



Gorse Hall Primary

Spring 2023 1st Half Term Newsletter

Monthly Message from Miss Flood



I would like to welcome you all back to school and send you best wishes for 2023. There are lots of exciting things planned for this year and we look forward to sharing these with you. After half term we are pleased to be able to invite parents in again for class assemblies, please see dates for the fridge. You have received the Curriculum Matters and Sticky Knowledge Mat for this half term, as always these are a useful source of information for you to support your child's current learning.

Site Manager Post

Mr Nicholson, our Site Manager is retiring at February half term after working at Gorse Hall for the past 12 years. The Governors are looking to appoint an enthusiastic, highly motivated and hardworking Site Manager to join our committed, supportive and friendly staff team. The job is currently advertised on TMBC job website, where you can find further information. If you are interested you can apply online or collect an application form from the school office. The closing date is 12.00pm on Friday, 20th January.



Reception Applications 2023

The online application for children starting reception in September 2023 closes on Sunday 15th January 2023. Please ensure you submit your application before this date to avoid disappointment. The online application will close on this day and all school places will be allocated. If you miss the deadline you will have to wait until a late application service opens and will be allocated whatever spaces are left at schools.



Nursery Applications for 2023

In March we will be allocating nursery places for September 2023. If you would like to put your child's name down for a place please call at the school office for an application form. We offer 15 free hours in the mornings 8:45 to 11.45am or 30 hours 8:45 to 3:15pm. If you are a working family you may be eligible for 30 free hours, you can check this on line through Tameside's website. Alternatively, you can pay for the afternoons at a cost of £10.00 per afternoon.



Re-applying for the 30 Free Hours Childcare

If your child is entitled to 30 free hours you need to re apply every three months to clarify your eligibility . Failure to do so may result in you having to pay for the afternoon sessions.

School Uniform Reminder

Reminder school uniform is grey trousers/skirt, yellow polo shirt, maroon jumper/cardigan with the school logo on, unless they are year 6 then it is black jumper with the school logo and black shoes. Parents will be contacted if children are not wearing the correct uniform.

P.E Kit Reminder

School P.E kit is **plain** black shorts/joggers and white t-shirt and black trainers. Also children should only wear their kit to school on their P.E day. For after school clubs, children need to bring their P.E kit and change after school.

School Equipment

Can we ask you to not let your children play with any of the nursery equipment that is out when coming or leaving school. Also, children should not be on the tyres or in the MUGA before or after school for their own safety. Thank you



WhatsApp Group Messages

It is important to bring to your attention that we have had a number of reports from parents regarding the inappropriate language, behaviour and threats made in messages sent between children, who are part of WhatsApp groups. The age guidance for using WhatsApp is 16 years old. It is your responsibility to continually monitor your child's activity on their mobile phone, including specifically what they are writing in these messages. Children growing up with safe and healthy online behaviours is vitally important as they grow into teenagers and young adults.

Attendance

A booklet was sent home this week regarding children's attendance in school. Attendance and punctuality is important for all children to enable them to achieve the best outcomes and to access the Education provided. The school day starts at 8:45am and finishes at 3:15pm. Children should be ready at their class entrances ready to start the day for 8:45am. Attendance and punctuality is monitored on a regular basis and we communicate regularly with the Authority. Attendance is expected to be no lower than 97%. Penalty warnings will be issued to families with persistent absence and lateness.

Late Arrival at School

There are a lot of children arriving late through the main entrance. When your child arrives late at school, he/she misses a vital part of the school day as teaching starts immediately. Your child may also feel embarrassed at having to enter the classroom late, when lessons have already begun.



Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals day's worth of teaching lost in a year KS1	Equals day's worth of Teaching lost in a year KS2
5 mins	3.7 days	3.4 days
10 mins	7.4 days	6.9 days
15 mins	10 days	10.3 days
20 mins	14.7 days	13.8 days
30 mins	22 days	20.7 days

Frequent lateness can add up to a considerable amount of learning lost and can seriously disadvantage your child.

Time off in Term Time

Holidays or time off in term time is not authorised, unless there is an extremely exceptional circumstance. If your child needs time off during term time please collect a form from the office so we know how long they will be absent from school and the reason. Five days off over a twelve week period will incur a fine. The fines are £60.00 per child per adult, so a family of four would be £240.00.



Extra Curricular Activities

The extra curricular activities running upto Feb half term are:

Monday - Class 2LG Multi Skills **Tuesday** - Class 3AF Basketball, Rock Steady
Wednesday - Year 6 Football Practice, Choir, Chess Club (lunchtime) and Key Stage 1 Music Minis (lunchtime) **Thursday** - Guitars and Class 6WR Basketball **Friday** - Class 4KS Multi Skills and year 5/6 French conversation Club



SEND and Inclusion

The next SEND Coffee Morning will be at 9.00am in the school hall on Monday 13th March. We are hoping to have a guest speaker who specialises in ADHD/Autism to provide information and useful tips to help support your child at home. There will also be opportunities for you to speak with members of our SEND Team about any concerns you may have. We look forward to seeing you there.



Wellbeing

If you are making a new year's resolution, consider focussing on those that will benefit your mental health and wellbeing. Often our New Year's resolutions are very goal-orientated: we want to save money, lose weight or change jobs. While there is nothing wrong with these goals, it can be more helpful to focus on the journey rather than the destination. Here are some suggestions for resolutions that will boost your mental health and wellbeing: spend some time reflecting on the past year, do exercise, spend time with family and friends, dedicate time to a hobby you love, focus on being in the moment and reach out for support when you need it.

Chinese New Year



We will be celebrating Chinese New Year on Monday, 23rd January. The children will have enjoyable, creative activities in the afternoon to celebrate the year of the Rabbit.

Martin Luther King

On Monday, 16th January the children in years 5 and 6 will be looking at the life of Martin Luther King and his work as a civil rights activist.

Certificates and Awards

Certificates are given out every Friday in our whole assembly. These are Class Achievement, Jigsaw, Kind and Headteacher's Certificates. All parents are notified through MyEd if your child has received one. Well done to the pupils who have received any of these this month.



Robinwood Residential

There are spaces for the Robinwood Residential, so if your child is currently in year 5 and would like to go next academic year, please pay the deposit of £30.00 on Parent Pay. This is a wonderful trip and the children who have been in previous years have had a fabulous time! If you would like to discuss anything further please contact the school office.



Healthy Break Time Snack

Children in early years and key stage 1 are given fruit by the Government. However, if your child would like to bring their own snack this is fine as long as it is a healthy choice. **Children in key stage 2 need to bring a healthy snack with them not bags of crisps, chocolate bars etc.**



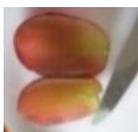
Parking around School

Please be considerate when parking around school. The traffic wardens have been informed about the problems we are experiencing therefore, they will be intermittently stopping to monitor the parking.



Nut Allergies

We have several children in school with severe nut allergies, which require an Epi Pen. Please do not send your child into school with any nuts for snack or lunch e.g. Nutella sandwiches, as this could be life threatening to these children. Thank you for your cooperation.



Cutting up Grapes

Children are not allowed to bring whole grapes to school. Please cut them into segments, to avoid choking.

Medicines

We are not able to administer antibiotics/painkillers or any medication to children. If your child is on a course of medication or needs painkillers, either yourself, family or friends are welcome to come to school to administer it.



Medical Conditions

If your child has a medical condition or Allergy that we need to be aware of please contact the school office to discuss this. It is vital for the wellbeing of your child that this information is shared with us.

Asthma Register

If your child has Asthma, please let the office know, so their name can be added to the Asthma Register and we can ensure they have an in-date inhaler in school.

Safeguarding Concerns

If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding issues and are concerned about a child please send an email to head@gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk outlining your concern or telephone school and ask to speak to a member of the safeguarding team - Miss Flood, Miss Evans, Ms Suleman or Mrs Troy. You can also refer to the safeguarding information on our school website www.gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk to provide necessary information and guidance.

GDPR - The Data Protection policy is on our website www.gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk

Last Word

The most precious things in life cannot be built by hand or bought by man.

Dates for the Fridge - Please check every month as there may be changes

Celebrating Chinese New Year	Monday, 23 rd January
Young Voices Choir	Monday, 30 th January
Y5 dances in the Woodlands Evening - Details to follow	Thursday, 2 nd February
School closes	Friday, 17 February
School reopens	Monday, 27 February
3AF Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 8 th March
SEND Coffee Morning	Monday, 13 th March
2LG Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 15 th March
2JC Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 22 nd March
Bikeability Y6 - Details to follow	Monday, 27 th to Thursday, 30 th March
RLP My Wendy House (am)	Monday, 27 th March
RHO My Wendy House (am)	Tuesday, 28 th March
Easter Service 9.30 Holy Trinity	Thursday, 30 th March
School closes	Friday, 31 March
School reopens	Monday, 17 April
5JC Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 26 th April
School closed	May Day, Monday, 1 May
5BL Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 3 rd May
SATs Week	Tuesday, 9 th may to Friday, 12 th May
1JW Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 17 th May
1PH Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 24 th May
School closes	Thursday, 25 th May
School closed Inset	Friday, 26 May
School reopens	Monday, 12 June
4OH Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 21 st June
SEND Coffee Morning	Monday, 26 th June
RLP Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 28 th June
RHO Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 5 th July
4KS Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 12 th July
Y6 Bowling Trip	Tuesday, 18 th July
3EC Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 19 th July
Y6 Waffles	Monday, 24 th July
School Closes	Thursday, 27 th July
School closed Inset	Friday, 28th July
School closed Inset	Friday, 1 September
School Closed Inset	Monday, 4 September
School reopens	Tuesday, 5 th September