



Gillingstool Primary School



NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME BACK

Dear Parents and Carers

Last Monday saw our first whole school assembly in over 18 months. It was such a treat to watch our children all file into the hall together. Their behaviour was exemplary and, once we got back into the swing of it, our singing raised the roof.

Playtimes and lunchtimes have also been exciting with the children relishing the chance to play together again and eat together in the hall. Children are also able to bring their PE kits in and change in school – so normality is definitely returning.

The sense of being a strong, whole school community is back, with our older pupils caring for the younger ones. It truly is wonderful to see. What an amazing first week back we have had!

Mrs C Carter

HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

- Check your family for symptoms every day.
- **Do not send children in with symptoms - instead arrange a PCR test if they have any.**
- Arrive on time (not early or late).
- One adult to drop off and pick up and leave the premises as soon as you can.
- **Make sure we have 2 emergency contacts (in case your child develops symptoms throughout the day).**
- **Answer the phone if we call. If a child develops symptoms, they must go home as soon as possible.**
- Minimise entry to school - contact school by phone or email/pay for lunches in bulk, by cheque.



OPEN DAYS

If you or your friends are looking for a school place in Reception for September 2022 then come along to one of our many Open Days.

You'll get a chance to meet the governors, have a chat with me and take tour of the school with some year 6 pupils.

Open Day Dates

14th October 9.30am and 11.00am
21st October 2.00pm and 4.00pm
17th November 9.30am and 11.00am
7th December 2.00pm and 4.00pm
11th January 11am

To book in advance contact the office on 01454 866527 or office@gillingstool.org.uk or just join us on the day.

SCHOOL DINNERS

We have a new school cook producing delicious school dinners which the children are now eating together in the school hall.

So if you haven't had school meals in a while it's a good time to give them a try.

Dinners are now £2.30 for children in Key Stage 2.



BREAK TIME SNACKS

Children in Reception and Key Stage One always have fruit provided by the government. The rest of the school are welcome to bring a snack to school for break time but it must be fruit please.



Crisps, cakes and biscuits are not allowed due to our Healthy School Status.

HARVEST COLLECTION

At the beginning of October, we will be holding our Harvest Celebrations. Children will be contributing to a whole school assembly and we will be making a collection for the Food Bank.

The Food Bank has been a vital source of help for many families, particularly during the recent lockdowns.

Please consider making a donation at the end of the month.

Details will follow closer to the time regarding items the Food Bank need.

CLASS DOJO

As it worked so effectively for remote learning last year, teachers will be using Class Dojo to set homework projects related to the children's learning in History and Geography this year.

Teachers will be sending home Class Dojo details soon.

SPARE UNIFORM

Second-hand uniform is often available for those in need. Please see Mrs Vowkes or Mrs Commons on the playground and they will do their best to find whatever you need.

ATTENDANCE

This week's percentage for children attending school is **96.5%**. 😊

Our target for the end of this year is **96%** so we are off to a great start.

Excellent attendance is fundamental to ensuring that children reach their full potential and have the best life chances and opportunities in their future lives.

Thank you for your support with this matter – let's keep it up!

Every term we have an attendance race where the winning class enjoy a pizza delivery! We are also introducing certificates and an attendance raffle for those children who reach the target attendance figure. The raffle winners in R-Y2 and Y3-6 will take home an Amazon voucher at the end of Term 2, 4 and 6.

We do appreciate that children who have Covid symptoms or sickness and diarrhoea need to stay home but it is even more important that children are in every day if this is not the case.

Below is a table to show you how the classes are doing so far **this year**.

Year 2 are off the starting blocks and leading the attendance race at the end of the first week.

Year	attendance
YR	part time
Y1	98.3%
Y2	98.5%

Year	attendance
Y3	92%
Y4	97.5%
Y5	90%
Y6	97.9%

Year	attendance
Whole School	96.5%



13th September
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*Inspire,
Believe,
Achieve*

