



GAYTON PRIMARY SCHOOL  
GAYTON ROAD • HESWALL • WIRRAL • CH60 8PZ

## Newsletter - 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Dear Parents & Carers,



### Happy New Year!

It has been lovely to welcome our children back to school for the start of the spring term. We are looking forward to the start of the new term and have a busy term planned ahead. We are delighted to now be officially part of Cheshire Academies Trust and are looking forward to our continued collaborative working.



### Christmas Festivities:

The end of the autumn term was filled with so many lovely Christmas festivities which really helped us all to get into the Christmas spirit and help us celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you so much to all our parents for all your support of these events and huge thanks to our PTA as well for running such successful events for our children as well. We are also very grateful to everyone who supported the Neo Charity and donated a present for a child in Wirral. We know that this donation made a huge difference to children and families on Wirral so thank you for your kindness and generosity.



Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

T. 0151 342 3772 • F. 0151 342 8124

E. [schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk) • W. [gayton.wirral.sch.uk](http://gayton.wirral.sch.uk)

### Staffing update:



We are delighted to announce that we have appointed a new administrative assistant to increase the capacity in our office, which is very much needed. We welcome Beth Parker to our Gayton family. Beth comes to us with a wealth of admin experience and we are delighted that she will be joining our team. Miss Parker will be working Monday- Thursday from 1:00pm- 4:00pm Mrs Hardie and Miss Parker will share the school office email account and can be contacted via: [schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk). Miss Parker started in role last week, but it will take some time for her to learn our systems and processes so please bear with her as she settles into school.

**Asda Green Token Voting:** Many thanks to everyone who voted for Gayton in the Green token giving competition with Asda. The competition ended on 31<sup>st</sup> December and we came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall which means the PTA have received a donation for £400.00. Many thanks to the PTA for nominating us for this.



### Curriculum information for the spring term & homework-

We will be sending home information regarding the curriculum in each year group on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023. This will support you in understanding what is being covered in your child's class during the term. Homework for the spring term will commence on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. Please ensure that your child is reading daily at home. Reading is such an important element of your child's learning and it is vital that you, as parents, support in ensuring that your child is having regular opportunities to read at home.

**Attendance:** The DfE have a current renewed focus on pupil attendance. In order to ensure you are aware of your child's attendance, we will send out an overview of your child's attendance from the autumn term by the end of this week. Attendance at school is important both academically and for social/emotional reasons. Whilst we understand that pupils will be absent from time to time due to illness, absence from school for other reasons should only be for exceptional circumstances. Holidays taken in term time will not be authorised.



If your child's attendance falls below 90%, this is a concern as your child is classed as 'persistently absent'. When we have concerns about your child's attendance, we will contact you to discuss additional support to ensure your child's attendance improves. Parents can receive a fixed fine if their child's attendance is a concern as legally all children should be in school every day the school is open.

### Year 6 Residential and SAT meeting for parents.

Many thanks to all the parents who came to the Year 6 SAT & Residential meeting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023. If you were unable to attend, we have sent out the presentations via email for the SATs and Robinwood residential. We have also sent home paper copies of the medical/dietary information which parents need to complete and return to school. This information must be returned by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023 as we have to send the information to Robinwood in advance of the residential.



Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

T. 0151 342 3772 • F. 0151 342 8124

E. [schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk) • W. [gayton.wirral.sch.uk](http://gayton.wirral.sch.uk)

## Reminder: Parents' Evening:

Parents' Evening will take place on Wednesday 15th February 2023 and Thursday 16th February from 3:40pm- 7:00pm. This will take place face to face. Booking instructions will be sent out closer to the time.



## Clubs:

We have distributed the club overview to parents for the spring term. Please ensure that you look at the club dates as not all clubs start in the spring 1<sup>st</sup> half term and the Y5/6 games club does not start until Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023. If there are insufficient numbers for some of the clubs, the club provider may have to make the difficult decision to cancel the club so please ensure you do sign up your child for a club if you want them to attend.



## Christopher Salmon Poetry Competition:

The Christopher Salmon Foundation in partnership with  
Wirral Poetry Festival and Wirral Libraries announces

# The Christopher Salmon Poetry Competition 2023

For poems on the theme of Sunshine  
For people in Wirral aged 19 years and under,  
in full-time education. Entry is FREE.  
Prize of £100 for each of five age categories

Entries for the Christopher Salmon Poetry competition are now open. This year the theme of the competition is '**sunshine**'. We have sent home information via email about the competition. Parents can submit their child's own entry via this link: <https://form.jotform.com/223383902588363>

Alternatively, your child can submit their entry to school on the paper form (available via email or paper copies are available in your child's class) and hand it into school by **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023**.

Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

T. 0151 342 3772 • F. 0151 342 8124

E. [schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk) • W. [gayton.wirral.sch.uk](http://gayton.wirral.sch.uk)

## PTA fundraising update:

As part of our OPAL developments, we have a clear grounds development plan in place in order to ensure that we are strategically planning to improve the play provision for all our children. One of the key elements that we have identified on the plan is the need for the children to have greater opportunities for climbing within the school grounds. Therefore, our play team have been researching a variety of different ways in which we can best facilitate increasing climbing opportunities.

Thanks to the support of the PTA, we are pleased to announce that we will be working with Pentagon Play in order to install a Crinkle Crag climbing frame on our school field. This structure is perfect for all children within school and will enable them to enter and exit wherever they like and climb as high as they feel comfortable. Children will develop their overall body strength, coordination, core stability, balance, foot placement, grip and grasp and both their fine and gross motor skills. There will be plenty of space underneath the structure for den-making, reading and relaxation for children wanting a break from active play as well. Underneath the structure there will be appropriate safety surfacing to ensure that we meet all health and safety standards.

We are so thankful to the PTA and to all our parents for all their support of the PTA as without all their fundraising efforts and the support of the parental community this would not be possible. We are hoping that the Crinkle Crag will be installed at the end of April and will keep parents updated regarding the installation date. We know that this is going to be such a wonderful addition to our play provision and are so grateful to everyone for making this a possibility for our school community.



Thank  
you  
so  
much!  
😊

Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

T. 0151 342 3772 • F. 0151 342 8124

E. schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk • W. gayton.wirral.sch.uk

The PTA will now be fund raising for the second aspect of our grounds development plan which is the installation of a timber frame structure on the school playground. Through pupil surveys, our children have identified that there is no shelter available on the school playground either during hot or rainy weather.

We would therefore like to install a timber structure enabling us to offer shelter and to support us in providing a quieter space for children to spend time in as well. This will be an ideal space for Lego play, craft activities etc as well.

We are hoping that everyone will unite in supporting the PTA so that we can raise the funds to allow us to make this a possibility. The cost of this structure with installation is around £15,000 so we need everyone to continue to support the PTA so that we can raise the money to facilitate this project.



### PTA events:

The PTA have arranged the following events for this half term, so please do support them as all the money raised will be going towards funding our outdoor shelter.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**- Film Club – 3:20pm- 5:00pm

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023**– Clothing collection

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023**– PTA meeting 7pm Otto Lounge

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023**- Bake sale after school. Donations to be received at morning drop off

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023**- PTA meeting after morning school drop off– Otto Lounge

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023**- Spring Disco 3:20pm- 4:45pm

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023**- Non-school uniform day

**GAYTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA**

**SAVE THE DATE**

ALL EVENTS AVAILABLE ON PARENT PAY NOW!

MONDAY 16 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY	FILM CLUB 3.20- 5 PM
WEDNESDAY 18 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY	CLOTHING COLLECTION
MONDAY 30 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY	PTA MEETING 7 PM OTTO LOUNGE
FRIDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY	BAKE SALE AFTER SCHOOL DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED AT MORNING DROP OFF (BAKED/ PURCHASED)
TUESDAY 7 <sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY	PTA MEETING AFTER MORNING SCHOOL DROP OFF OTTO LOUNGE (CHILDREN WELCOME)
THURSDAY 9 <sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY	SPRING DISCO 3.20-4.45 PM
FRIDAY 17 <sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY	NON SCHOOL UNIFORM

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Parentkind  
Member Association

Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

T. 0151 342 3772 • F. 0151 342 8124

E. schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk • W. gayton.wirral.sch.uk

## Wirral Fuss – Can you help?

Wirral Fuss has been providing schools in the Wirral area with free recycled school uniforms. The Heswall Hub is run by volunteers and they are looking for volunteers, who can offer as little as 1 hour on an ad hoc basis, to help Gayton school families have access to the good quality, recycled school uniform.

They need: A parent who can liaise between Gayton school and Fuss via year group what's app messaging.

They are also desperate for individuals to help sort Gayton uniform once this has been donated via the school office. Both requirements are very informal and flexible arrangements to suit your own commitments.

If you are able to spare a little bit of time to help this wonderful cause, please contact the school office and we will put you in touch with Helen Peters who currently very kindly coordinates everything for our school with Wirral FUSS. She does an incredible job but it would be wonderful to have some other parents come forward to support as well.

### Communication with teachers:

If you need to contact your child's class teacher, you will be able to see them at the gates at the end of the school day. If not, you can email the school office via: [schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk) and the teacher will get back to you as soon as possible. Please remember that teachers are teaching all day and it may not be possible for them to call you back until the end of the school day.

### Reminder: Applications for F2 places for 2023-2024

Please remember the final date for F2 applications for 2023-2024 is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023. If anyone knows of any local families who may be interested in their child starting at Gayton next academic year, please make sure that they have submitted an application.



### Labelling of clothing:

At the end of the autumn term, we again had a lot of lost property which was unclaimed and this has now been washed and donated to Wirral FUSS/FUPS. Please can I urge parents to ensure that you take the time to label your child's clothing. We will always reunite your child with their clothing, if it is labelled, but we are unable to do this when large amounts of uniform are unlabelled.

Thank you for your continued support,

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. McAleny'.

Mrs McAleny

Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

T. 0151 342 3772 • F. 0151 342 8124

E. [schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk) • W. [gayton.wirral.sch.uk](http://gayton.wirral.sch.uk)

**Key Dates:**

Date	Event
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Deadline for applications for reception 2023-2024.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	PTA film club 3:30pm- 5:00pm
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	PTA Clothing collection- please ensure bags are dropped off under the canopy by 9:00am.
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Commando Jo's workshop for Year 2 – Year 6 pupils. Y2- Y6 to wear PE kit on this day.
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Census day- All F2 /KS1 children to have a hot dinner on this day.
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Y6 Class assembly at 9:05am. Parents welcome to attend.
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Benji (therapy dog) visit to school.
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	PTA meeting- Otto Lounge at 7:00pm- All parents welcome.
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2023	National Child Measurement programme- F2 pupils.
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023	Governance meeting at 6:00pm.
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2023	PTA Bake sale after school.
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Mad Science assembly for Years 3- Year 6.
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	PTA meeting- Otto Lounge- straight after drop off. All parents welcome.
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	PTA disco 3:25pm- 4:45pm.
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Y4 Class assembly at 9:05am. Parents welcome to attend.
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 & Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2023.	Parents' evening- further details to be shared nearer the time.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Break up today for half term holiday. PTA non- school uniform day- donation via Parent Pay.
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Children return to school
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023	World Book Day- further information to follow.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Y4 trip to Chester- further details to be sent nearer the time.
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Year 3 class assembly at 9:05am. Parents welcome to attend.
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2023 – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Y6 Robinwood Residential
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Red Nose Day 2023
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Year 2 visit to Port Sunlight- further details to be sent nearer the time.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Closing date for paper entries of the Christopher Salmon competition.
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	PTA Easter Chocolate Bingo at 6:00pm. (Date to be confirmed).
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	Break up today for spring break at 2:30pm.

Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

T. 0151 342 3772 • F. 0151 342 8124

E. schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk • W. gayton.wirral.sch.uk