



GORSE HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Forester Drive
Stalybridge
SK15 2DP

Tel: 0161 338 4262

Email: admin@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss A E Flood, BA Hons, PGCE, MA Education, NPQH

5 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly I wanted to say how proud I am of our children and families for the way you have all handled this incredibly difficult situation. As a mum I know home learning is by no means easy and I take my hat off to you all. Thank you for all the support school has received and for all you are doing for our children – it really is incredibly hard to balance home learning, running a home and keeping a job going so well done.

There are a few things to tell you about:

Thursday, 4 March is World Book Day – although school will be closed to all but keyworker children, we intend to celebrate this by asking those in school to come dressed as a character from a book. We would also like the children at home to dress up too and to send photos into school to admin@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk We are looking forward to seeing many great costumes and ideas.

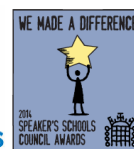
Friday, 19 March is Red Nose Day and hopefully we will be back at school by then. We thought it might be nice for the children to have a Wacky Hair day but will send more details of this nearer the time.

Willow Wood are fundraising for Easter by holding a Willow Wood Bunny Hop and we would like to support this. Children will be hopping, skipping or jumping across the playground or school hall to raise funds for the Hospice. Each child who enters will get a set of brightly coloured bunny ears, a certificate and a chocolate treat.

Positivity cards are being posted out today to children who have been chosen by teachers for a range of reasons: being kind, hardworking, brave and displaying a positive learning attitude. We hope these bring smiles to the children's faces.

Next week's competition is Valentine's creations. These could range from poems, cards, pictures, crafts, baking, gardening, musical ventures, in fact anything at your children want to use to celebrate Valentine's Day. Please send entries into admin@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk by Friday, 12 February.

E-safety day is Tuesday, 9th February. The assembly will be at 9.15am on this theme. Please log on and watch and there will be an activity sent to each year group by teachers in



relation to staying safe on line. There is also a link on the school website to E-safety resources.

School closes next Friday, 12 February for the half term holiday. We would like the children and staff to enjoy a well earned break. We are still obliged to report track and trace cases through the holiday, so please continue to notify school of any positive covid cases.

The next work pack for all year groups will be ready to be picked up from Monday, 22 February.

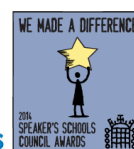
After half term, we hope to have more information about plans for school to reopen and we will be in touch as soon as we can to share details once we have them.

Thank you again for all the support.

Yours sincerely



Miss A Flood
Headteacher





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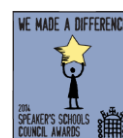
Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for all of your support to school and thank you in advance for all the hard work you will put into helping your child with their learning during these challenging times. The school staff have worked exceptionally hard today to try and organise the necessary steps to support all children throughout this six week lockdown period. School is closed now until further notice other than for vulnerable and keyworker children.

All children will be provided with high quality, daily learning throughout the closure period. In nursery, reception, year 1 and year 2, daily work will be set through the Seesaw platform. The teacher and Learning Support Assistants who currently work with your children will be available to assist learning during school hours. Please contact them via Seesaw or via their direct email addresses which can be found at the end of this letter. Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 work will be set via the Microsoft Teams platform. All children have been provided with a login and password. If this is lost or forgotten, please contact your child's classteacher via the email provided at the end of this letter. Parent guides for supporting learning through Teams can be found on the school website by clicking on the covid and remote learning tab. The teacher and Learning Support Assistants who currently work with your children will be available to assist learning during school hours. All of our SEND children have a login for Doodle Maths and English which can be accessed from home, a differentiated work pack will be available for collection from school tomorrow. Daily learning will consist of maths, english, thematic work, reading and spelling. Teachers will provide paper work packs for children without access to the internet or devices. These can be collected from school from tomorrow. Please ring to check that your child's pack is ready before you come.

We have reflected on the previous school closure and bubble closures and we feel that central to supporting our children in the best possible way continually, is the need for ongoing communication between home and school. Feedback will be given on home learning tasks by the teacher at different points during the lockdown period. Photographs of work, word documents, power points etc can be emailed to teachers. Children will receive dojos given by teachers and a weekly certificate will be awarded per class for excellent learning completed that week. It would also be lovely if you could send photographs of any home learning or extra activities your child is enjoying doing whilst not being in school which we can share on our Facebook page and school blog. The teacher's role during this period also includes providing any pastoral guidance to ensure that children's mental health is well provided for during this period.

Teachers will be available during the working day 9-3.30pm to communicate via email when necessary. Any emails sent outside of this period will not be responded to until the next



working day. A skeleton timetable for staff working in school has been put together and will be implemented from tomorrow to minimise the risk of exposure to the children, staff and their families. Should you absolutely require telephone contact with the classteacher, due to this skeleton timetable, they will respond via the school landline when they are next in school. Email contact will be more immediate and is the better way of contacting teachers.

The email addresses are as follows:

Nursery - nicola.welsh@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
RLP - lindsey.pickering@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
RRB - rebecca.billance@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
1CH - chantel.hyland@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
1PH - paula.hennessy@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
2LG - louise.gledhill@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
2JC - jill.cunliffe@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
3EC/OH- emma.capes@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk; orla.hill@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
3AF - alison.fyfe@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
4JW - julie.welsh@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
4KS - kirstie.smith@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
5GB - georgia.beswick@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
5BL - bernadette.lacey@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk;
6JC - james.chambers@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk
6JR - joanne.read@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk

Any general queries need to continue to be sent to admin@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk. There will be a senior leader in school every day and a member of the office team.

Anything for the school blog or Facebook page should be sent to head@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk. Things you are specifically proud of your child for doing should be sent with a photograph and a paragraph about what it is, to this address and these will be shared.

Safeguarding matters should be reported to head@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk. A member of the school safeguarding team is available in school daily for telephone contact and for dealing with any issues of a safeguarding nature.

We are awaiting details of the Free School Meals voucher scheme but in the interim food parcels will be available for those who are eligible for free school meals. Please contact the school office if this is something you are interested in.

We are incredibly proud of all the children for the fabulous work they have done since September and are missing them terribly already. We look forward to the day when this is all over and school can return to normal.

On behalf of myself and the Staff Team we send good wishes to you all. Please keep healthy and safe and look after yourselves and your families during these worrying times.

Yours sincerely



Miss A Flood
Headteacher

