

12TH JANUARY 2024

Happy New Year to all of our Gayton families! We are sure we saw some extra springs in some steps on the way into school this week—it is good to be back into the school routine after spending lots of time inside due to the poor weather over the last fortnight!

We spoke to the children this week about new year's resolutions and shared some of our own: I am trying hard to remember to help my son practise his spellings every day and not letting him persuade me to leave them until the night before his spelling quiz at school—a joint effort really!

We have asked the children to work together on a whole school resolution this half term which is to line up well: this might be in the morning when the bell rings; when they are waiting for lunch or coming into or out of assembly. Staff will be looking out for children doing this really well to reward with stickers.

On Wednesday evening, Mrs Parsons and I joined parents in the audience at the Resorts World Arena, Birmingham to watch the Young Voices 2024 performance. Over 5800 children formed the Young Voices choir for the evening, including our own choir, supported by Miss Ashworth and Mrs Aujla. We had a wonderful evening listening to some fantastic songs and watching some amazing dance and musical performances from the special guests. Performing in such a big arena was an incredible experience for the children. Our huge thanks must go to Mrs Clarke, who secured the funding for this year's trip—we definitely missed her joining us on the day and we're sure she'll be looking forward to planning next year's trip!



Class Attendances—Week beginning 8th January 2024

Our attendance for this week is **95.1%**. Thank you for your support with promoting good attendance in school, it is much appreciated.

Class 1	89.2%
Class 2	92.1%
Class 3	95%
Class 4	99.6%
Class 5	97.9%
Class 6	90.5%



Class 7	97.8%
Class 8	93.8%
Class 9	98.8%
Class 10	94.1%
Class 11	99.2%
Class 12	93.1%

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

Facebook

Do you follow our Facebook page? Give us a follow to see our weekly round-up posts, newsletters, links to online safety guides and more!



Attendance

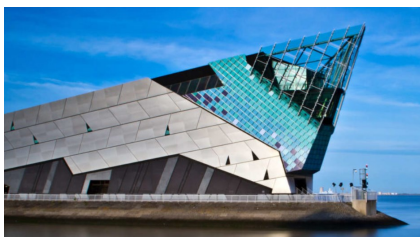
You will know from our weekly newsletters that attendance has been a focus, not just at Gayton, but across the Federation with Ridgeway too since we returned to school following COVID. Working to reduce the number of children who are persistently absent (with attendance below 90%) is a development target of both schools this year.

Our work with the TEAM Education Trust, which I wrote and told you about last term, also allows us access to the work they are doing across the trust on raising attendance and we are excited to get involved in their Spring attendance initiative with some fantastic prizes to be won.

At the end of each week, any child with attendance over 95%, or a child who has previously had low attendance but whose attendance is improving, earns a ticket which will be entered into the end of term draw in March. There is no limit on how many tickets children can earn!

At the end of term, Sarah Baker, the Trust Chief Executive Officer (CEO), will draw out 60 winning tickets—the winning tickets could be from any school from the trust. All winning ticket holders will win the chance to spend a night sleeping at The Deep Aquarium in Hull!!

The children are really excited about this challenge and we were really pleased to add **314** tickets to the draw at the end of this week during this week's assembly! Well done everyone!



Pupil Premium Questionnaire

Before Christmas, we sent out a link to a questionnaire to parents of children in receipt of Pupil Premium, asking for feedback to support us in shaping our provision for our Pupil Premium Strategy for the next three years. Thank you to those parents who have already completed the survey—we are still quite a few responses short. If you have not yet responded to the survey, which was sent out via Parent App, please can you complete it by **Friday 19th January**?



School Dinners

Next week we will be on Week 2 from our Autumn/Winter Dinner Menu. Meals cost £2.40 per day and should be paid for in advance please.

[View Menu](#)



2023-24 DATES

Monday 15th January	Midnight	Closing date for Y3 applications for September 2024
Tuesday 6th February	All Day	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 7th February	9.00-11.00am	Coffee Morning
Monday 12th February	TBC	Year 6 Fire Safety Talks—Derbyshire Fire Service
Friday 16th February	3:30pm	End of Spring 1 Term—BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
HALF TERM		
Monday 26th February	8:55am	Spring 2 Term begins—BACK TO SCHOOL
Tuesday 17th February	All Day	Year 6 Lea Green Trip—Details to follow
Monday 4th March— Friday 8th March	All Week	Book Week
Wednesday 6th March	9.00-11.00am	Coffee Morning
Thursday 7th March	All Day	World Book Day
Friday 15th March	All Day	Comic Relief—Red Nose Day
Thursday 28th March	3:30pm	End of Spring 2 Term—BREAK UP FOR EASTER
EASTER HOLIDAYS		
Monday 15th April	8:55am	Summer 1 Term begins—BACK TO SCHOOL
Monday 6th May	All Day	May Day Bank Holiday—School Closed
Monday 13th—Thursday 16th May	Mornings	Year 6 SATs Week
Friday 24th May	3:30pm	End of Summer 1 Term—BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
HALF TERM		
Monday 3rd June	All Day	INSET 5
Tuesday 4th June	8:55am	Summer 2 Term begins—BACK TO SCHOOL
Tuesday 23rd July	3:30pm	End of Summer 2 Term—BREAK UP FOR SUMMER

Breakfast

This week we have provided breakfast to **27** children. Children can come to the hall when doors open to collect a breakfast bar if they wish. *Please remind your children that this provision is for those that have not had access to a breakfast at home.* Thank you.

breakfast
fuel for learning

Swimming Lessons—Year 3 and 4

Just a reminder that learning to swim is part of the National Curriculum and, as such, is not an optional lesson: children are required to take part. The expectation is that children should be able to:

- swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres
- use a range of strokes effectively [for example, front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke]
- perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.

Please make sure your child brings the correct kit on the right day for their swimming lesson.





LEARNING TO SWIM AT LONSDALE & GAYTON POOL



At Lonsdale & Gayton pool we offer lessons from babies through to adults.

WHAT WE OFFER

Learning to swim can help with gaining confidence in the water, which is great for self-esteem as well as being a lifesaving skill. Not to mention all the health benefits both physically and mentally, associated with swimming.

To find out more about swimming lessons, please see our website or give our team a call.

Remember to follow us on social media!



WHY CHOOSE US

- ✓ We have fully qualified instructors that follow the Swim England framework for teaching swimming
- ✓ We help develop confidence and technique regardless of your ability
- ✓ Lessons run all year round at both Lonsdale and Gayton swimming pools



LONSDALE POOL

t. 01332 516325
e. office@lsst.org.uk



GAYTON POOL

t. 01332 773755
e. office@lsst.org.uk



Derby City Council

**Blagreaves Ward Councillors
invite you to attend their forthcoming Surgeries**



**Friday 19th January 5:00pm – 6:00pm
Sunnyhill Community Centre – Coleridge Street DE23 8AF**

Contact Details

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