



9TH MARCH 2020

# Newsletter 7

Gayton Avenue  
Littleover  
Derby  
DE23 1GA  
01332 760372  
admin@gaytonj.derby.sch.uk

A huge **thank you** to those of you who sent in donations on Friday 7th February in memory of Mrs Coupe. When added to donations from Gayton staff, we were thrilled to be able to send a total of £655 to the family's chosen charity, Age UK.



**Thank you** to those parents who came into school last week for your meetings with class teachers. I know our staff really value having the time to speak to you and keep you updated with how your child is getting on at school. If you were unable to make your appointment, please contact the school office and arrange a time to pop in.

A huge **thank you** to Mrs Aujla for arranging another fantastic Book Week last week! I've been able to pop into classrooms to see the children taking part in some fantastic creative activities based on the books each year group chose to focus on for the week. And finally, **thank you** to those of you who have supported school by visiting the Book Fair: your purchases meant the school has earned over £800 in commission which can be used to purchase books to enable us to create a more literature-rich curriculum.

If you have not signed up to our school app yet, please try to do that this week—**the app is the quickest way to let you know important information about what is happening at school**. If you are struggling to get the app set up, please pop into school and speak to Mr Butler, our Media Technician.

*Mrs J Hill*

## Eco Council



Due to popular demand from staff and pupils, Mr Reed and Mrs O'Donnell set up an Eco Council last term. Teachers were asked to nominate a representative from each class to join.

They have been working hard to come up with ideas that will mean we can operate a more Eco-friendly school and have decided that their first task is to eliminate as much single-use plastic as possible. They have asked the leadership team if a drinks station can be set up in the hall at lunch times for children who bring packed lunches so that they don't have to bring disposable bottles or cartons to school for their drinks at lunchtime. On average, ten children from each class currently bring single-use plastic to school as part of their packed lunch. We think this is a great idea, so watch this space to find out more about when we will be able to start providing this! Some of you may prefer to try and find a re-usable drinks bottle that your child could bring as part of their packed lunch instead—the Eco Council are sure it's a great cost-saver!

This month, as part of their bid to earn the Eco Schools Green Flag award, the Council are converting a corner of the school field into a bee and butterfly garden. This will help to increase the bio-diversity of the local wildlife and create a teaching resource which will help our pupils' understanding of the natural world—and it will look nice too!

### School Hours

**School starts at 8:55am each morning.** Children can come onto the playground from 8:45am. If your child is going to be late for any reason, please contact the school office so they know whether they need a school dinner ordering. Being late for school in the mornings can significantly affect how well children settle into lessons once they have arrived, placing an even greater importance on arriving on time. Please speak to Mrs Clarke, our Learning Mentor, if your child is struggling with morning routines, as she can support you with this.



**The end of our school day is 3:30pm.** If you are going to be late collecting your child, please contact the office as soon as possible so that we can get a message to them—we are happy to do this in an emergency, however, we are regularly seeing the same children brought up to the office each evening as they have not been collected on time.

#### KEY DATES 2019-20

KEY DATES 2019-20		
Monday 16th or Wednesday 18th March	All Day	Year 3 Roman Workshops
Monday 16th March	All Day	Final PGL Payment due for Year 6 pupils
Tuesday 31st March	All Day	Year 6 Rolls Royce Activity Day
Wednesday 1st April	5:00-6:15pm—Lower School 6:30-7:45pm—Upper School	Easter Discos
Thursday 2nd April	3:30pm	Break up for Easter/Treat Day
Friday 3rd April	All Day	INSET 5
EASTER HOLIDAYS		
Monday 20th April	8:55am	Back to School
Tuesday 28th April	3:30pm	PGL Parents' Meeting
Friday 8th May	All Day	May Day Bank Holiday—School closed
Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May	Mornings	Year 6 SATs tests
Friday 15th May to Sunday 17th May		Year 6 PGL Trip
Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th May	All Day	Arts Days
Friday 22nd May	3:30pm	Break up for Half Term/Treat Day
HALF TERM		
Monday 1st June	8:55am	Back to School
Friday 24th July	3:30pm	Break up for Summer