



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L  
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## Newsletter 2 – 17.09.19

Dear Parents & Carers,

### **Reminder: Headteacher's coffee morning – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019.**

Please do pop along, if you can, to the coffee morning. There is no agenda just an informal opportunity for me to meet more parents and discuss your experiences of Gayton. Parents are free to drop in between 9:00am-9:45am.

### **Parents' Curriculum Information evening- change of date.**

Our Parent's Curriculum information evening will now take place on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019**. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by changing the date.

### **Celebration assembly**

Well done to our Headteacher's award winners this week. These children have been chosen for a particular aspect of their work across the curriculum which has really impressed us. It was lovely to come together and celebrate the fantastic work that they have produced. Keep up the hard work everyone!

Our merit award winners this week have all been chosen for displaying our half termly value of friendship. There were some lovely comments written by staff for the children with regards to why they had been chosen.

If we have permission to use your child's image, we will be sharing a photograph on Twitter every week of our Headteacher's award winners and our merit award winners.

### **F2 children:**

Well done to our F2 children who have made a great start to the year. They have all been settling in really well and our Y5 children have thoroughly enjoyed meeting and getting to know their buddies. We are looking forward to F2 joining us for lunchtime on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September before they start full time with us on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019.

### **Climate Change Strike: 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

You may be aware that there is a pupil strike planned for 20<sup>th</sup> September. Whilst we would like to encourage the concerns of our young people about the future of the planet, we would also not want them to be absent from school. In view of this, the advice from our new Attendance Service is that we would not encourage pupils to be absent from school and any who are absent we would advise should be marked as unauthorised. Therefore if you are planning on taking your child to the climate change strike, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence based on advice from the attendance service.

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### Aldi Collection:

We are taking part in the Aldi 'Kit for Schools' promotion. From the 6<sup>th</sup> September, Aldi's Kits for Schools promotion is giving 20 primary schools the chance to win £20,000 to kick-start a health legacy for their school. What's more, every school who enters by completing their Aldi's Kit for Schools poster will also receive an exclusive school sports kit! You can collect a sticker with every £30.00 spent in store and fill up your school's poster for a chance to win.'

Please send in your stickers when you collect them! We have displayed our poster in the hall so that it is easily accessible to the children for them to stick their stickers on the chart and see our whole school progress.

### Handwriting scheme:

We will be implementing a handwriting scheme across the school in order to encourage improved standards of handwriting and presentation. You will be able to find out more about this at our curriculum parents' meeting.

### Homework:

We have reviewed our homework policy in order to ensure consistency across the school. These are our expectations with regards to what should be completed every week. Homework will be sent home on a Friday.

### Y1 & 2 Homework expectations:

<p><b>Reading</b></p>  <p>Your child should be reading daily to an adult and this should be recorded in their reading record.</p> <p>In addition, your child will bring a comprehension sheet home with them <b>every other week</b>. We will be sending the answers home to parents and we would like you to spend time discussing the comprehension with your child.</p> <p>We are hoping that this will support parents in understanding the expectations of the reading curriculum and will enable parents to support their child further with their reading comprehension.</p> <p><b>Please don't forget the importance of reading to your child as well as sharing a book together is a wonderful way for your child to learn and discuss new vocabulary.</b></p>	<p><b>Phonics/Spellings</b></p>  <p>Your child will be sent home with their spellings to learn on a Friday.</p> <p>Your child should be practising these at least 5 times a week. They will then be tested on them the following Friday in school.</p>	<p><b>Maths</b></p>  <p>Your child will be sent home with a maths homework book. Within the homework book, there will be a number of different activities for your child to complete. Your child can choose one a week or alternatively, if you have a busy week, you can complete two in one week.</p> <p>You should use the book to record some evidence of your child having a go at the activity. Remember that it could be a picture/ photograph or a drawing. The book can then be returned to school in the last week of the half term.</p>
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## Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 Expectations:

### Reading



Your child should be reading daily to an adult and this should be recorded in their reading record.

In addition your child will bring a comprehension sheet home with them every week. We will be sending the answers home to parents and we would like you to spend time discussing the comprehension with your child.

We are hoping that this will support parents in understanding the expectations of the reading curriculum and will enable parents to support their child further with their reading comprehension.

**Please do not forget the importance of also reading to your child (even at Years 5 & 6) as sharing a book together is a wonderful way for your child to learn and discuss new vocabulary.**

### Spelling



Your child will be given spellings to learn on a Friday.

These spellings should be rehearsed and practised a minimum of 3 times a week. Your child will be tested on these spellings on a Friday in class.

### Maths



**Times table Rockstars-** Your child should be accessing Times table Rockstars at least 3 times a week. This site helps them to practise and reinforce multiplication tables and corresponding division facts which are so important for developing their fluency.

#### **Maths activity:**

Your child will be given a Maths book and will be asked to complete activities within the book. This will be used to consolidate class work. Your child will be told on a weekly basis which pages they need to complete within the book.

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## **Coast 2 Country Project:**

The exhibition at the Williamson gallery was a huge success and the gallery staff report it was one of the most successful they have had. A comments book was placed with the exhibition and comments include:

*'Great work, thoughtful and fun!'*

*'We came from London and we love your exhibition because you have raised important points about environmental issues in creative ways'*

*'This is a superb example of the world of Wirral schools'*

*'All the schools art work is amazing and very inspiring'*

*'A very inspiring exhibition! Our special world needs to be protected'*

*'These pieces of art work are amazing. I could sit here for hours and look at them. Really good/strong message.'*

*'The best exhibition I have seen in a long time'*

*'It is a pity some adults don't follow the example of these children. I think the future is in safe hands'*

*'A fabulous display from these children. We should all follow their example and take responsibility for our planet.'*

*'Very clever – some very creative teaching staff'*

*'Really inspirational – getting important messages across through art and creativity'*

This is not the end for this incredible Deeside Schools C2C exhibition. All the pieces are currently in storage awaiting installation in a new venue- by invitation. We can't yet reveal where yet, but we will be able to soon.

## **Residential Review:**

During the summer term, all the residential across Years 4-6 were reviewed. This was to ensure the best possible residential provision for the children and to ensure the highest standards of health and safety.

Therefore for this academic year the following residential will take place:

Y4 will be visiting Barnstondale on 20<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup> April 2020.

Y5 will be visiting Robinwood on 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

Y6 will be returning to Oaklands this year. This will take place 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> July 2020. We appreciate that Y6 have already visited Oaklands in Y5. However, speaking to the children they really have thoroughly enjoyed their time spent at this residential centre so I am sure that they will be delighted to find out that they are returning! We have spoken to the Oaklands centre and they will ensure that there is progression in the activities that the children will complete in Y6. This trip has also been moved outside of the Y6 statutory assessment timetable as previously it took place during the writing moderation window which was not ideal at all.

Further information regarding the residential, will shortly be sent home to parents so that you can begin to make payments towards the cost of the residential experiences. Longer term, I would like to ascertain parents' views regarding the residential and your views regarding having all of the residential experiences in the latter stages of the children's time at Gayton.

Kind regards

Mrs McAleny

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