



12TH JULY 2021

Newsletter 23

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I can't believe we are approaching the end of the school year already!

Thank you to all of those who supported our fundraiser by supporting your child to collect sponsorship for Wannabe Day. We had a fantastic day and the children looked fabulous, with a real range of people they chose to aspire to be.

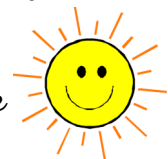
WANNABE

A special mention must go to Max RP in Class 11, who dressed up and joined the class from home via Teams dressed as Winston Churchill! We have raised £2000 so far—please send in any outstanding sponsorship money by Friday 16th July so that we are able to bank it before the holidays.

We wave off our Year 6 children to their new secondary schools next week. They go with our best wishes for the future and we hope that they will visit occasionally and let us know how they are getting on. Thank you also for the support you have given them at home throughout their time at Gayton.

We have welcomed the latest COVID guidance for schools last week—I am sure you will have seen the headlines regarding a move away from needing bubbles. Please read on to find out how the guidance will affect us all in school from 19th July and in September. It remains our responsibility to work together to prevent an outbreak of linked cases, so some aspects of our practice will remain in place for a little longer.

This has been another disrupted year in school but we remain, as ever, so proud of the children for their resilience and hard work. On behalf of all the staff, I'd like to thank you for your support in keeping our school community as safe as possible and wish you a restful and safe summer break.



Mrs J Hill

Staffing

We bid a fond farewell to Mrs Fletcher, one of our Year 5 Teaching Assistants, at the end of term. Mrs Fletcher has been working with us and supporting our children with their learning for 8 years and will be missed greatly by us all. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

We have committed to keeping one teaching assistant attached to each class for the next academic year to continue to support the children with any gaps in their learning. To help us with this, we have recruited three new teaching assistants to work with us for the year. In September, we will welcome Mrs Hans back to school, along with newly appointed Mrs Bathe-Taylor and Mr Kempster. All three teaching assistants will be joining our Year 4 teaching team and I am sure you will join us in making them feel welcome.

After waiting a year, Miss Barfield is getting married in August! We look forward to celebrating with her and welcoming her back to school as Mrs Hicks in September.



LAST WEEK OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS



Bubbles

Local infection rates in Littleover remain a concern and, although the restrictions on bubbles mixing will hopefully end on 19th July, the guidance is clear that the obligation to self-isolate for our close contacts does not end until August.

Both Ridgeway and Gayton schools remain committed to preventing an outbreak like that seen at Littleover Community School recently and also to keep our bubbles intact and in school until the end of the summer term.

Because of this, and to avoid confusion, we will keep our staggered start and finish times for the final week of term.

We will move to year group bubbles, outside only, on the final day of term. Start and finish times will remain the same and children will remain in their smaller class bubbles when inside.

Transition

To keep the risk of transmission low, the federation made a decision to cancel the transition day on Monday 19th July for our incoming Year 2 children, who will instead be visited by our Year 3 team next week.

Within school, your child's new class teacher will visit them for the morning on Monday 19th in their current classroom, which means bubbles will not be mixing. Staff will maintain 2m distancing during the morning.



SEPTEMBER PLANS



Start and Finish Times

We will not be operating bubbles in September: start and finish times return to normal. Doors will open at 8:45am and school begins at 8:55am; school will finish at 3:30pm for all children.

What if Someone in Our Household Has Symptoms?

There will still be a requirement to isolate and get a PCR test if anyone displays any COVID symptoms. This guidance has not changed.

Self-Isolation

From 16th August, children under 18 and adults who have received both vaccinations will not need to self-isolate if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, but are instead encouraged to seek a PCR test. This means that children will not need to be absent from school unless they have symptoms or test positive themselves.

Bubbles

Children will be allowed to mix with children from other classes. We will be returning to working in ability groups in Maths, Reading and Writing so that we are able to support and challenge our children most effectively over the academic year. Children will be able to mix at playtimes and dinner times. We will, however, be keeping a slightly staggered morning break, with Upper School and Lower School going out to play at separate times, allowing more space on the playground for a safer playtime.



PE Kit

Please remember that we would like to ask children to continue to come to school wearing PE kit (t-shirt, navy sweatshirt or cardigan, navy or black tracksuit bottoms and trainers) on days when they have PE. Being ready for PE means we lose less time from PE lessons getting changed in and out of kit and means we don't have to worry about where to store their PE bags during the week.

It would be most ideal if you could buy black trainer shoes instead of school shoes in your 'uniform shop' this summer—this means the children will have appropriate footwear for completing the daily mile. If you are not able to find anything suitable, please make sure your child brings their trainers to school each day to change into.



PE Days

| | Indoor PE | Outdoor PE |
|----------|-----------|------------|
| Class 1 | Thursday | Wednesday |
| Class 2 | Monday | Friday |
| Class 3 | Friday | Monday |
| Class 4 | Thursday | Monday |
| Class 5 | Thursday | Tuesday |
| Class 6 | Tuesday | Thursday |
| Class 7 | Wednesday | Tuesday |
| Class 8 | Monday | Wednesday |
| Class 9 | Monday | Tuesday |
| Class 10 | Tuesday | Monday |
| Class 11 | Friday | Thursday |
| Class 12 | Wednesday | Friday |

Safeguarding

The NSPCC have shared their Home or Out Alone guide to help parents and carers decide whether their child is ready to either stay at home or go out alone. The guide covers some of the risks parents should consider before making a decision, such as how their child feels about the idea and who they should contact in an emergency.

There is also a checklist for parents and children to work through together to help them prepare for different types of scenarios. This includes questions about what to do if there is an accident at home or they are approached by a stranger outside. You can download the guide at the address below:

<https://gaytonj.derby.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/home-or-out-alone-guide.pdf>

The NSPCC website has a range of resources for parents should you need it, including coping with tantrums, separation and divorce and talking about difficult topics.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/>



TERM DATES 2021-22

| | | |
|---|------------------|---|
| Thursday 2nd September & Friday 3rd September | All Day | INSETs 1 & 2 |
| Monday 6th September | AM | Start of Autumn Term |
| Tuesday 7th September | AM | Year 6 Weighing & Measuring—Derbyshire Healthcare |
| Tuesday 21st-Friday 24th September | AM & PM sessions | Year 6 Bikeability |
| Tuesday 28th September-Friday 1st October | PM sessions | Year 6 Bikeability |
| Wednesday 28th September | AM | Individual & Sibling Group Photos |
| Friday 22nd October | PM | Break up for Half Term |
| | | |
| Monday 1st November | All Day | INSET 3 |
| Tuesday 2nd November | AM | Back to School |
| Wednesday 22nd December | PM | Break up for Christmas |
| Thursday 23rd December | All Day | INSET 4 |
| | | |
| Monday 10th January | AM | Back to School |
| Friday 18th February | PM | Break up for Half Term |
| | | |
| Monday 28th February | AM | Back to School |
| Thursday 7th April | PM | Break up for Easter Holiday |
| Friday 8th April | All Day | INSET 5 |
| | | |
| Monday 25th April | AM | Back to School |
| Monday 2nd May | All Day | May Day Bank Holiday |
| Monday 9th-Friday 13th May | Mornings | Year 6 SATs Week |
| Friday 27th May | PM | Break up for Half Term |
| | | |
| Monday 6th June | AM | Back to School |
| Thursday 22nd July | PM | Break up for Summer Holiday |