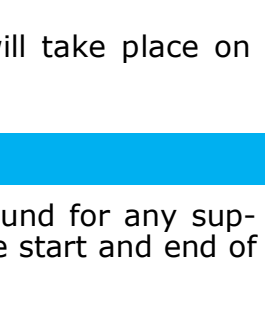
School Council

In our latest meeting we discussed lots of ideas and are moving forward with Gorsewood Greeters, promoting recycling and replacing some bathroom hand dryers.

Classes will also be asked about outdoor play equipment ideas. Thank you to our school council for working so hard.

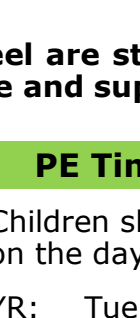
Own Clothes Day - Friday 22nd March

To help collect prizes for our Summer Fair we are asking if children can bring a sweet or bottle donation to school in return for wearing their own clothes. Please hand all donations to the office.



Parking

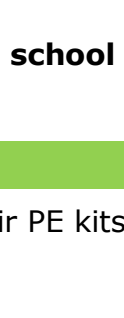
Please can we remind all parents/carers to park safely and responsibly outside the school.



Thank you for your continued support.

Thank You

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to our recent fundraising



We raised £112.00 for NSPCC from Number Day.

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 Easter break for eligible pupils.

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

School Meals Income - Important

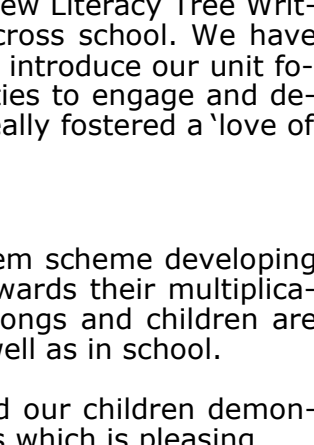
Please can all dinner money accounts be paid in full before the end of term. Any accounts not paid in full will be passed to Halton Borough Council for collection as from April our new provider Orian will be in place. Thank you.

Forest School

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

Year 3 will finish their sessions w/c 25th March.

Year 3 parents and pupil forest school session will take place on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th March. Booking is via School Gateway.



Year 5 will take part in Forest School after the half term break as below: **w/c 15th April to w/c 21st May.**

Y5 parents and pupil forest school session will take place on Monday 20th May and Tuesday 21st May.

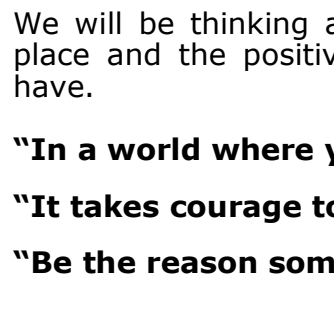
Support & Pastoral Support

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

Curriculum Updates

Please see our curriculum updates:

Science

In Science this term, we have already had lots of engaging events for our pupils and families, including a successfulstargazing evening, visitors from Daresbury labs and a trip to ImagineThat! for our Year 1 and Reception classes.

This half term, we still have so many exciting things to look forward to: a visit from The National Travelling Museum, an engineering competition, and we have also launched our STEM Ambassadors, made up of pupils from Year 1 to Year 6.

We continue to deliver our curriculum through the scheme Developing Experts, whilst enriching our pupils through cross-curricular learning.

Finally, not forgetting British Science Week, which will run from 8th - 17th March. The theme this year is 'Time', so we will be exploring this through creative activities and welcoming an especially ROARsome guest to Gorsewood!

PE

We are well underway with our new PE scheme PE Passport, which is providing us with lots of new opportunities in different sports such as badminton, lacrosse and handball. You can see lots of our lessons on Twitter.

This half term has also seen our Active Leaders start at lunchtime which has created a buzz around school. Each team of Active Leaders has worked hard to develop a different game to play at lunchtime and we have seen all of the school joining in.

In PE we have lots of opportunities for competitions and we were recently represented by our Year 3 and 4 gymnastics team at Warrington Gymnastics Club, who certainly made us proud with their routine. We have lots of opportunities coming up over the summer months including cricket lessons in Keystage 2 cricket competitions for KS1 and KS2 as well as many more.

Writing

We have had a very exciting Spring term as our new Literacy Tree Writing Roots scheme of work has been rolled out across school. We have exciting books to read and explore, 'hook days' to introduce our unit focuses and lots of exciting writing tasks/opportunities to engage and develop our pupils writing ability. The scheme has really fostered a 'love of writing' in both staff and pupils.

Maths

We continue to work through our Maths No Problem scheme developing our mastery maths skills. Year 4 are working towards their multiplication check. Our website has lots of timetables songs and children are encouraged to use Numbots or TTRS at home as well as in school.

Resilience in maths is seen throughout school and our children demonstrate that they are ready to try complex problems which is pleasing.

RE

Spring is soon upon us, and as a whole school we will be exploring this through New life, New beginnings, baby animals and the Easter story.

Our school will also be looking at specific Christianity artists and creating our own art through their designs. A very special time in the year for Christians to reflect and remember Jesus, at Gorsewood we will be reflecting on New life.

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.

Breakfast Club is currently £1.00 per pupil per day but will increase to £1.50 after Easter. This is still exceptional value for money. All bookings MUST be made via the School Gateway from April.

If you owe any Breakfast Club money please arrange payment at the office as soon as possible.

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

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

Value of the Month

This month our value is: **KINDNESS**

We will be thinking about how kindness makes the world a better place and the positive impact even just a small kind gesture can have.

"In a world where you can be anything.....Be Kind"

"It takes courage to be kind"

"Be the reason someone smiles"

Hop for the Haven Event - Thu 21st March

This will take place on Thursday 21st March where the whole school will take part in a sponsored walk, run or skip around the school track.

We are asking for a contribution of £2.00 per pupil to go to Halton Haven. All pupils who pay £2.00 will receive a pair of bunny ears. Please pay online via School Gateway.

Diary Dates

- Mon 4th Mar - Y5 Library Visit
- Tue 5th Mar - YR & Y2 Library Visit
- Wed 6th Mar - Y1 & Y4 Library Visit
- Thu 7th March - World Book Day
- Fri 8th Mar - Y3 & Y6 Library Visit
- Tue 12th Mar - Y2 Safety Central Visit
- Thu 14th Mar - Parent/Carer Interviews 1.30pm to 7.00pm
- Fri 15th Mar - Comic Relief Red Themed Own Clothes Day
- Fri 15th Mar - Y1 Halton Castle & Norton Priory Visit
- Wed 20th Mar - Y5 Norton Priory Visit
- Thu 21st Mar - Hop for the Haven Fundraising Event
- Fri 22nd Mar - Own Clothes Day (in return for box of sweets or bottle donation)
- Tue 26th Mar - Easter Bingo 5pm (Ticket Only Event)
- 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](#)**

Attendance & Rewards

Attendance continues to be a priority for school.

School current attendance = 95.08%

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

Spring Attendance Incentive

Congratulations to all the pupils who achieved 95%+ over the incentive period and received a prize. We will be running another incentive in the summer term.

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.

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)

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](#).**