

20TH JANUARY 2023

We are properly back into the swing of things now! The school is constantly buzzing with the excitement of new learning, new topics and new class reading books!

We all enjoyed watching the choir performing in the Young Voices concert video on Monday's assembly, with the loudest cheers for the Beatbox Collective, who managed to keep all 362 in the hall spellbound for almost 10 minutes!



Please remember that we have school membership to the National Online Safety website which you can join for free as a Gayton parent. There is lots of topical news around online safety at the moment so I am sure you will all find something useful here for whatever technology your children are into at the moment! Please visit <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/> to sign up!

In light of the news on Monday evening that the NEU teaching union intend to strike on given dates during February and March, as a federation with Ridgeway, we are working on plans to establish whether we can safely keep school open on those days or if we will need to close and will confirm plans with you as soon as we are able to next week so that you have as much warning as possible if we are forced to close. **Please note that the dates that we put on last week's newsletter for our Spring Parents' Evening have now changed, to avoid any potential clashes at late notice. The new dates can be found on the calendar on page 3.**

Class Attendances—Week beginning 16th January 2023—Average attendance 94.1%

We continue to aim for an overall attendance of 96% for the academic year. Please remember that I am still unable to authorise any term-time leave of absence requests and, in the majority of cases, these will incur fines. These requests should be made in advance and not retrospectively please.

Class 1	95.8%
Class 2	93.2%
Class 3	95.0%
Class 4	95.0%
Class 5	94.3%
Class 6	91.8%



Class 7	94.2%
Class 8	94.4%
Class 9	93.0%
Class 10	95.0%
Class 11	93.9%
Class 12	93.8%

On Monday, we sent home paperwork for you to return to school if your child uses a blue inhaler for asthma. **Please return this by Tuesday 24th January if you need to.**

Best wishes
Mrs J Hill

Zoolab Visit

The children in Years 3 and 5 had some rather unusual visitors this week when Zoolab visited school with tarantulas, snakes, giant snails and other weird and wonderful creatures!



Community Meals at Harrison's Hub

As part of the new offer from the dedicated community space at Pride Park Stadium, Harrison's Hub, the Derby County Community Trust are hosting weekly community meals for families who will benefit from across the city.



They have allocated three 'school specific' dates for partner schools' families to book on to, on **January 26th, February 23rd and March 16th**. Food will be served from 4pm. As a partner school, this offer is open to Gayton families, who can sign up using the link below:

<https://www.derbycountycommunitytrust.com/form/community-meals-schools>

Andrew Tate

Worryingly, we are starting to hear the name Andrew Tate appearing in conversations amongst some of our upper school children. We are, of course, aware that he is a high profile character at present in the media and that children can easily access some of his more extreme views on social media if this is not monitored carefully.



As a school, we work hard with the children to tackle stereotypical beliefs through discussions within PSHE lessons but do not wish to give too much of a platform to Tate by mentioning him by name to children who may not have yet come across him or his views on women. We are quietly reminding children that such discussions are not appropriate for the classroom, and why, so that they understand.

Please take some time to do the same if your child mentions Tate or his views at home, where it may be more appropriate to discuss his views in more detail. It is important to note that, whilst Tate has been removed from social media, platforms such as TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube remains flooded with edited video footage in support of him. We have attached the TikTok guide for parents from the National Online Safety site to this newsletter to remind you of the safeguards you can use. Please get in touch with Mrs Hill or Mrs Clarke at school if you have any concerns around this.

KEY DATES 2022-23

Wednesday 25th January	9:30-11:00	Inclusion Coffee Morning—Managing Behaviour & Expectations
Thursday 26th January	PM	Year 6 Geography Field Trip—Local visit, wellies needed!
Friday 10th February	All Day	Final Y6 PGL Payment—£40
Tuesday 14th February	All Day	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 15th February	All Day	Year 6 Trip to Lea Green—See Letter
Friday 17th February	3:30pm	End of Spring Term 1
FEBRUARY HALF TERM		
Monday 27th February	8:55am	Back to School—Spring Term 2
Tuesday 28th February & Thursday 2nd March	3:30pm—6:30pm	Parents' Evening—NEW DATES
Friday 17th March	All Day	Red Nose Day—Details to Follow
Wednesday 29th March	All Day	Year 6 School Nursing Team Visit—See Letter
Wednesday 29th March	9:30-11:00	Inclusion Coffee Morning—Sensory Processing & Needs
Thursday 30th March	PM	Break up for Easter Holiday
Friday 31st March	All Day	INSET 5
EASTER HOLIDAYS		
Monday 17th April	AM	Back to School—Summer Term 1
Monday 2nd May	All Day	May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 8th May	All Day	Additional Bank Holiday—School Closed to Children
Monday 8th-Friday 12th May	Mornings	Year 6 SATs Week
Wednesday 17th May	9:30-11:00	Inclusion Coffee Morning—Transition & Summer Support
Friday 26th May	PM	Break up for Half Term
MAY HALF TERM		
Monday 5th June	AM	Back to School—Summer Term 2
Wednesday 28th June	9:30-11:00	Inclusion Coffee Morning—Internet Safety & Mental Health
Friday 21st July	PM	Break up for Summer Holiday

School Dinners

Next week, we will be on our **Week 1 Dinner Menu**. Dinners are £2.20 per day and children can switch between dinners and sandwiches from home daily if they wish.
<https://gaytonj.derby.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/September-2022-Menu-Gayton.pdf>



Breakfast

We were pleased to be able to provide breakfast to 78 children this week at the start of our initial month of breakfast provision for those who need it. Our thanks to the kind stranger who donated £10 to Mrs Hardisty at the tills in Tesco at the weekend to help us with our fundraising to keep this provision going for the remainder of the school year and to Jane Stapleton Photography, Severn Trent, Morleys and GHT Cleaning who have all donated to the fund this week.

breakfast
fuel for learning

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18
CENSORED

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app: it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social networking platforms, TikTok can be addictive: figures show that young people are investing increasing amounts of time in it. In the UK, children with TikTok spend an average of 102 minutes per day on the app, versus 53 minutes on YouTube. This compulsive repeated use can interfere with their sleep patterns – leading to irritability – and distract them from other activities.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



National
Online
Safety®

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