

Newsletter—Week 9

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8TH NOVEMBER 2024

Welcome back to a new half term at Gayton. We hope you all had a good break last week and are ready for a busy Autumn 2 term!

Please remember that all children must now be collected by an adult if they are staying for after school clubs—I am sure you will have all noticed how dark it is now at 4:30pm and we need to ensure that all children travel home safely.

We look forward to seeing you all next week for our Parents' Evenings on Monday 11th or Wednesday 13th November. Please contact the school office if you find you are unable to make your appointment time for any reason and they will *try* to reschedule your appointment for you. The Book Fair will be open in the hall on both evenings and we are now able to take payments by card as well as cash.

Your child is welcome to come to school on Tuesday 12th November in odd socks to help us to celebrate Odd Socks Day, joining together to show that it's okay to be different and to stand up against bullying and discrimination.

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

Children in Need 2024

We will be inviting children to wear a splash of yellow along with their school uniform on Friday 15th November. Children can wear official Children in Need merchandise or any other item of yellow clothing along with their uniform—no jeans please.

As usual, Mr O'Donnell will be creating a large Pudsey Bear outline somewhere in school to fill with any donations you wish to make.



School Dinners

Next week, we will be on our Week 1 menu. Please remember that school dinners cost £2.60 and MUST be paid for, **ONLINE, IN ADVANCE**. [Week 1 Menu](#)—*please note that on Wednesday, they are serving roast chicken, not roast pork, due to supplier issues.*



ASDA Cashpot for Schools

At the time of writing, we have currently raised over £300 in our Asda Cashpot! Thank you all for your help with this. Please help us add more to this in the remaining 25 days!

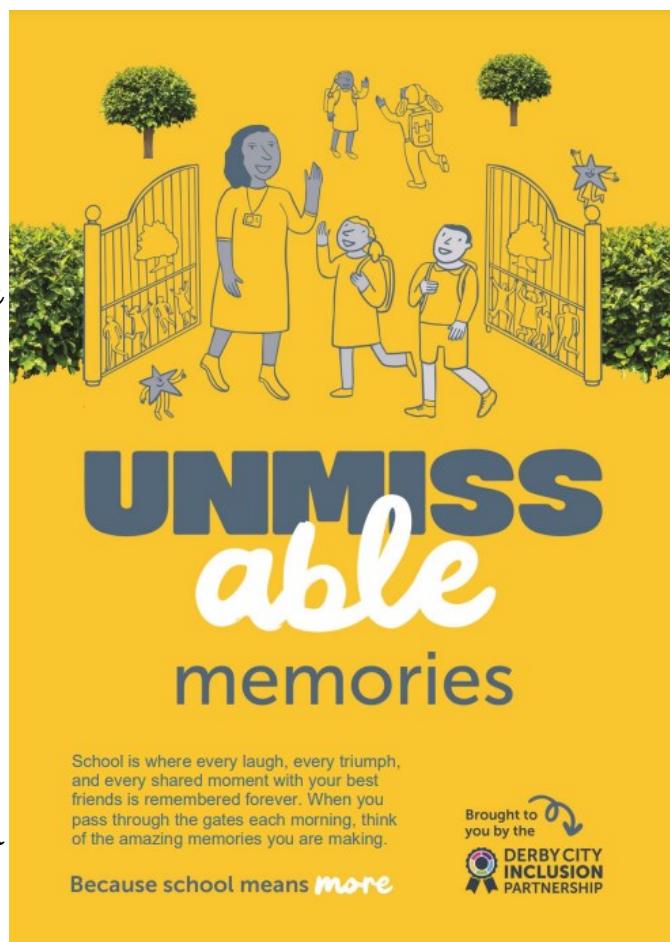
Unmissable Memories

Next week we will be introducing our next "unmissable" theme, "unmissable memories" with the children in assembly.

One of my favourite jobs each year is putting together the Leavers' PowerPoint for our final assembly of the year, full of memories for our Year 6 children to look back on over their time at Gayton. I spend hours trawling through photographs of all of the different activities and experiences, themed days, sports days and trips, making sure that every single Year 6 child is represented in the PowerPoint!

The children love watching it and it's a good reminder for them of the different things they have done together over their four years with us.

Of course, it goes without saying, that those memories can only be made when they are here in school. We know that sometimes there are reasons for absence that cannot be helped but we also want to continue to encourage all of our children to be the best that they can be and get the most out of their time with us: we love sharing their memories with them when they come back and visit when they are older!



Prefects

A special congratulations to the children chosen to be this term's prefects. These children have stood out amongst their peers as model pupils whose attitude and effort at school at the start of the year has been exemplary:



Year 3—Olivia
Year 4—Sandra
Year 5—Joel
Year 6—Ekam



Public Health England

As we approach the end of the year, when bugs like to take hold, we are reminded that this is a good time to encourage good hand hygiene with children at home as well as at school! This includes washing hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds after using the toilet as well as catching sneezes in tissues and disposing of them in a bin.

Please remember that you **should not** send your child to school with a temperature—this is a sign that they are unwell.

Children **must** remain off school for 48 hours **AFTER** experiencing diarrhea or vomiting.



2024/25 DATES

Monday 11th—Friday 15th November	All Week	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 11th—Friday 15th November	All Week	Book Week
Monday 11th & Wednesday 13th November	3:30-6:30pm	Parent/Carer Meetings
Tuesday 12th November	All Day	Odd Socks Day—wear odd socks to school
Friday 15th November	All Day	Children in Need—wear a splash of yellow
Wednesday 27th November	9:30-11:30am	Coffee Morning
Thursday 5th December	PM	Y6 Pantomime Trip—information 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

Book Bags

As Christmas approaches, could we ask that you avoid buying expensive school bags for your children? We routinely get pulled up on Health and Safety audits and Fire audits that our cloakrooms in the corridors take up too much room and this is due to the size of the bags that children are bringing to school—these very often knock off coats hung on top onto the floor.



From September 2025, children will only be allowed to bring a book bag to school: there is no need for a larger bag than this—a book bag will fit a water bottle and reading books and this is all the children NEED to bring to school each day.

From Easter, the school office will be selling book bags: you will be able to purchase these directly using your School Money account and they will be sent home with your child. Alternatively, book bags can be purchased directly from uniform suppliers Schoolwear Solutions, Chaddesden or Uniform Direct on Babington Lane. Plain navy book bags from other suppliers are also available (e.g. Amazon).

E-Scooters

You may be aware that there were some changes to the laws around the use of e-scooters at the start of November and we have been asked to share the following information with our families by Derbyshire Police.

From 1st November 2024, Derbyshire Constabulary will move to a 'seize and dispose' approach. Officers who engage anyone using an e-scooter in a public place will seize the e-scooter, before sending it to be disposed of after 14 days, in accordance with the Section 165A legislation. Previously offenders usually received a warning on the first occasion they were stopped.

The user may be liable for prosecution for a number of offences, including driving without insurance, tax, or licence. In some circumstances, parents may also be criminally liable for the use of e-scooters by their children.

Legally, e-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), this means they are treated as a motor vehicle and subject to the same legal requirements, such as the need for an MOT, a licence, tax, and insurance.

Section 165A of the Road Traffic Act 1998 allows the Police to seize any motor vehicle being used on a road which does not have the required documentation, which includes a driving license for that class of vehicle. This means that e-scooter use is only legal on private land, to do so on public roads and footpaths means the rider would be committing multiple road traffic offences.

As we are now less than one hundred days from Christmas, please bear these law changes in mind before purchasing an E-Scooter for your child.

Given the increased focus on enforcement by the Police, we would also encourage anyone who witnesses someone riding an e-scooter illegally to report it directly to Derbyshire Constabulary. You can do this in several ways: by either phoning the non-emergency 101 number, 999 in an emergency or by visiting our website and reporting it here: [Contact us—Derbyshire Constabulary](#). This is an important step as it helps build a clearer picture of the use of e-scooters in Derbyshire and thereby helps the Constabulary to better direct their resources.

Due to these changes, it is our recommendation that children do not use an e-scooter to travel to and from school in case they are stopped on their journey.





A Padley Thank You

Dear Pupils, Staff and Parents at Gayton Community Junior School



PADLEY
@ YMCA Derbyshire

Thank you for your Harvest donations

On behalf of everyone at Padley and YMCA Derbyshire, I would like to express our deepest gratitude for your generous Harvest Festival donation. Your contribution has a direct impact on our ability to continue offering essential support and services to individuals and families at risk of homelessness, poverty, and social exclusion.

Your donation during the Harvest Festival is vital to our work, as it helps us to sustain our services and provide a safety net for those most in need. Without your generosity, many of the people we support would not have access to the food, shelter, and services that allow them to take their first steps towards a brighter future.

We'd like to tell you about one of the people we've recently been able to support as a result of donations we receive. Jayne reached out to us when she moved to Derby to seek refuge from the trauma of domestic violence. We supported her to find safe and secure accommodation, and from our own warehouse we provided Jayne with essential household items, along with food and toiletries to help her settle in her new home. Jayne recently got back in touch with us to express how grateful she was for our warm friendly approach, knowing that there were people who cared, made all the difference to her starting a new life.

It's been another busy year for our Padley@YMCA Derbyshire team. As a result of the support we have received we have supported many individuals and families to access:

- **Emergency Food, Clothing, and Toiletries:** Providing immediate relief to individuals facing hardship and ensuring their basic needs are met.
- **Community Hub Meals:** Offering nutritious breakfasts and lunches, to those in need. Last year, we provided over 24,000 meals to many who would have otherwise gone hungry.
- **Cooking and Budgeting Courses:** Hands-on sessions teach people how to prepare healthy meals on a budget and equipping them with valuable life skills that promote self-sufficiency.
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing Support:** We understand the importance of mental health, and we provide one-on-one support, group sessions, and activities that help people manage stress, anxiety, and other challenges.
- **Access to Critical Services:** Our community hub connects individuals with essential services, including substance misuse recovery programs, employability workshops, debt and welfare advice, and healthcare services.
- **Housing and Homelessness Support:** We offer safe, secure accommodation for people in crisis, providing a foundation from which they can rebuild their lives. Our residents also benefit from tailored support that helps them develop the skills needed to move towards independence.

We also work with other local organisations, such as "Food 4 Thought Alliance" and "Safe and Sound Group," to redistribute surplus food, ensuring that even more individuals and families across Derby receive the help they need.

Since merging with YMCA Derbyshire, Padley has become an even stronger force for positive change in the community. When our new Community Hub opens on Parcel Terrace, we are expanding our services to include a community kitchen and pantry, where families and individuals in emergency accommodation can prepare their own meals. This initiative ensures that those without access to kitchen facilities have the dignity and autonomy to cook for themselves and their families.

Once again, thank you for your kindness and commitment to supporting our work. If you would like to stay involved or learn more about how we're making a difference in the lives of those in need, please visit our website at www.ymcaderbyshire.org.uk

With warmest regards and sincere thanks, **Kerry Collyer, Marketing Manager for Padley@YMCA Derbyshire**