



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L
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Newsletter 13- 21st April 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Staffing update:

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Jones, our Year 6 teacher, is pregnant. We will be shortly advertising the Year 6 maternity cover position to commence at the start of the autumn term. We are hoping that Mrs Jones will be able to continue to work in Year 6 up until the end of the summer term. However, this will depend very much on covid-19 guidelines for pregnant women and we will of course update parents regarding this as further guidance is announced.

Parents' Evening appointments:



Please remember to sign up for a parents' evening appointment. Appointments can be made via ESchools. If you are having difficulty, please contact the school office so that they can support you with booking the appointment.

Telephone appointments are available at the times outlined below and all take place in week commencing Monday 26th April 2021. Staff will be able to discuss how well your child has settled back into school following the lockdown period and also we will have undertaken NFER assessments across Years 1- Year 6 so the staff will be able to share your child's results with you from these assessments and identify areas of development for your child.

Class teacher	Appointments available
Mrs Such (F2)	Wednesday 28 th April 3:30pm- 6:20pm Thursday 29 th April 1:00pm-3:00pm & 3:40pm-4:20pm
Miss Nederlof (Y1)	Wednesday 28 th April 3:30pm- 6:20pm Thursday 29 th April 1:00pm- 3:00pm & 3:40pm- 4:20pm
Mrs Carroll (Y2)	Tuesday 27 th April 3:30pm- 6:20pm Thursday 29 th April 1:00pm- 3:00pm & 3:40pm- 4:20pm
Miss Hudson (Y3)	Monday 26 th April 3:40pm- 6:20pm Wednesday 28 th April 1:00pm- 3:00pm & 3:40pm- 4:20pm
Miss Sothern/Mrs Roe (Y4)	Wednesday 28 th April 1:00pm- 3:00pm & 3:40pm- 4:20pm Thursday 29 th April 3:40pm- 6:20pm
Mrs Hulley (Y5)	Monday 26 th April 1:00pm- 3:00pm & 3:40pm- 4:20pm Tuesday 27 th April 3:40pm-6:20pm
Mrs Jones (Y6)	Monday 26 th April 3:40pm- 6:20pm Tuesday 27 th April 3:40pm- 6:20pm

Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

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Primary School admissions:

The local authority have released F2 allocations on Friday 16th April 2021. We currently have a waiting list as we were over-subscribed this year. As a result of this, if you are planning on sending your child to Gayton in September 2021 and have been offered a place, please ensure you accept this with the local authority.

Homework:

Homework re-commenced on Friday 16th April 2021 and is available via Google Classroom for Years 1-6 and Tapestry for F2. Please ensure that your child is reading regularly at home as this can make a huge difference to your child's progress as well as develop their vocabulary and understanding of texts.

Fun Food Chef:

Our Year 1 and Year 2 children had a wonderful experience with the Fun Food Chef on Tuesday 20th April. Y1's theme was 'All Around Africa'. They made bread rolls and a very tasty chicken dish with butternut squash, onion, chickpeas, roasted yams and stir fried plantain.

Y2's theme was based on the Great British Menu. They had a wonderful feast of roast chicken with apple, curried vegetables, herby potatoes served with a freshly baked roll and gravy and they finished off their meal with Eaton mess and lemonade.



Y6 Barnstondale

Due to the fact that residential are still not permitted, we have managed to secure a day trip for our Year 6 pupils to the Barnstondale Centre. This will take place on **Monday 14th June 2021**. The Year 6 children have chosen the activity package that they would like for the day and will be taking part in the following activities: outdoor climbing and abseiling, obstacle challenge, orienteering and shooting.

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The children will need to be dropped off at **9:30am** at the Barnstondale Centre and picked up after the campfire experience and BBQ tea at **7:00pm**. They will also require a packed lunch.
 The total cost of the trip will be £40.00 per child. You can now make payments via Parent Pay.
 We know that our Year 6 pupils will thoroughly enjoy participating in this day and are we looking forward to them spending time together and having lots of fun!



OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning):



This week, all our staff (including teachers, teaching assistants & midday assistants) attended a twilight training session based on the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme. This was such a brilliant way for us to launch the programme and it really enabled the whole staff team to see the vision of what we are hoping to create at lunchtimes and break times by the end of the two year programme. OPAL really will bring the whole school community together and we were also delighted to have some governors and a representative from the PTA attend the training so that they have a clear overview as well of the importance of providing quality play experiences for our children. We know that this programme will really help to support children's physical and emotional health as well as their well-being, approach to learning and enjoyment of school.

Over the next few weeks, we will be internally advertising for a play coordinator to work alongside Mrs Such as the Outdoor learning leader to really develop and embed this programme into our school culture. We will shortly also be asking for donations for different items for use at lunchtimes/break times and really hope that parents will be able to support us in this.

Rest Easy (Mental Health and Well-being programme):

We have now launched 'Rest Easy' with the children and explained to them the principles behind this mental health and well-being approach.

The poster outlines the meaning of the acronym '**Rest Easy**' and is a helpful reminder of the approach.

Over the next few weeks, we are focusing on appointing Rest Easy pupil ambassadors who will be able to offer support at lunchtimes to pupils who may be struggling with their emotions and feelings. Our school council will be meeting to look at the qualities that they think our Rest Easy ambassadors need to have in order for pupils to express their interest in applying for the positions.



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COVID-19 Updates:

The timings have altered at Wirral's Symptoms only testing centres at Birkenhead, Bebington, Liscard and Heswall will now operate at the following times every day:

8am to 12 noon - available to anyone with symptoms to get tested.

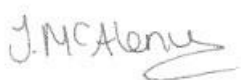
You can walk-in or book at www.wirral.gov.uk/test

12noon to 1.30pm - CLOSED

1.30pm to 7pm - collection point for symptom-free home testing kits only

Please can all parents ensure that home asymptomatic testing kits (LFD) tests are not used on primary school age children. If a child is showing symptoms, then they should be taken to a symptomatic testing centre as per existing guidance.

Thank you for your continued support,



Mrs McAleny

Key Dates:

Date	Event
Friday 23 rd April	Year 5 & 6 Mindfulness session
Week commencing 26 th April 2021	Parents' Evening appointments.
Monday 3 rd May 2021	Bank Holiday Monday – School closed
Thursday 6 th May 2021	Inset Day – School closed to all pupils- Polling Day
10 th May – 14 th May 2021	Swimming Year 5 @2:30pm
17 th May- 21 st May 2021	Swimming Year 5@ 2:30pm
Tuesday 25 th May 2021	Full Governors' Meeting
Wednesday 26 th May 2021	F2 School Nurses- audio and visual testing.
Friday 28 th May 2021	Break up for half term holiday
Monday 7 th June 2021	Children return after half term holiday
Friday 11 th June 2021	Rourke photography- Class photographs.
Monday 14 th June 2021	Year 6 day trip to Barnstondale Centre.
Friday 18 th June 2021	Y6 Preparation for high school transition session.
Tuesday 29 th June 2021	Full Governors' Meeting
Thursday 1 st July 2021	Year 6 Prom at Dee Sailing Club- 5:30pm- 8:30pm
Monday 19 th July 2021	Break up at 2:30pm for summer holiday.
Tuesday 20 th July 2021	Inset Day- School not open to pupils.

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