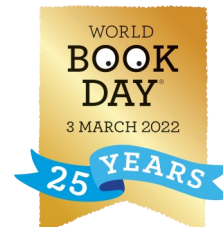


It has been lovely to have had a few sunny spells in the first few days of term and to see the crocuses popping up at the front of school—a sure sign that spring is in the air!

The children have enjoyed a fantastic Book Week, organised by Mrs Aujla and the teaching teams. I've enjoyed popping in to see what they have all been doing and seen some fantastic work. We also saw some amazing costumes yesterday: thank you to everyone at home for your help with this, it really does help us to generate more enthusiasm for reading!



Please remember the Book Fair will be visiting next week. Children should bring money in a named envelope on the following days:

Year 3—Tuesday

Year 4—Wednesday

Year 5—Thursday

Year 6—Friday

Our Girls' Football Team visited Nottingham on Monday to represent Derby in a regional tournament. Mr Kettle was incredibly proud of their efforts on the day—the girls came third out of all the teams taking part. Well done girls!



The most exciting thing this week has been that we've returned to having assemblies together in the hall! We've talked about communities and how they pulled together during each lockdown to support each other. I asked the children to think about the different communities they belong to apart from our school community and they amazed me with the different lists they came up with, including their local communities, communities of different faiths and beliefs as well of those of different nationalities, lifestyles and interests! Community spirit has been so vital over the last two years on a local, national and worldwide level and it was wonderful to have time to reflect on this altogether again.



Stay safe ☺

Mrs J Hill

Parents' Evening



Staff sent out times yesterday for your Teams meetings next week, so please make sure you have received your slips and log in at the correct time so that staff are able to spend the session sharing all of the successes your child has had in class so far this year and talk to you about steps to help them move forward in their learning.

With the exception of Class 3, these meetings will take place on either **Monday 7th or Wednesday 9th March** (Monday 7th or Tuesday 8th March for Class 3 meetings).

Red Nose Day 2022

We are inviting the children to wear a **splash of red** (t-shirt, hairband, socks or Comic Relief merchandise) along with their school uniform on Friday 18th March.

**COMIC
RELIEF**

We have some red noses which will be on sale in the school hall between **8:45 and 8:55am from Monday 14th March, costing £1.50** (please bring the correct change if you can).

Traffic Update

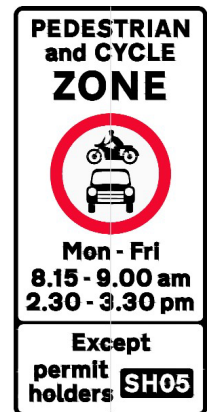
You may be aware that a new traffic restriction comes into effect on Uplands Avenue, outside Ridgeway and St. George's schools on Monday 7th March. These restrictions prevent vehicles without permits from entering the final section of the road leading up to the schools, as marked by new signage.

From Monday, vehicles will not be permitted to enter the area between 8:15 and 9:00am and from 2:30 to 3:30pm.

You might remember that the council were also in consultation to implement something similar in the last section of Gayton Avenue, leading up to the school gates; however, these plans have been put on hold due to concerns over access to the swimming pool. We are incredibly disappointed about this, as you will know we are constantly sharing our concerns about the number of cars that continue to drive up to the gates and turn round, often mounting the pavement. I know I am not alone in having witnessed near misses outside the gates and, in the absence of the council placing any formal restrictions on this area, I would once again urge you to please not drive up to the gates when dropping off or collecting your children. We have parents, carers, children and staff who walk home using the jitty and surrounding footpaths who are continually put at risk by cars approaching the gates.

The restrictions on Uplands Avenue may have an impact on the amount of traffic on Ridgeway and Gayton Avenues from next week and for those of you who drive up to school, I would urge you to think about parking further from school and walking the last part of your journeys if you are able. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

I am looking to put together a meeting with interested parents, local PCSOs and, if possible, representatives from the council to talk about other feasible options to ensure our children can walk to and from safely. Please look out for further details.



What Have You Done at School Today?

I know this is a question lots of you ask and many of you will be familiar with the "nothing" or "I can't remember" responses (the latter is my son's particular favourite)! This is one of the reasons why we first created our weekly Learning Logs: so that we could let you know exactly what the children had been learning each week.

From the parent questionnaire sent out before half term, 9% of parents were not aware of what their children were learning so, from today, I will be doing a short post on our Facebook page this week as a round up of our week in school, to compliment what is on the Learning Log each week. Please like our Facebook page if you haven't already to catch up with these weekly round ups!



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

Safeguarding



We are increasingly aware that more children are playing games online. We cover online safety regularly within our PSHE curriculum and in our assemblies, but Mrs Trimbee, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, thought you may like to look at the game, Band Runner, whilst discussing online safety at home with your children as it's a fun way for junior age children to learn about the safe use of

technology. You can access the game at thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/

The following website is useful for parents who want more information on setting parental controls, making sure their children are using devices safely and how best to monitor children when they are online. Please visit <http://parentsafe.lgfl.net> for more information.

KEY DATES 2021-22

Monday 28th February	8:55am	Back to School
Monday 7th March	3:30 - 6:00pm	Parents' evening
Wednesday 9th March	3:30 - 6:00pm	Parents' evening
Monday 14th or Tuesday 15th March	All Day	Year 3 Roman Day
Monday 21st March	All week	Year 6 Mock SATs week
Wednesday 6th April	TBC	Easter Discos
Thursday 7th April	3:30pm	Break Up for Easter
Friday 8th April	All Day	INSET Day 5
EASTER HOLIDAYS		
Monday 25th April	8:55am	Back to School
Monday 2nd May	All Day	Bank Holiday—School Closed
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
HALF TERM		
Monday 6th June	8:55am	Back to School
Thursday 9th June	AM	Class and Leavers' Photos
Tuesday 21st June	TBC	Year 4 Ukulele concert (Date TBC)
Friday 1st July	All day	Sponsored Event (Date TBC)
Monday 11th July	3:30pm	Annual Reports Home to Parents
Thursday 14th July	Morning	Lower School Sports Day
Friday 15th July	Morning	Upper School Sports Day
Friday 22nd July	3:30pm	Break Up for Summer