



Gorse Hall Primary and Nursery School

January Newsletter

Monthly Message from Miss Flood

I would like to welcome you back to school and wish you all best wishes for 2025. There are lots of exciting things planned for the year ahead. Years 3,4,5 and 6 have their theatre trips to look forward to. We will be holding our class assemblies in the hall from next week till July, please look at the dates for the fridge for dates and times. You should have received the Curriculum Matters and Sticky Knowledge Mat, these are a useful source of information or you to support your child's current learning. As the whole school homework tasks are much liked by the children, we are setting three of these this half term. The first of which is about the RSPB Bird Watch and this will be sent home on Friday. Please send over any photos related to this task so that we can share these on our school Facebook Page. The second whole school homework task will be set around children's Mental Health and the third will be a Safer Internet themed task. We have included more of these from the findings of pupil voice work done with the children- they like tasks that siblings are doing too, they like tasks that are interesting and engaging, have open ended outcomes and ones that are practical and creative. Displays will be collated to showcase the homework efforts engaged in.

Reception Applications for September 2025

Reminder the application system to apply for a place for reception in September 2025 closes today, Wednesday, 15th January 2025. The online website for applications is www.tameside.gov.uk

Forest School

Forest School is coming to Gorse Hall Primary in the Spring. We are really excited at being given this unique opportunity to develop outdoor learning experiences for our children. It will allow our pupils to learn in our outdoor locations such as our Woodland, Sensory Garden and Pond Area where they can explore, take risks, and get the health benefits of outdoor play. The experiences will also develop language and problem-solving skills whilst promoting a positive mind set, resilience and self-regulation.



We are indebted to tree surgeon Mr Dunstan and would like to give him a huge THANK YOU for helping to develop this area!

Reminder of School Uniform and P.E Kit

There are children coming to school in incorrect uniform and footwear. All children should be dressed in full uniform, which is grey trousers/skirt, yellow polo shirt, maroon school jumper/cardigan (black for year 6) and plain black shoes. If it is your child's P.E day they can come in P.E wear, which is plain black jogging bottoms/shorts, white t-shirt, school jumper/cardigan and plain black pumps or trainers. Children should not be wearing tracksuit tops or coloured trainers.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality are important for all children to enable them to achieve the best outcomes and to access the Education provided. The school day starts at 08.45am. There are a lot of children arriving late through the main entrance. Please can you make sure your child arrives on time and enters school through their class entrance. Children arriving late miss a vital part of the school day. Attendance and lateness will be monitored closely by our Attendance Officer and Welfare.



Holidays in Term Time

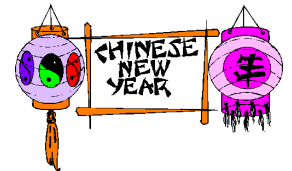
Holidays or time off during term time is not authorised, unless it is an extremely exceptional circumstance. If your child needs time off during term time please collect a form from the school office, so we know long they will be absent from school and the reason. Five days off over a twelve-week period will incur a fine. The fines are £80.00 per child per adult.

After School Clubs Collecting your Child

If your child attends an after school club, please can you ensure you let them know if your circumstances change and you no longer need them to collect your child. There are a lot of occasions where the providers are looking for children after school only to find out they have been collected.

Chinese New Year

On Wednesday, 29th January we will be celebrating Chinese New Year with a Chinese themed menu for children on school dinners. We are opening this up to the whole school, so if your child is on packed lunches they can have a lunch that day if they wish. Letters were sent home yesterday with all the information for ordering and paying.



Toys brought into school from Home

There is an increasing number of children bringing toys into school. No toys should be brought in unless the teacher has asked your child to bring something for a specific lesson. Bringing toys causes disruption and upset to others who don't have their toys.

Number Day



On Friday, 7th February it is National Number Day. Children can come into school in non uniform and wear something with a number on. If your child wishes they can design a number t.shirt for the day and there will be prizes for the most impressive entries.



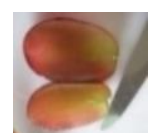
School Theatre Trips

This year for our school trips we have decided to offer theatre trips. The year 3 and 4 will be watching the Horrible Histories, Year 5 Mary Poppins and Year 6 Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at the Palace, Manchester. The children will be travelling to the venues by coach. All parents have been messaged with the details and prices of the trips. If your child has any outstanding payments, please can you settle these before the deadline of their trip.



Reminder - Cutting up Grapes

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





Supervising Your Child/Children Before and After School

Children should not be on the MUGA before or after school or riding around the school grounds on scooters. For their safety and the safety of others please supervise your child before and after school and leave the school grounds immediately once you have collected your child.

After School Clubs and Extra Curricular Activities

The after school clubs running to February half term are:

Monday - Class 1PH Multi Skills

Tuesday - Netball is cancelled until the weather gets warmer. Rock Steady Music, Basketball

Wednesday - Year 6 Football Practice - cancelled until the weather gets warmer. School Choir

Thursday - Class 6JC Multi Skills, Guitars and Chess Club (lunchtime)

Friday - Class 4EC Multi Skills, Swimming 4EC



Robinwood Activity Centre Residential

There are a few spaces left for the residential trip to Robinwood next year. If you child is currently in year 5 and would like to go when they are in year 6, please go to Arbor and book them on. This is a wonderful trip, the children



will enjoy team building exercises and get to experience lots of activities from morning till night. The children who have been in previous years have had a fabulous time!



Nut Allergies

We have 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.



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. If your child has an asthma spray in school, please can you check with the teacher to make sure it is in date.

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.

Birthday Sweets

Children are not allowed to bring in lollies for snacks or birthday treats. For health and safety reasons please send your child with soft sweets e.g. haribos or chocolate bars.

Safeguarding Concerns

If you have any safeguarding concerns and are worried 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 pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty.

Dates for the Fridge - please check every newsletter as dates may change.

Class 1PH Assembly 9.15am	Tuesday, 21 st January
Class 4EC Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 29 th January
Mental Health Week	Week Beginning 3 rd February
Class 4AF	Wednesday, 5 th February
Number Day	Friday, 7 th February
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday, 11 th February
Class 1JW Assembly 9.15am	Tuesday, 11 th February
Y3 and Y4 Trip	Thursday, 13 th February
Safe Squad Y6	Friday, 14 th February
School Closes	Friday, 14th February
School Reopens	Monday, 24th February
World Book Day (Dress as your favourite book character)	Thursday, 6 th March
SEND Coffee Morning 9am	Monday, 10 th March
Year 6 Trip	Wednesday, 12 th March
Class 2LP Assembly 9.15am	Tuesday, 18 th March
Class 3LG Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 19 th March
Rock Steady Concert 2.15pm	Tuesday, 1 st April
Easter Service Holy Trinity Church 9.30am	Thursday, 27 th March
School Closes	Friday, 4th April
School Reopens	Wednesday, 23rd April
Class Photographs	Tuesday, 29 th April
School Closed Bank Holiday	Monday, 5th May
Class 3NW Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 7 th May
Year 5 Trip	Wednesday, 14 th May
Class 2BL Assembly 9.15am	Tuesday, 20 th May
Class 5KS Assembly 9.15 am	Wednesday, 21 st May
School Closes	Thursday, 22nd May
School Reopens	Monday, 9th June
Stalybridge Carnival	Sunday, 22 nd June
SEND Coffee Morning	Monday, 23 rd June
5CH Class Assembly 9.15am	Tuesday, 1 st July
Oak Class Assembly 9.15am	Wednesday, 2 nd July
Rock Steady Concert 2.15pm	Tuesday, 22 nd July
Leaver's Assembly (time to be confirmed)	Friday, 25 th July
School Closes for the summer	Friday, 25th July