

Newsletter—Week 10

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15TH NOVEMBER 2024

We've had a wonderful week taking part in Book Week! The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling is such a great story and the children have enjoyed the different activities the staff have planned to bring the story to life in the classroom for them. The Year 6 team have found their choice of text, 'Grimm Tales for Young and Old', by Philip Pullman, equally enjoyable and it has been great to see and hear how well all of the children have engaged with these classic texts and traditional tales during the week. My thanks to Mrs Aujla for organising and the teaching teams for coming up with such creative ideas to inspire the children this week!

We have been incredibly lucky with the weather so far this term, but I must remind you to please make sure children are in school each day with a warm, waterproof coat so they can stay warm and dry at break times. Over the 20+ years I have been working here, I know well that children learn much better if they have been able to run around, get some fresh air and stretch their legs at regular intervals during the day and, where possible, we try to get the children outside at break times—if there is light rain or drizzle, we will try and keep the children outside.

Thank you to everyone who attended meetings with their child's class teachers this week (or back in October if you have a child in Year 6). I know the staff appreciated the opportunity to meet you all properly and discuss how well your children have all settled in this year. If you were not able to make your appointment for any reason, please contact the school office who will try and arrange an alternative time for you.

Thank you all for your donations today. We have raised £200.78 for Children in Need on behalf of the school today.

Please remember that I am still *unable* to authorise any term-time leave of absence requests this year and, in the majority of cases, these will incur fines. These requests should be made in advance and not retrospectively please.

Kind regards,
Mrs J Hill

Coffee Morning

Our next Coffee Morning is Wednesday 27th November and will be focusing on sleep. Doors open at 9am in time to get a drink, a biscuit and a chat ready for a 9:30am start and will be finished by 11am.

In response to suggestions from parents at our first Coffee Morning, Mrs Costema, our SENCO and Mrs Clarke, Learning Mentor, will be discussing healthy sleep, sleep routines, sleep diaries and why sleep is so important.

Little ones are welcome, please come along and join us.



Christmas Diary Dates

Wednesday 11th December is Christmas Dinner Day. On the menu this year is: **roast turkey**, stuffing, chipolata sausages, roast and creamed potatoes, vegetables and gravy. The vegetarian option is **Quorn™ wellington** and the **halal** option is **roast chicken**. The stuffing and gravy are both suitable for vegetarians. For dessert there will be the option of a Christmas shortbread biscuit or chocolate ice cream sponge roll. The office will send out letters home soon giving details about how to order a Christmas dinner for your child.

Wednesday 11th December is also **Christmas Jumper Day**—the children are welcome to come to school wearing their Christmas jumpers, or t-shirts, tights, hats—anything with a Christmas theme, in addition to their school uniform—along with a £2 donation for the Save the Children charity please. As usual, the Office Staff will be selling Christmas pin badges, fidget key rings and slap bands from **Monday 2nd December** in the school hall when doors open at 8:45am each morning, this year raising money for Derby Children's Hospital, their chosen charity. Badges are £2, slap bands and key rings are £1 and can be worn with school uniform throughout December.



The School Council have requested **Christmas Discos** again this year. These will be held on **Thursday 19th December**. Lower School Disco will run from 5pm-6:15pm and Upper School Disco will run from 6:30pm-7:45pm. **All children MUST be collected by an adult please.** Tickets will go on sale nearer the time—please keep an eye out for details.

Our Year 3 children are busy learning their lines and songs for their **Year 3 production**, which they will be performing to parents on **Wednesday 18th December** at 2pm and 6pm. Please keep an eye out for letters home about ticket information.

On **Thursday 5th December**, our Year 6 children will be visiting Nottingham Playhouse to see the pantomime Jack & the Beanstalk as part of our Passport of Experiences. This will be funded by school and a letter with more details for parents will come home nearer the time.



Chicken Pox Guidance

Children under 10 years are most likely to catch chickenpox. But if you haven't had it before, you can get it at any age.

Symptoms of Chickenpox:

- Itchy, spotty rash of fluid filled blisters which then scab over. Please note rashes may look different depending on skin tone - please visit [NHS online](#) for more information.
- Spots appear between 1 and 3 weeks after exposure and you are infectious for 48 hours before the spots appear until they have all scabbed over.
- High temperature
- Aches and pains
- Runny nose
- Cough
- Feeling generally unwell
- Loss of appetite



People with chickenpox should avoid contact with other people for at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over.

2024/25 DATES

Tuesday 19th November	Midnight	Deadline to order Christmas Cards
Wednesday 20th November	10am & 2pm	Year 2 Open Sessions for Parents
Friday 22nd November	All Day	Year 3 Greek Day—information to follow
Wednesday 27th November	9:30-11:30am	Coffee Morning
Monday 2nd December	All Day	Y6 Heart Dissection Workshops—information to follow
Thursday 5th December	PM	Y6 Pantomime Trip—information to follow
Tuesday 10th December	AM	Class 6 Viking Workshop
Wednesday 11th December	12:15pm	Christmas Dinner—Ordering information to follow
Wednesday 11th December	All Day	Christmas Jumper Day—£2 donation please
Thursday 12th December	AM	Class 5 Viking Workshop
Friday 13th December	AM	Class 4 Viking Workshop
Friday 13th December	Throughout the day	Year 3 local visit to Newmount Church
Wednesday 18th December	2pm & 6pm	Year 3 Production to Parents—Ticket news to follow
Thursday 19th December	All Day	Year 6 WWII Day—information to follow
Thursday 19th December	Lower School 5:00-6:15pm Upper School 6:30-7:45pm	Christmas Discos—Ticket news to follow
Friday 20th December	3:30pm	Break up for Christmas Holiday
Monday 6th & Tuesday 7th January 2025	All Day	INSETS 3 & 4
Wednesday 8th January	8:55am	Spring 1 Term starts
Friday 14th February	3:30pm	Break up for February Half Term
Monday 24th February	8:55am	Spring 2 Term starts
Friday 4th April	3:30pm	Break up for Easter Holiday
Monday 21st April	All Day	Easter Monday
Tuesday 22nd April	8:55am	Summer 1 Term starts
Monday 5th May	All Day	May Bank Holiday
Friday 23rd May	3:30pm	Break up for May Half Term
Monday 2nd June	All Day	INSET 5
Tuesday 3rd June	8:55am	Summer 2 Term starts
Thursday 24th July	3:30pm	Break up for Summer Holiday



School Dinners

Next week, we will be on our Week 2 menu. Please remember that school dinners cost £2.60 and MUST be paid for, **ONLINE, IN ADVANCE.** [Week 2 Menu](#)



Gayton Junior School Year 2 Open Day



*Wednesday 20th
November—10am or 2pm*

Please come and join us for a brief presentation and a student-led tour of our school at 10am or 2pm on Wednesday 20th November. We are proud of both our school and our children, who are always keen to show off their school and explain why they think that coming to Gayton is the best decision you can make for your child! Staff are always on hand to answer any trickier questions you might have and you can also pick up one of our new prospectuses on the day to take away with you.

If you wish to attend one of our Open Sessions, please complete the form by clicking [here](#) or using the QR code so that we know how many people to expect.

