



# Gorse Hall Primary

## Spring 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 2024. There are lots of exciting things planned for this year and we look forward to sharing these with you. Class assemblies will start in March and run through till the end of July. Please look at the dates for the fridge to see all class assemblies and times. You should 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.



### WhatsApp/Snapchat Messages

As a school we are increasingly concerned about the phone activity that some of our children are engaging in. Therefore, I feel 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 on WhatsApp and Snapchat. The age guidance for using WhatsApp is 16 years old and Snapchat is 13 years. It is your responsibility to continually monitor your child's activity on their mobile phone, including specifically what they are writing in these and sending in voice messages. Children growing up with safe and healthy online behaviours is vitally important as they grow into teenagers and young adults. Can I remind you that from the age of 9 years old your child is accountable under the Law and as such these incidents if reported, will be dealt with by the Police.

### Reception Applications for September 2024

The online application for children starting reception in September 2024 closes on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. 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 September 2024

In March we will be allocating nursery places for September 2024. If you would like to put your child's name down for a place in September, 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.



### 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.

### Robinwood Residential

There are spaces still available 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 £60.00 on Parent Pay. The remaining amount can be paid over the year. The dates are Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024. 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.



### 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 arriving 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

### Attendance

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 3NW Basketball, Rock Steady  
**Wednesday** - Year 6 Football Practice, Choir, Chess Club (lunchtime) and Key Stage 1 Music Minis (lunchtime) **Thursday** - Guitars and Class 6JC Basketball **Friday** - Class 4KS Multi Skills



### 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.

## SEND and Inclusion

The next SEND Coffee Morning will be at 9.10am in the school hall on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March. We look forward to seeing you there.

## 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 email if your child has received one. Well done to the pupils who have received any of these this month.



## 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.**



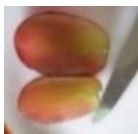
## Parking around School

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 by 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. 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.gorsehall.tameside.sch.uk)

## Last Word

Today is a perfect day to just be happy.

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

**School closes 3.15pm**

**School reopens 8.45am**

Class 4AF Assembly 9.15am

SEND Coffee Morning

Class 1PH Assembly 9.15am

Bikeability Y6

Class 4KS Assembly 9.15am

Easter Service 9.30 Holy Trinity

Class 2LG Assembly 9.15

**School closes for Easter 3.15pm**

**School reopens 8.45am**

Class 3CH Assembly 9.15am

Class 1JW Assembly 9.15am

**School closed - May Day**

Class Photographs

Class 3NW Assembly 9.15am

Class RLP Assembly 9.15am

**School closes for Whit 3.15pm**

**School closed Inset**

**School reopens 8.45am**

SEND Coffee Morning

Class 5CH Assembly 9.15am

Class 5WR Assembly 9.15

Class 2BL Assembly 9.15am

Class RHO Assembly 9.15am

Year 6 Leaver's Assembly (time to be confirmed)

**School Closes for Summer 3.15pm**

**School closed Inset**

**School reopens 8.45am**

**Friday, 9th February**

**Monday, 19th February**

Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March

Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March

Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March

Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March

Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Thursday, 28th March**

**Monday, 15 April**

Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> April

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May

**Monday, 6th May**

Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> May

Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May

**Thursday, 23rd May**

**Friday, 24th May**

**Monday, 10th June**

Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> June

Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> June

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> July

Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> July

Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> July

**Monday, 29th July**

**Tuesday, 30th July**

**Tuesday, 3rd September**