



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L
G A Y T O N R O A D • H E S W A L L • W I R R A L • C H 6 0 8 P Z

Newsletter 12- 25th March 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we approach the end of the spring term, I just want to thank all our parents and carers for your continued support. It has been a challenging term for everyone with the national lockdown restrictions; juggling home learning for pupils in and out of school and then re-establishing school routines and structures as we welcomed all our pupils back to school from the 8th of March 2021. We remain hopeful that, as we move into the summer term, restrictions will continue to ease and that life will begin to resonate with more normality.

Again, I wish to thank all the staff who have worked tirelessly throughout this term to teach the children, during the national lockdown and support all our pupils when they have returned to school from the 8th of March 2021. I am so grateful to them all for their hard work and dedication and wish them all a restful spring break and hope they will be able to relax and enjoy spending time with their own families.

Comic Relief:

Many thanks to everyone who supported our fundraising for Comic Relief. We have managed to raise an amazing **£355.00!** Thank you so much to everyone for donating.



Science week poster competition

We had a wonderful response to our science poster competition around the theme of innovating for the future. Our Eco-council are judging the competition entries this week and we will be announcing our winners in our celebration assembly on Friday.

Neurodiversity Week-



This week, we have been joining together with special Google meet assemblies to share some of the wonderful learning from Neurodiversity week. Each year group focused on a different neurological condition and we have loved hearing the children sharing their learning with such passion this week.

F2- Everyone is different and everyone is equal.

Y1- Dyscalculia

Y2- Autism

Y3- Dyspraxia

Y4- Dyslexia

Y5- ADHD

Y6- Tourette's Syndrome



Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

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Governor update:

John Halliday (our current Chair of Governors) has resigned from his post and will be standing down at the end of this term. John has had a longstanding history with the school with his first child joining the school in 2008. He became a governor of the school in 2011 and has been our Chair of Governors since 2017. John has committed so much time and energy to his role and has consistently demonstrated how much he cares about the children and staff at Gayton Primary. On behalf of all the children and staff, I would like to say a huge thank you to John for everything he has done for our school. He will be greatly missed by us all and we send him our best wishes for the future.

The Governing board have now elected Lisa Mann and Lindsay Cowan as Co-chairs. I am very grateful to Lisa and Lindsay for agreeing to take on this role, and look forward to working with them, and the wider governing board, to continue moving the school forward.

Before & After school club timetable

As previously shared, we are going to be offering some before and after school clubs after the Spring break. Covid-19 restrictions are still in place and this means that we have to restrict attendance at the clubs for specific bubbles. I understand this will be frustrating for parents but unfortunately there is nothing that can be done about this at the current time. I would urge parents to try and support the before and after school club providers, if you can, as they have faced an incredibly challenging period and clubs can only go ahead if they are financially viable to run. Parents can now book onto the clubs via the club provider. Please note that not all clubs start in the 1st week back so please check on the timetable below:

Day of the week	Before school club 8:00am- 8:55am	After school club
Monday	Judo Education (Y3 & 4) Starts: 19 th April 2021	Invasion games (Ms Fletcher) Y5 & 6 Starts: 12 th April 2021
Tuesday	Dodgeball/Handball (Full of Beans) Y5&6 Starts: 20 th April 2021	Dance around the world (Full of Beans) F2, Y1 & Y2 Starts: 20 th April 2021
Wednesday	Mini Olympics (Full of Beans) F2, Y1 & Y2 Starts: 21st April 2021	Fun Fitness (Full of Beans) Y3 & 4 Starts: 21st April 2021
Thursday	Judo Education (Y5 & 6) Starts: 22nd April 2021	
Friday	Multi Sports/Fitness club (SFA) Y5&6 Starts: 16 th April 2021	Multi Sports (SFA) F2, Y1 & Y2 Starts: 16 th April 2021

Usborne Book Fair:



Many thanks to all the parents who supported the Usborne virtual book fair and the book bingo fund raising event. From the purchases and the donations we have received an amazing **£457.66** to spend on books for our class libraries.

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OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)



After Easter, our school will be commencing work with OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning). This will be a two year project and we are the first Wirral school to engage with the programme. This programme is all about improving children's experiences during lunchtime and playtimes. All staff will receive training and this will involve our whole school community. We are aiming to strategically and sustainably improve the quality of play opportunities for our children. Play contributes to children's physical and emotional health as well as their well-being, their approach to learning and enjoyment of school. As part of the programme, we will be looking at the development of our grounds and how we can promote more play opportunities for our pupils. We are very excited to be starting this project and we know our children are going to benefit from this enormously. We will be providing lots of updates to parents as part of this programme and hopefully once Covid -19 restrictions ease a little, we are hoping we will be able to invite parents in to school to join us in some OPAL workshop sessions.

Rest Easy (Mental Health and Well being programme)



In our first week back after the spring break, we will be launching our mental health and well-being programme 'Rest Easy' with the whole school. All staff have been trained in this approach and we will be introducing this to the children. We will also be appointing pupil Rest Easy ambassadors who will be able to provide support for other pupils during break times and lunchtimes. In the summer term, we will be running a workshop for parents so that you can find out about the Rest Easy approach and will hopefully start to hear your children talking about the approach as well. Many schools that have adopted this approach have found that the children have started to apply this strategy at home as well as in school.

Packed lunches – Grapes.

Please can we ask that if you are providing your child with grapes in their packed lunch that you do slice the grapes in half. This is something that our catering provider (Edsential) always do when serving grapes at lunchtime and it just ensures that the children are less likely to choke on the grape.

Office update:

I am delighted to say that Mrs Longworth will be able to return to work following the Easter break. Many thanks to Mrs Gore for managing the office and my SLT team (Mrs Hulley, Miss Hudson and Mrs Such) who have all supported covering the office at lunchtimes whilst Mrs Longworth has not been here. I am also very grateful to parents for not contacting the office unless you have needed to. We can't wait to have Mrs Longworth back at work!

Traffic calming measures- Gayton Road.



We have been informed that the Highways Agency will hopefully be completing the works for the traffic calming measures on Gayton Road during the second week of the Easter holidays. However, they may not have completed these works by the time we return to school. It is therefore vital that everyone takes even more care when dropping off and picking up their child if road works are also taking place outside the school. We are hopeful that these traffic calming measures will mean that the traffic will be slowed outside of school. Thank you so much to all our parents for trying not to park opposite school as this has definitely improved the situation outside school in the last week so it is important that everyone continues to do this.

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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.

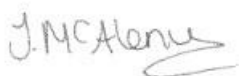
Covid-19 Spring break track and trace.

If your child develops symptoms of covid-19 (within the 48 hours of school finishing on Friday 26th March 2021) it is vital that you contact school to report this to us. This means that you need to let us know by Sunday 28th March 2021 at 2:30pm. If this is the case, parents should email the school office email account: schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk. I will be periodically monitoring this account up until Sunday 28th March at 2:30pm. We would then contact parents in case your child is required to isolate following a positive case in the school community.

End of term:

Please remember that school will close on Friday 26th March at 2:30pm for KS1 & F2 with junior siblings and 2:35pm for KS2. We look forward to welcoming all our children back to school on Monday 12th April 2021.

Thank you for your continued support,



Mrs McAleny

Key Dates:

Date	Event
Friday 26 th March 2021	Break up for Easter Break at 2:30pm.
Monday 12 th April 2021	All pupils return to school
Week commencing 26 th April 2021	Parents' Evening (decision as to how this will be organised will be made nearer the time.)
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
Friday 28 th May 2021	Break up for half term holiday
Monday 7 th June 2021	Children return after half term holiday
Tuesday 29 th June 2021	Full Governors' Meeting
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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