



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

It is lovely to welcome everybody back to the new school year and I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Gorsewood family to our new Reception starters, who have wowed me with their brilliant start to school. They have all come in so sensibly and made everyone very proud.

The autumn term is always very busy as we settle back into school and learn new routines for our new classes. We have our "Visit the Classroom" sessions this week on Wednesday and Thursday so please attend so you can meet your child's new teacher and see your child's classroom.

Following a review of our morning routines we are asking if all pupils can please use the playground gate to enter school. The gate now opens at 8.40am. The front of school should only be used by those attending Breakfast Club and Early Bird Drop Off.

I look forward to working with you in partnership over the coming year.

Thank you for your support.

Miss E Jackson
Headteacher



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.



General Reminders

Important

If anyone wishes to update or amend any consents for pupils (ie, Twitter, use of photographs, etc) please ask for a form at the school office.

Please can all parents/carers login to the School Gateway to confirm agreement of the school documents sent home by email on 5th September. Thank you.

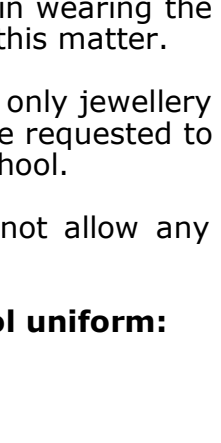
Parking Around School

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

The staff car park and entrance should not be used for parking or collection and drop off.

The 'Drop & Go' area is often under used and we would encourage parents/carers to use this for an easy drop off. **A reminder that this area should also not be used for parking.**

Thank you for your continued support.



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.

Please note when **swimming** the leisure centre do not allow any type of earrings.

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
- 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.

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

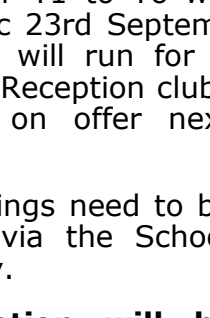
Please note football kits, gym wear and other sports items are not PE uniform.

Tuck - Payment Due

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 **£15.00 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.** Payment can be made in full or termly.

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 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.

School Meals & School Hub

A reminder that you can now view menus and order school meals at home with your child. Please visit the **School Hub**.

For those children who pay for school meals this should also be done via the School Hub using the link above.

If you think your child may be 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.



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.

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

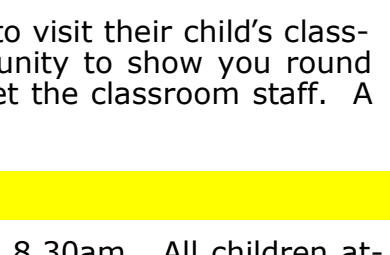
If at any point you feel are struggling, please contact school so we can offer advice and support.

Enrichment Clubs

Clubs for Y1 to Y6 will start w/c 23rd September and will run for 8 weeks. Reception clubs will be on offer next term.

All bookings need to be made via the School Gateway.

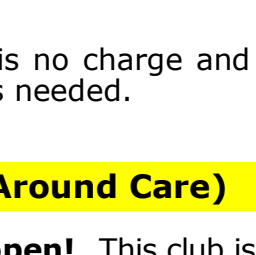
Information will be sent out soon.



Fundraising

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

We raised an amazing **£1074.00** at the summer fair for school funds. Thank you!! This money will be used to buy equipment and resources throughout school and for subsidising visits.



Coffee Afternoon & Cake Sale - Friday 27th September

It's good to talk!

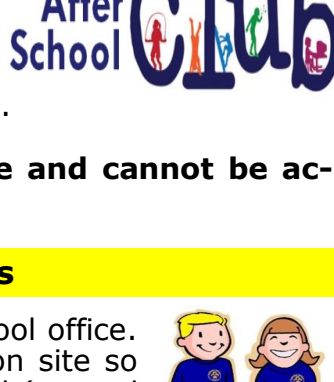
We would like to invite our parents, carers and grandparents to join us for a general coffee afternoon in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. This event will just be for the grown ups!

This will take place on Friday 27th September in the school hall from 2.00pm until 3.15pm.

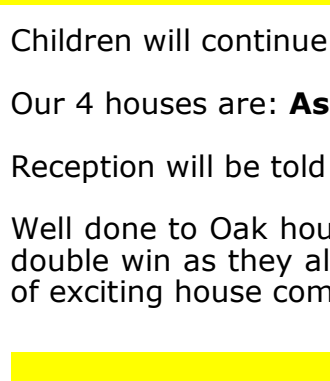
Refreshments and treats will be available in exchange for a donation during the session. No booking is required.

Children will be also be able to purchase cakes /biscuits. Children will not need more than 50p.

Cake/biscuit donations are welcomed. Please drop them into the office.



PE Timetable



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

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

Marvellous Me

Please make sure you have signed up to Marvellous Me so you can be kept updated with your child in school each day. Teachers use Marvellous Me to send class messages home



Visit the Classroom! - Wed 11th & Thu 12th Sep

We are pleased to invite all parents/carers to visit their child's classroom. This will give you the opportunity to show you round their new classroom and enable you to meet the classroom staff. A separate letter will follow with more details.

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 £1.50 per pupil per day and must be booked online via the School Gateway no later than the day before the session.**

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

Gorsewood After School Club (New Wrap Around Care)

Our new Gorsewood After School Club is now open! This club is supervised by Mrs A Langton and Mrs C Heffernan.

The club runs daily from 3.15pm to 6.00pm Monday to Friday and there are 2 sessions available which include a drink and snack:

- **Session A = 3.15pm to 5.00pm = £7.00**
- **Session B = 3.15pm to 6.00pm = £10.00**

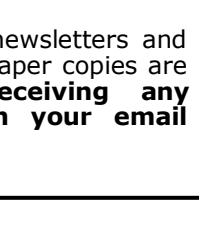
Places are limited and booking and payment is required upfront on a first come, first served basis via the School Gateway. Only payment upfront will secure and confirm a place.

Bookings MUST be made in advance online and cannot be accepted on the day.



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.

Our 4 houses are: **Ash, Oak, Birch and Sycamore**

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

Well done to Oak house who won our House Cup last year. It was a double win as they also won Sports Day too. This year we have lots of exciting house competitions planned.

Diary Dates - Sep/Oct

- Wed 11th & Thu 12th Sep - Visit the Classroom
- Fri 13th Sep - Year 6 swimming starts
- Mon 23rd Sep - Tag Rugby Event
- Tue 24th Sep - Flu Vaccination Program
- Fri 27th Sep - Macmillan Coffee Afternoon 2.00pm to 3.15pm
- Mon 30th Sep - Y5/Y6 Netball Event
- Fri 4th Oct - Y5/Y6 Internet Safety Workshop 9.30am (Parents Invited)
- Thu 10th Oct - School Photographs with Posh Prints
- Tue 15th Oct - School Opening Evening for Sept 2025
- Wed 16th Oct - School Health Flu Vaccination Program
- Wed 23rd Oct - SEN Support Meetings
- Thu 24th Oct - SEN Support Meetings
- Thu 24th Oct - Y3 Visit to Sugarbrook Farm
- Thu 24th Oct - Autumn Spooky Disco (KS1 4pm-4.45pm & KS2 5-6pm)
- Fri 25th Oct - Own Clothes Day (Gift required for Christmas Fair)
- Fri 25th Oct - School closes for half term
- Mon 4th Nov - School reopens

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

Useful Links

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

Attendance & Rewards

Attendance continues to be a priority for school.

Our whole school target is 95%. If we achieve this target we will have a whole school reward.

Each week if your child's class has attendance of 96% or above they will receive a jigsaw piece. When the jigsaw is complete the class will win a prize!

Classes who achieve 100% attendance for the week will receive 2 jigsaw pieces

Everyone can help to complete their class jigsaw!

Every Day Counts

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](#).**

