



Be the best you can be!

Newsletter 4

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18TH DECEMBER 2019

What a fantastic first term we've had at Gayton! It was wonderful last week to see our Year 3 children performing their Christmas play for us all—they have settled into life at Gayton brilliantly and I know all of the Year 3 staff are immensely proud of how well they are doing in lessons too. They have had a fantastic term learning all about the Ancient Greeks, including trying some Greek food on Greek Day in November.

Year 4 have been learning all about the Anglo-Saxons and the Viking raids this term, taking a trip to the Jorvik Viking Centre in York last week so they could see and smell what life would have been like in England during Viking times! In Year 5, the children celebrated the end of their Ancient Egypt topic with a dress-up day last week: they learnt all about the Opet festival, making their own masks just as the ancient Egyptians would have. Our Year 6 children have tackled the different events leading up to the onset of World War II and how the war progressed from 1939 onwards.

Our School Council have also been working hard this term: they have come up with several ideas that we've been able to implement, including having a designated day for girls' only football at lunchtimes, a Halloween Disco and many more. Mr O'Donnell tells me how well they work together as a group and that all the children involved make really valuable contributions to meetings, which is fantastic.

As tomorrow is the last day of term (**Friday 20th December is an INSET day**), I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a very merry Christmas and best wishes for a healthy and happy 2020. Please remember that we have an INSET day on Monday 6th January—we welcome the children **back to school on Tuesday 7th January**.

Mrs J Hill



Separated Parent Policy

I informed you last month that our new Separated Parent policy can now be found on the school website. The policy has been written in conjunction with our Data Protection Officer and some parents who kindly gave up their time to read through the policy and fed back to us to ensure we had addressed all issues faced by separated parents when dealing with school.

The policy has been written to ensure the school continues to work with families and fully involve all those with parental responsibility in the life of the school, in the best interests of the child, after parents separate. The policy is an attempt to minimise any impact, clarify to all parties what is expected from separated parents and outline what can be expected from the school and its staff.



Road Safety

You may be aware that cameras have been installed near to St. George's Primary as part of a clampdown on bad parking in response to concern expressed by schools, parents and communities about school safety. This is part of a trial by the council who hope it will lead to drivers parking more responsibly when dropping off or collecting children from school.

As usual, can I remind you to please park responsibly when you are collecting your child from school, taking care to be respectful of our neighbours and ensuring the safety of our children and parents who are walking home. This includes turning off your engine if you are waiting to collect: these can make walking up the road quite unpleasant for our children and their families, as well as causing unnecessary additional pollution!



Sponsoring David

Thank you to everyone who brought donations for Christmas Jumper Day last week or to those parents who purchased your child's Christmas cards—commission from these sales and Christmas Jumper donations all go towards continuing our sponsorship of David. As I mentioned to you last time, we have been sponsoring David, a Maasai Tribe member, through school and college since he was 14 years old. David is currently training to be a teacher and funds raised will go towards supporting him to complete this training.



KEY DATES 2019-20

Thursday 19th December	3:30pm	Treat Day & Break up for Christmas Holiday
Friday 20th December	All Day	INSET 3
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS		
Monday 6th January	All Day	INSET 4
Tuesday 7th January	8:55am	Back to School
Friday 24th January	All Day	Faith Day—Chinese New Year
Tuesday 11th February	All Day	Safer Internet Day
Friday 14th February	3:30pm	Break up for Half Term
HALF TERM		
Monday 24th February	8:55am	Back to School
Monday 24th February	11am onwards	Year 6 Fire Safety Talks—Derbyshire Fire Brigade
Thursday 2nd April	3:30pm	Break up for Easter
Friday 3rd April	All Day	INSET 5
EASTER HOLIDAYS		
Monday 20th April	8:55am	Back to School
Friday 22nd May	3:30pm	Break up for Half Term
HALF TERM		
Monday 1st June	8:55am	Back to School
Friday 24th July	3:30pm	Break up for Summer