



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L
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Newsletter 3 – 24.09.19

Dear Parents & Carers,

Headteacher's coffee morning

Many thanks to all the parents who were able to come along to the coffee morning last week. It was lovely to be able to talk to parents informally about your experiences of Gayton and also to have the chance for parents to highlight some areas of development for the school. I will be taking on board your feedback to try and improve in the areas that have been highlighted. I will provide the opportunity for all parents to give some feedback on the evening of the Parents' Curriculum session as I fully appreciate that some parents were unable to attend due to work commitments.

Parents' Curriculum Information evening- Wednesday 2nd October 2019

Our Parent's Curriculum information evening is taking place on **Wednesday 2nd October 2019**. There will be a presentation in the hall at **5:00pm**. Afterwards there will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher whilst they deliver a presentation based on the curriculum for their specific year group. Sessions will run at **5:30pm-6:00pm** and then **6:05pm-6:35pm**. Please do come along if you are able to do so as important information will be shared.

Sports News:

Last week was a busy week for sports within our school.

Well done to our Y6 football team who participated in the Dodd Cup hosted by Heswall Primary on Tuesday 17th September 2019. The team showed great team spirit and some excellent determination.

Gordon Longworth has very kindly offered to come into school once a week to train the Year 6 team during lunchtimes. This will provide a brilliant opportunity for the children to develop their skills and work as a team. Our Y6 football team will be representing school in the Houlihan cup where we will be playing matches against Thingwall, Irby and Raeburn.



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Netball:



Ms Fletcher took our netball team to participate in the Braddock cup at Pensby Primary school on Wednesday 18th September 2019. The team came third overall and Ms Fletcher was very impressed with the standard of play and how well the girls interacted as a team together. Ms Fletcher is now running a Y6 netball club after school on a Monday in order to give the children more opportunity to practise and rehearse.



Cross country team

Wow! We were so pleased that so many children wanted to participate in the cross country event at Birkenhead Park. The children were amazing and supported each other brilliantly during the event. Huge thanks to Miss Hudson and Mrs Kurton for going along to support the children. Our next cross country race will take place on **Thursday 3rd October 2019 at Arrowe Park.**

Sports Hall Athletics:

We are very lucky that Mr Roberts, who is one of the lead people with regards to the organisation and running of the cross country events on the Wirral, is very kindly giving up his own time to come into school and lead some sessions at lunchtime for pupils in relation to Sports Hall Athletics. He is mainly targeting children in Years 4-6, although he has also provided opportunities for some of our younger children to join in with relay races. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and it is a brilliant way for them to practise their skills whilst also remaining active during the lunchtime period. Hopefully he will be coming in again tomorrow (at lunchtime) if the weather allows!



Green Flag Renewal:

Our school is currently preparing to renew our Green Flag. This will be reviewed by December 2019. This is a very prestigious award and Mrs Hulley and Mrs Such are working hard to prepare all our evidence as part of our application to renew. We have a wealth of evidence to support the application building on the work of the Coast to Country (C2C) project that took place in the summer term.

Coast to Country (C2C Project)

All of the work that was displayed as part of the Coast to Country Project at the Williamson Gallery has now been relocated to Chester Cathedral. This is due to the wonderful success of the project and the desire for more people to see the project. Therefore, if you haven't had a chance to see the C2C work, please do pop along to Chester Cathedral to see the exhibition. I will certainly be making a visit as I haven't had the chance to see the work first hand yet!

PTA

The annual general meeting for the PTA will take place on **Wednesday 16th October at 7:15pm** in school. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting. I have met with Nicola Chapman, who is currently the chair of the PTA, and she has informed me that quite a few of our PTA members will be standing down at this meeting due to a variety of different reasons. I am very grateful to them for everything they have done to raise much needed funds over the years that they have been a PTA member at Gayton. However, it really is vital that more parents do come forward to support with the running of the PTA as school budgets are



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becoming incredibly tight and we desperately need the money that the PTA raise throughout the school year. Therefore, if you are able to do so, please do come along to the AGM meeting on **Wednesday 16th October 2019** to find out more about the wonderful work that the PTA do for our school and how you could get involved. The PTA really are making a difference to the school in regards to the additional funding that they bring and I really do need other parents to join in if you are able to do so.

School Council

Our school council have led a vote across the whole school with regards to whether children should be able to bring sweets/cakes into school on their birthday. This was suggested by a parent last term as a possibility for the school council to consider. The children themselves are very aware of some of the problems that can be caused when children bring sweets into school. On occasions, their friends have been unable to have sweets due to food intolerances and on other occasions parents have not wanted their children to be given sweets. In addition, several classes have pointed out that sweet wrappers are not very eco-friendly. As a school we also wanted to try and work further on our value of compassion and thought that this would be an ideal way for everyone to demonstrate compassion by children making a donation to charity on their birthday instead of bringing in sweets for the whole class.

Our school council representatives have led discussions and voting in their classes in order to ascertain whether this is something that we would like to adopt across the school. All our councillors and children have carefully debated and considered the decision and there have been some wonderful debates across the school.

There has been an overwhelming majority vote for us to adopt this across the school. Therefore, I would request that from next week (Monday 30th September 2019) the children no longer bring sweets or cakes into school for their birthday. The School Council will now be deciding and voting on the charity that we will be raising money for across the school. Further details regarding this will be sent out to parents so that you know how you can make a donation for the chosen charity. There will be no obligation for parents to do this but we feel that this is a lovely way for us to demonstrate our whole school compassion value. Although the children were happy to forgo sweets, they have discussed in their classes ways that they would like their birthday to be recognised in school. Some of their ideas have included: sitting on a birthday cushion, choosing a song to play to the class at the end of the day or their own birthday dance! I can assure you that staff will be working with the children to ensure that they do still get to recognise their birthday in their own unique way!

Aldi Sticker Collection:

Don't forget that we are taking part in the Aldi 'Kit for Schools' promotion. Please send in your stickers when you collect them. The poster is displayed in the hall for the children to add their stickers to. We need 300 stickers in order to enter the competition to win £20,000 so please do keep collecting!

Parking:

Please can I request that all parents park considerately when dropping off and collecting your child from school. Please do not block the drive ways of our neighbours as it is inconsiderate and causes disruption for our local residents.

Kind regards

Mrs McAleny

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