



Newsletter—Week 17

Gayton Avenue
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3RD FEBRUARY 2023

Thank you all for your support this week around the school closure on Wednesday. Taking the decision to close the school is never an easy one and I was particularly grateful to our striking staff to be given plenty of warning of their intentions to strike (I understand that other headteachers within the city were not so fortunate in being able to plan ahead) so that I was able to provide you with enough notice to find alternative childcare for the day—thank you for this and for those who have sent messages of support to staff, these have been very gratefully received. Going forwards, we are all hopeful that the union will be able to reach an agreement with the government that will avoid further strikes on the next proposed dates (1st March, 15th & 16th March) but we will keep you updated as best as we can about these during February to give you time to plan once again.

Following discussions with Ridgeway Infant School, we have set our INSET days for the 2023-2024 academic year for both schools recently and can now confirm these with you. Both schools will be closed to pupils for staff training on the following days next year:

Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th September 2023—Term will start for children on Wednesday 6th September 2023

Monday 6th November 2023 (following October half term)

Monday 8th January 2024 (following Christmas holiday)

Monday 3rd June 2024 (following May half term)

Class Attendances—Week beginning 30th January 2023—Average attendance 94.6%

Attendance has improved again slightly this week. 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	88.9%
Class 2	93.6%
Class 3	98.4%
Class 4	98.0%
Class 5	91.0%
Class 6	96.3%



Class 7	96.9%
Class 8	98.4%
Class 9	91.7%
Class 10	92.3%
Class 11	93.6%
Class 12	96.71%



Best wishes

Mrs J Hill

Dogs

Please remember that we **do not allow dogs onto the school grounds**. If you are walking up to school with a dog, can we also ask that you stand away from the school gates as, whilst they may be family pets, some children are frightened of them and dogs can also react to the large numbers of young children at the start and end of the school day. Thank you for your co-operation.



What Have You Done at School Today?

Have you seen our weekly round-up posts on our Facebook page yet?

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



We also share links here to community projects such as food banks and warm spaces, signposts to SEN services and posts from other useful pages, such as the National Online Safety page, as well as reminders about events in school.

Our weekly newsletters can also be found here on a Friday too.

School Dinners

Next week, we will be on our Week 3 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>



PE Kit

We have been reminding the children this week that PE days are not “wear what you want to school” days! We shared our PE kit guidance with you before the summer and it can be found online on the school website if you are unsure or need to refer to it to win an argument in the mornings! Children should look like they are in school uniform please:



Navy or black tracksuit bottoms, leggings or shorts

Plain trainers

White polo shirt

Navy cardigan or sweatshirt, with or without school logo

(NO HOODIES OR TRACKSUIT TOPS PLEASE)

Breakfast

Numbers have risen this week and we were pleased to be able to provide breakfast to 69 children over the course of the week of breakfast provision **for those who need it**. As we move into February, please remember that this offer is intended to be for those families who need the support. We are aware that some children are skipping breakfast at home to have breakfast at school instead or having an additional breakfast when they get to school having already had one at home and we will not be able to sustain the provision if numbers continue to rise in this way for this reason. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Enormous thanks to Brian Bate, grandfather to one of our children, who has hosted two charity football matches with the Norman Arms to raise funds to help us to continue to provide children with breakfast going forward.

breakfast
fuel for learning

KEY DATES 2022-23

Monday 6th—Friday 12th February	All Week	Children's Mental Health Week 2023
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
Monday 27th February—Friday 3rd March	All Week	Book Week
Wednesday 1st March	All Day	Potential Strike Day
Thursday 2nd March	All Day	World Book Day—Fancy Dress favourite book character
Tuesday 28th February & Thursday 2nd March	3:30pm—6:30pm	Parents' Evening—NEW DATES
Thursday 9th March	All Day	Year 5 Museum of Making Trip—See Letter
Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th March	All Day	Potential Strike Days
Friday 17th March	All Day	Red Nose Day—Details to Follow
Wednesday 22nd March	All Day	Year 4 Space Centre Trip—See Letter
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
Tuesday 9th-Friday 12th May	Mornings	Year 6 SATs Week
Friday 12th—Sunday 14th May	All Weekend	Year 6 PGL Trip
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
2023-24 INSET DAYS		
Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th September 2023	All Day	INSETs 1 & 2
Monday 6th November 2023	All Day	INSET 3
Monday 8th January 2024	All Day	INSET 4
Monday 3rd June 2024	All Day	INSET 5

Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?



Be the best you can be!

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How do I find out?

If you are a parent or carer and receive any of the benefits below, then your child is eligible for Free School Meals.

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are **not** also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross household income of no more than £16,190)
- The Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Working Tax Credit run on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit



What to do next?

We would encourage parents to check whether they are eligible, **even if they think they may not be; or if they have applied before and been refused.** It's a quick and easy process to apply. If you would like to apply for Free School Meals, you can:

- ♦ Apply online at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/link2ict>
- ♦ Ask at the school office for details

If your application for Free School Meals is successful, Gayton Junior School will also receive Pupil Premium funding from the government to use to support your child in school.



Be the best you can be!

FREE SCHOOL MEALS APPLICATION FORM

Please read carefully. Applicants must complete all sections.

SECTION A: PERSONAL DETAILS

(Please complete in block capitals)

SURNAME_____ FIRSTNAME_____ MR/MRS/MISS/MS_____

NATIONAL INSURANCE NO._____ DATE OF BIRTH_____

ADDRESS_____

POSTCODE_____ TELEPHONE NO._____

RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD(REN) E.G. PARENT/GUARDIAN_____

SECTION B:

Please give details of your child(ren).

Child's Name	Child's Date of Birth	Name of school

Signed_____ Date_____

PLEASE RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR PROCESSING