

29TH SEPTEMBER 2021

It has been wonderful popping into classrooms over the last few weeks and seeing the children so well settled. The staff have all mentioned how brilliantly the children have settled into our new routines and how keen they are to get on with their learning and we couldn't be more proud of them.

I must begin by congratulating the following children for managing to stand out amongst your fantastic classmates—our first prefects of the year!



Year 3—Christopher

Year 4—Isabella

Year 5—Dylan

Year 6—Rayhaan

**make  
kindness  
the norm.**

My next shout out for kindness being observed around school comes from a parent who was made aware of the kindness shown towards her daughter on the playground by Ollie in Class 12—your actions made us all incredibly proud of you Ollie—well done! 😊

The Blagreaves Federation Governing Board, which now oversees Gayton and Ridgeway Infant School, had their AGM last night and re-elected Mr Paul Hassall, who as Chair of Governors for the current academic year. Mr Hassall has several years experience of being a school governor and the governing board are looking forward to supporting both schools as we look to return to 'normal'.

In line with the government guidance, it is important that we keep rooms well-ventilated as this can help reduce the concentration of viruses indoors. With this in mind, we are continuing to leave doors open around the school to help increase the air flow and all rooms have some windows open. I know that it is getting cooler and, as we approach winter, having windows and doors open is not ideal but we would urge parents to make sure children are wearing plenty of layers as the weather gets colder.

Stay safe 😊

Mrs J Hill

## Homework—Microsoft Teams



Thank you to those of you who have already downloaded and used Microsoft Teams to access learning logs!

To help us reduce the amount of items moving between home and school, please use Teams to upload any homework tasks each week rather than bring your homework back to school. Please do not worry if you are unable to submit work weekly: as with reading with your child, there is a wealth of evidence that working alongside them to complete tasks like homework has a huge effect on their academic development. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

### Year 6 Height and Weight Measurements

We sent out letters with the children and via the app last week about the screening team's planned visit to school on **Tuesday 19th October**. Please remember that, if you do not wish your child to take part in this, you need to contact the team directly — see instructions below.



#### **Opting your child out of the programme:**

If you are happy for your child to be weighed and measured, you do not need to do anything. **If you do not want your child to take part, please let the NCMP Screening Team know in writing.** You must state your child's full name, date of birth and school on your letter. Children will not be made to participate if they do not want to.

NCMP Screening Team, St Paul's House, Jubilee Business Park, Stores Road, Derby DE21 4BB

### PE Days

Please remember that children should come to school in PE kit (black or navy tracksuit bottoms or leggings, t-shirt, school sweatshirt, trainers) on their PE days.

Class 1—Wednesday & Thursday

Class 2—Monday & Friday

Class 3—Monday & Friday

Class 4—Monday & Thursday

Class 5—Tuesday & Thursday

Class 6—Tuesday & Thursday

Class 7—Tuesday & Wednesday

Class 8—Monday & Wednesday

Class 9—Monday & Tuesday

Class 10—Monday & Tuesday

Class 11—Thursday & Friday

Class 12—Wednesday & Friday



### Flu Immunisations

The team will be visiting school on **Tuesday 14th December** and are offering the nasal flu vaccination to children in all four junior year groups.

Please visit <https://www.derbyshireandcityimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu> to complete the consent form. The option to consent or decline the vaccination is at the end of the questionnaire so please complete even if you do not want your child to have the vaccination.

The unique school code for Gayton Junior School is DC112756

For more information about the vaccination, please visit their website:

**<http://www.derbyshireschoolnurses.org.uk/parents/immunisations>**

If you wish to decline the Flu spray due to the porcine element, they are now able to offer an alternative injectable Flu vaccine that does not contain porcine. Please complete the consent form as a 'decline due to vaccine ingredients' and we will then contact you to arrange vaccination. For more information please contact the team using the numbers below.

If you experience any problems please call the School Age Immunisation Team:



Repton: 01283 707178

Or email **[DCHST.immunisationteam@nhs.net](mailto:DCHST.immunisationteam@nhs.net)**

## Year 6 Transition

Remember that the **deadline for applications is 31st October 2021**.

Our experience has showed us that **it is really important that you put down more than one preference for a secondary school**, as sometimes schools are heavily oversubscribed and, without a second option, children are placed at schools in the city that are left with spaces after all places are allocated. *This can cause unnecessary worry for children during what is already a difficult time whilst parents appeal for places at other schools.*

Please keep an eye on secondary school websites to find out what they are providing for you as prospective parents instead of open evenings this year.



## Parent App

Thank you to all our Year 3 parents who have downloaded the app—we've had such a great take up that we will soon be moving back to using the app to deliver you key messages from school. **Please make sure that you have allowed the app to send you notifications so that you can see when you have received a message or letter.** We will continue to send out text messages to parents who do not have the app but would urge you to download it if you can as this allows us to send out messages free of charge. I'm sure you can all appreciate that we want to spend as much of our school budget as we can on providing a stimulating and engaging curriculum for our children and using the app to communicate with you is a great way of making a saving!



Many of you are using the app to report an absence in the morning—thank you. This is a much quicker way of letting us know that your child is unwell. You may already be aware that you can also upload images to the absence form, so you can screen shot emails with appointments or COVID test information and upload these with your absence form!

## Road Safety

A meeting was held last week regarding the plans to make the top end of Gayton Avenue, near the school gates, cycles and pedestrians only around school drop off and pick up times. We wrote to you about this in the summer term and invited you to take part in the initial consultation, which is now closed. Unfortunately, discussions remain ongoing about a start date regarding these restrictions: we will keep let you know as soon as we are given a start date.

**In the meantime, please can we ask you, once again, to NOT drive up to the school gates when dropping off and collecting your children.** Drivers continue to do this—including a hazardous turn in front of the gates—and we are regularly seeing near misses due to cars reversing back up the round or attempting to turn around and mounting pavements whilst children and parents are walking by.



## Facebook

We sent out messages at the end of January inviting you to like our new Facebook page. If you haven't already, please like our new page to follow school news and useful links to parents—we hope this will further enhance communication between home and school.



<https://m.facebook.com/gaytonjuniorschool/>

### KEY DATES 2021-22

Thursday 30th September	All Day	Year 3 Markeaton Park Trip
Tuesday 19th October	AM	Year 6 Height & Weight Measurements
Friday 22nd October	3:30pm	Break Up for Half Term
<b>HALF TERM</b>		
Monday 1st November	All Day	INSET Day 3
Tuesday 2nd November	8:55am	Back to School
Tuesday 14th December	TBC	Pupil Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 22nd December	3:30pm	Break Up for Christmas
Thursday 23rd December	All Day	INSET Day 4
<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS</b>		
Monday 10th January	8:55am	Back to School
Friday 18th February	3:30pm	Break up for Half Term
<b>HALF TERM</b>		
Monday 28th February	8:55am	Back to School
Thursday 7th April	3:30pm	Break Up for Easter
Friday 8th April	All Day	INSET Day 5
<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>		
Monday 25th April	8:55am	Back to School
Monday 9th — Friday 13th May	Mornings	Year 6 SATs Week
Friday 13th— Sunday 15th May	Weekend	Year 6 PGL Trip
Friday 27th May	3:30pm	Break Up for Half Term
<b>HALF TERM</b>		
Monday 6th June	8:55am	Back to School
Friday 22nd July	3:30pm	Break Up for Summer