



# Gillingstool Primary School



# NEWSLETTER

Gillingstool, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire, BS35 2EG Tel. 01454 866527

E-mail: [office@gillingstool.org.uk](mailto:office@gillingstool.org.uk) Website: [www.gillingstool.org.uk](http://www.gillingstool.org.uk)

## *Dear Parents and Carers*

It's been a busy start back to the new term with lots going on around the school. Classes have been making the most of the sunshine and enjoying trips, both within the locality and further afield. In addition to the Year 6 residential, Year 3 and 4 have a visit to Cardiff Castle planned this week. It's great to be getting out and about again.

We have also resumed assemblies in person and this term we are learning about individuals who demonstrate our school value of 'integrity.' In the coming weeks children will learn about the contributions Ghandi and Marcus Rashford have made to society.

Our first **Coffee Morning** was a real success. Thanks to Miss Vokes for organising this in my absence. Parents had a few questions which are relevant to our whole community.

**Is the swimming pool going to reopen?** This is something we review in light of COVID cases. We are currently operating completely separately from New Siblands, where the pool is sited. If cases decline as the year goes on swimming will be reviewed.

**Would it be possible to have a parent's day, where they can come in and see what the children do in a day?** This is a lovely idea. Ideally, we will try to organise for the summer term, COVID permitting.

**Are we going to have a summer/Xmas fayre?** There is a date pencilled in for a Summer Fair but we are really in need of additional helpers. Let me know if you would like to join FOG (Friends of Gillingstool) or if you would be happy to help run a stall for an hour or so.

**Is it possible to receive a text via Parent mail as a reminder about things happening in school?** We currently use emails rather than texts as we have to pay for every text we send whereas email is free. We will be moving our communications system to Arbor so this may change going forward.

**To raise money how about a bring and buy sale, when you buy something, you get a free book?** I will suggest this at the next FOG meeting to see if we can organise it for the summer term.

The next Coffee Afternoon is Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2 – 3pm. Please come along and bring a friend with you. It's great to have time for an informal chat and your questions and feedback really help to move our school forward. I hope to see you then.

*Mrs C Carter*

## IMPORTANT DATES

8<sup>th</sup> April – Last Day of Term 4

25<sup>th</sup> April Term 5 begins

9<sup>th</sup> May – Y6 SATs week

27<sup>th</sup> May – Last Day of Term 5

6<sup>th</sup> June - INSET DAY school closed to pupils

7<sup>th</sup> June – Term 6 begins

21<sup>st</sup> July – Last Day of Term 6

## NO DOGS

Parents are reminded that dogs are not allowed on the school playground for health and safety reasons.

## PARKING

Parents are also reminded that the school car park is for staff and New Siblands only. Please do not park in the streets opposite the school as residents then struggle to access their driveways.



Parents driving to school should park in the Rock Street car park.

## MORFA BAY 2022



The Year 6 team have now recovered from their fabulous week at Morfa Bay. The children enjoyed a huge range of activities including body boarding, archery, high ropes, abseiling and old favourite the Muddy Assault Course.

It was an absolute pleasure to join the children and watch them grow as the week went by. Every single child pushed themselves to try new activities and to be as brave as they could possibly be. Their resilience was astounding and I am incredibly proud of the entire class.

I would also like to thank Miss Elsbury, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Scriven and Mr Olver for giving up their time to accompany the children.

For more pictures, check out our Facebook page.

## BOTTLE TOP APPEAL



Mrs Payne is after some help from our families. She is collecting the plastic lids from milk bottles to support fundraising for patients with Lymphoma at Gloucester hospital. Please can you send any bottle tops into school once you are finished with them and children can pop them into a box in the library. It is a very worthwhile charity and we would like to contribute as much as possible.

## COMIC RELIEF



Thanks to everyone's fabulous efforts to wear something red and buy red noses on Friday we raised a grand total of £217.50 for Comic Relief.

Money raised will go to support charities in the UK, world wide and in particular Ukraine. Thanks to everyone who participated.

## COVID UPDATE

We have seen a slight increase in cases over the first couple of weeks of term. Please keep being vigilant regarding the three key symptoms: **cough, temperature and loss of taste/smell. Anyone with symptoms should still get a PCR test.**

This is a brief reminder of the changes from February 24th:

- The legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive Covid19 test has been removed.
- **However, adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 days.**
- After this time, individuals may choose to take two LFD tests 24 hours apart and return to the setting after two negative LFD tests have been taken.
- Daily testing for all known close contacts will no longer be recommended.
- All known unvaccinated contacts of a confirmed case will no longer be required to isolate.

The Local Authority anticipate that in most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with the key symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend the school, given the potential risk to others. **However, if a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending school where they have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, the headteacher can take the decision to refuse the pupil if it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.**



## HOT CHOC HEROES

**Our Over and Above Superstars ...**



**Week Three**

Beatrice Sophie

Enol Maisie

Ruby Rohan Kyle



21<sup>st</sup> March  
Issue 13 2022



*Inspire,  
Believe,  
Achieve*

