



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to welcome everybody back to the new school year. We were fortunate to have good weather over the holidays and it has been lovely hearing about all the wonderful activities children were treated to!

As we start this new year there have been a number of staff changes in school. Kelly Williams is our new full time Family Support Worker. She will be supporting families with many things including home behaviour, home routines, sign posting to other agencies and attendance support. Kelly will soon have her own mobile but can be contacted at fsw.gorsewood@haltonlearning.net if you require support.

We also welcome Miss Wright in Year 5 who is Assistant Head too. Miss Khan is covering Mrs Chorlton's maternity leave until Christmas and Miss Culliford is working in Year 4 with Miss Gleave.

Attendance is a key priority this year. Every day in school really does matter. We look forward to working with parents and carers to raise our whole school attendance this year.

Children have all settled in quickly and re-established their routines. September is a busy month in school and staff will be working hard to ensure learning is fun! If your child has brought a reading book home, please take the time to read with them. Another school priority is reading and we need home support to ensure every child in Gorsewood is a reader.

I look forward to working alongside you all again this year to help your children achieve their potential and be the best they can be.

Miss E Jackson
Headteacher

General Reminders

Annual Consents - Important

Please can all parent/carers complete the consent form that has been created on the school website at: www.gorsewood.halton.sch.uk

You will need to scroll to the bottom of the home page in the right corner and select parent login. You can find the form under Surveys & Forms "Annual Consent Form All Pupils 22-23".

Please note this must be completed by all parents/carers.

Paper copies of the consent forms are available from the school office if preferred.

A reminder you can also access the school website parent area on your phone via the School Spider App. If you need a reminder of your parent login, please email the office or use the 'forgotten password' option.

July Survey Feedback

Parents/Carers General Survey 2022

A total of 53 questionnaires were returned. Please find a summary of the responses below.

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES	Strongly Agree or Agree
My child enjoys school	96.3%
My child is making progress	98.2%
I feel that my child is safe and well cared for at school	100%
Behaviour in school is good	96.3%
I find the staff at school approachable and supportive.	100%
I am kept well informed about school routines, visits, events etc.	100%

Parents/Carers Reports Survey 2022

A total of 57 questionnaires were returned. Please find a summary of the responses below.

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES	Strongly Agree or Agree
I found my child's report informative.	100%
My child's report was easy to understand.	100%
I liked the photographs included in my child's report.	98.25%
From the report, I know what my child does well.	100%
From the report, I know what my child's targets are.	100%

Your opinions are important to us and we use responses to help improve school. It was wonderful to read so many positive comments, however, we are not complacent and value your comments and suggestions.

Tuck

We have been fortunate enough this year to secure some additional funding towards the cost of tuck. We are therefore asking parents/carers for a contribution of **£5.00 per pupil for the full academic year.**

If you would like your child to have daily tuck, payment needs to be made online via the School Gateway. **The payment option is now live.**

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 are aware of the increased energy costs, inflation and cost of living pressures that are affecting everyone.

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.

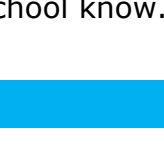
We would also like to remind you that if you require help with school uniform please call into school as we have a selection of nearly new items available.

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

Bank Holiday - 19th Sep

School will be closed on Monday 19th September.

This is a bank holiday for the state funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



There is a book of condolences at the front of school which is open for all.

After School Clubs

Clubs for Y1 to Y6 will start w/c 19th September. Reception clubs will be on offer next term.

All bookings need to be made via the School Gateway.

Coffee Morning

It's good to talk!

We would like to invite our parents, carers and grandparents to join us for a wellbeing coffee morning and drop in session.



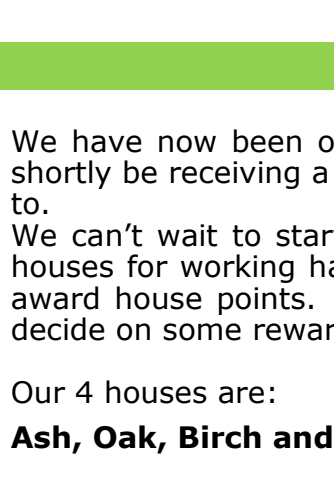
This will take place on **Thursday 22nd September in the school hall from 9.15am until 10.15am.**

This is an opportunity for you to:

- Chat to and ask our pastoral team any questions you may have.
- Ask our SENCO any questions you may have about SEND.
- Simply catchup with other parents, carers and grandparents over coffee and cake!

Refreshments will be available free of charge during the session.

PE Reminder



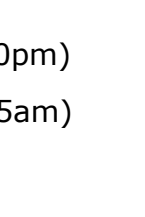
A reminder children should come to school in their PE kits on the days they have PE.

PE kit consists of a plain white T-shirt or Gorsewood T-shirt, blue/black shorts or black jogging bottoms and Gorsewood PE hoody, sweatshirt or fleece. **Please note sports kits and gym wear are not PE uniform.**

If you are struggling to buy PE items please let school know.

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.



Visit the Classroom!

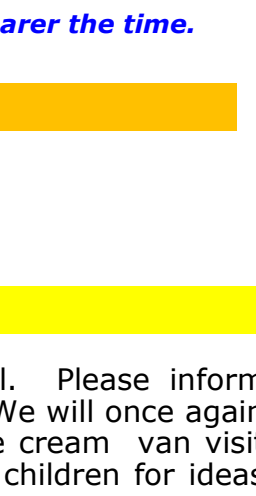
This week we would like to invite parents/carers to collect their child from their new classroom so you can see where their learning takes place and meet the staff! Please book online if you wish to attend.

New Rewards Vending Machine

To encourage a love of reading we now have our **Book Vending Machine**. Children will receive golden coins for Be Your Best Self raffle ticket draws and also reading regularly in school and at home.

Prizes include books and stationery items.

You can see the new machine at the front of school.



School Houses

We have now been organised into our school houses. Children will shortly be receiving a badge to wear to show what house they belong to.

We can't wait to start counting up house points to reward different houses for working hard. We are using Marvellous Me thumbs up to award house points. When we have the new school council we will decide on some rewards for our winning house each half term.

Our 4 houses are:

Ash, Oak, Birch and Sycamore

Diary Dates

- w/c 12th September - Visit the classroom. Please book online
- Mon 19th Sep - After School Clubs start (Y1 to Y6)
- Tue 20th Sep - Reception Phonics Parent Session (3.00pm)
- Thu 22nd Sep - Coffee Morning & Drop In Session (9.15am)
- Tue 18th Oct - Parent Interviews
- Wed 19th Oct - KS2 Science Family Learning Workshop ()
- Thu 20th Oct - School Photograph Day
- Fri 21st Oct - School closes for half term
- Mon 31st Oct - School reopens
- Mon 7th Nov - Y4 Kingswood Residential Visit (7th to 9th)
- Tue 8th Nov - KS1 Number Family Learning Course (3 weeks)
- Thu 15th Dec - Whole School Pantomime Visit (No charge)

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. Please inform school if your child is absent as soon as possible. We will once again be working towards a whole school treat. The ice cream van visit went down a treat last term so we will be asking children for ideas and if parents/carers have any too please let us know.

School Gateway Reminders

Currently payment/consent is due for:

- **Tuck** - Payment of £5.00 due for all pupils for yearly tuck (fruit)
- **Inhaler Consent** - For all pupils with asthma
- **Y5/Y6 St Braivels Cardiff Visit** - Next payment due by 30th Sept
- **Y3 CHET Visit** - Next payment due by 30th Sept
- **Y4 Kingswood Visit** - Next payment due by 30th Sept



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](#).**