



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

A warm welcome back following the Easter break. Hopefully, you have had an enjoyable break despite the wet weather!

Over the holidays the MSE activity camp was well attended and great fun! We will look to host more camps over the summer holidays.

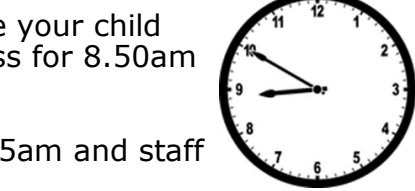
This is an important term for our Year 6 children as they will sit their SATs in May. We are already proud of how hard they have worked and know they will all be their best selves. Staff continue to work hard to prepare the children so please reassure them at home and ensure they attend the booster sessions.

As we start our busy summer term, I must stress the importance of attendance and punctuality so your child doesn't miss out on any exciting activities or key areas of learning. We will also be having another attendance focus period during the month of May so keep a look out for further information.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss E Jackson
Headteacher

Summer term
is HERE!



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.

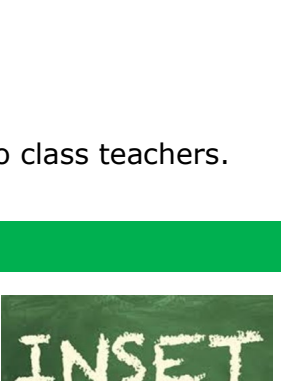


The school gates are open just before 8.45am and staff are waiting to greet the children.

Safeguarding at Gorsewood

At Gorsewood safeguarding all of our pupils is a priority. If you have a concern or need some support or advice please speak to us.

If you have any concerns for the safety of a child please speak to the designated safeguarding lead **Miss E Jackson** or in her absence the deputy designated safeguarding leads **Mrs C Westwood** and **Mrs J Neilson**.



If it is out of hours you can contact Halton Children's Social Care on 0345 050 148.

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:

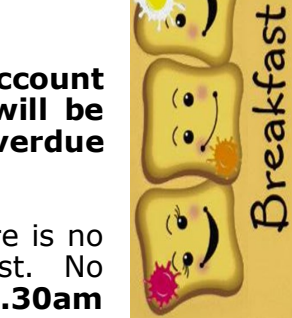
- **Y1: Phonics screening (June)**
- **Y2: SATs (May)**
- **Y4: Multiplication Check (June)**
- **Y6: SATs (13th to 17th May)**

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

INSET Day Reminders

A reminder that there are INSET Days on:

- **Monday 3rd June 2024**
- **Friday 5th July 2024**



School will be closed for pupils on these days.

Breakfast Club & Early Bird Drop Off

Breakfast Club runs daily from 7.30am until 8.30am. All children attending receive free breakfast which includes hot chocolate, cereals, toast, bagels and juice.



A reminder that Breakfast Club is now £1.50 per pupil per day and all bookings MUST be made via the School Gateway.

We are unable to allow arrears and if your account is more than 1 week in arrears your child will be unable to attend Breakfast Club until the overdue balance is settled.

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.**

Swimming

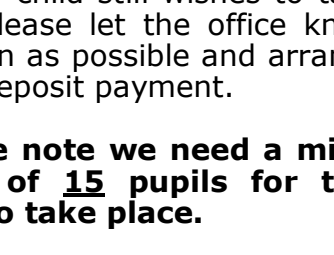
This half term Year 3 will take part in swimming lessons.

Swimming will take place on a Friday morning.

Please ensure your child has their swimming kit with them on this day.

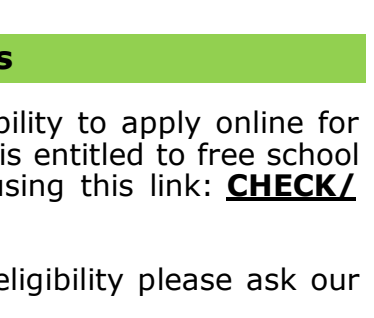
After School Clubs

New clubs will start soon and information will be sent out by email as usual.

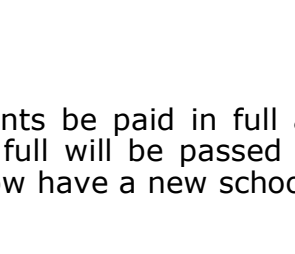


Reception & Year 6 Whole Class Photographs

We have arranged for the photography company Posh Prints to visit school on **Monday 29th April** in order to take a whole class photograph of both Reception and Year 6.



Class photographs will be taken with all pupils wearing full school uniform. If your child has PE on a Friday we would suggest they bring their PE kit to school in a bag to change in to.



Parking

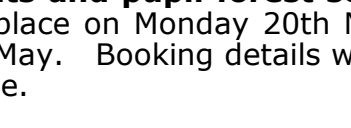
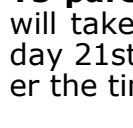
Please can we remind all parents and carers to park safely and responsibly outside the school.

Foxhowl 24 (Current Y1)

Deposits are now overdue for the November 2024 Foxhowl visit for current Year 1 children.

Thank you for your continued support.

If your child still wishes to take part please let the office know as soon as possible and arrange your deposit payment.



Please note we need a minimum of 15 pupils for this visit to take place.

Free School Meals

A reminder parents/carers 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**

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 any overdue dinner money accounts be paid in full as soon as possible. Any accounts not paid in full will be passed to Halton Borough Council for collection as we now have a new schools meals provider. Thank you.

Forest School

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



Year 5 will also take part in Forest School this term from **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. Booking details will follow nearer the time.

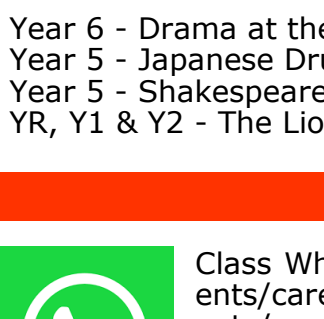
Support & Pastoral Support

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. Please see below for summer term PE days:

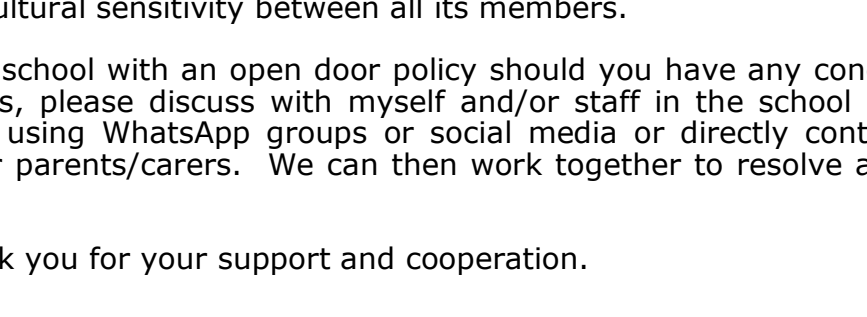
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|---------------|------------------------------|
| Y1: Tue & Thu | Y3: Wed & Fri (Swim) |
| Y2: Mon & Fri | Y4: Tue & Thu |
| | Y5: Mon/Tue (F/School) & Fri |
| | Y6: Tue & Fri |

Curriculum Updates

Please see our curriculum updates:

RE

Before the holidays we had a whole school focus on Easter. Miss Eccles led some session throughout school and worked with children to create some fantastic art work which is displayed in the hall.

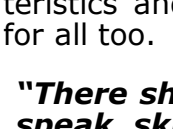


Music & Drama

We have had lots to celebrate with some wonderful performances last term. A huge well done to our Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 pupils who have taken part in performances.

- Year 6 - Drama at the Brindley Theatre
- Year 5 - Japanese Drumming
- Year 5 - Shakespeare Drama at The Brindley Theatre
- YR, Y1 & Y2 - The Lion King

Whats App Groups



Class WhatsApp groups are a useful way to connect parents/carers in a particular year group. We know parents/carers find these groups a useful and efficient way of communicating with other parents/carers and sharing information, parenting advice, support and reminders about school events.

Following a number of concerns raised about these groups, we would ask for your support in adhering to the following should you use class WhatsApp groups:

- The group should never be used as a platform to air views/grievances regarding a teacher, child or parent in the class or school.
- The group should be used keeping in mind mutual respect and cultural sensitivity between all its members.

As a school with an open door policy should you have any concerns/issues, please discuss with myself and/or staff in the school rather than using WhatsApp groups or social media or directly contacting other parents/carers. We can then work together to resolve any issues.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

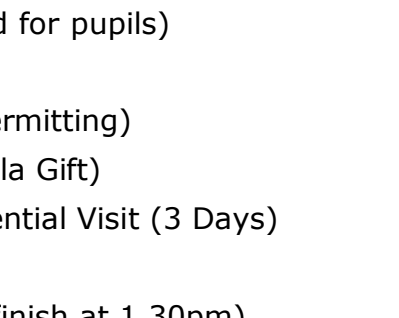
School Uniform Orders

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: **Equality**



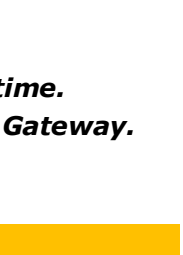
We will be thinking about what equality means and why is important to have equal rights for all. We will also be learning more about protected characteristics and how these ensure equality for all too.

"There should be no discrimination against languages people speak, skin colour or religion." Malala Yousafzai

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who has donated and contributed towards our recent fundraising efforts. We raised:

- £355.00 for Halton Haven (Hop for Haven)
- £104.00 for Comic Relief (Own Clothes Day)
- £771.89 for School Funds (Easter Bingo & Raffle)



Diary Dates

- Wed 17th Apr - KS2 Diamond Cricket Event
- Fri 19th Apr - Y5 & Y6 Evacuee Day
- Mon 22nd Apr - KS2 Girls Aspire Football Event
- Mon 29th Apr - Y3/Y4 Mini Tennis Event
- Mon 29th Apr - Posh Prints in School for YR & Y6 class photograph
- Mon 29th Apr - Book Fair (on all week after school)
- Tue 30th Apr - KS2 Girls Cricket Event
- Thu 2nd May - KS2 Mixed Cricket Event
- Mon 6th May - Bank Holiday (school closed)
- Thu 9th May - Coffee Morning
- Tue 21st May - YR Llandudno Visit
- Fri 24th May - Own Clothes Day (Tombola Gift)
- Fri 24th May - School closes for half term
- Mon 3rd Jun - INSET Day (school closed for pupils)
- Tue 4th Jun - School reopens
- Mon 17th Jun - Sports Day (weather permitting)
- Fri 21st Jun - Own Clothes Day (Tombola Gift)
- Mon 24th Jun - Y5/Y6 Edinburgh Residential Visit (3 Days)
- Tue 2nd Jul - Y3 Beeston Castle Visit
- Thu 4th Jul - Summer Fair (school will finish at 1.30pm)
- Thu 4th Jul - Own Clothes Day (Fill a sweet cone)
- Friday 5th Jul - INSET Day (school closed for pupils)
- Wed 10th Jul - KS2 Summer Drama Performances
- Thu 18th Jul - School closes for summer

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

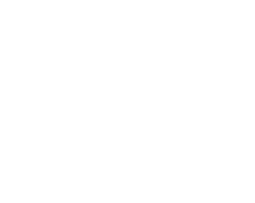
Useful Links

- [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.

Summer Attendance Incentive

Look out for information to follow regarding our summer term attendance incentive during May!

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.

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](#).**

