

Gillingstool Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Inspire, Believe, Achieve

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Dear Parents and Carers

Our return to school this September was one I think I will always remember. The week began with the great news of our OFSTED inspection report being released – of which we are all so very proud.

But then came sad news, on Thursday, of the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. We marked the occasion in school with a special memorial assembly on Friday in which we reflected on her life and achievements. Classes have also produced their own tributes, with children, in Year 5 and 6 in particular, writing some touching poetry which we will be sending to Buckingham Palace to express our condolences.



As announced by our new King Charles III, school will be closed for a special Bank Holiday on Monday 19th September in order that families and staff may pay their respects to the late Queen and watch the state funeral if they so wish.

Mrs C Carter

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM ONE

19th September – School Closed Bank Holiday for the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II

20th September 9.00am – Coffee Morning

3rd October 9.10am – Harvest Assembly

5th October 9.30am and 11.00am - Open Day Tours for Reception 2023

10th October 9.10am – Year 6 Class Assembly

Week Beginning 10th October – Decades Week

13th October 2.00pm and 4.00pm - Open Day Tours for Reception 2023

17th October – Y6 Residential to Manor Adventure

21st October – Last day of Term One

31st October – Term Two begins: children return

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING



PE KIT IN A BAG

As the weather is beginning to become colder and wetter, please make sure that children are coming to school with coats so that they can enjoy some fresh air no matter the weather. We had lots of children caught out by the showers last week and they were left feeling damp and uncomfortable for the rest of the day.

Children must also have their PE kit in school everyday. This should be a white t-shirt, black/blue shorts and trainers, with joggers and fleeces as the weather becomes colder. All children are expected to change in school for PE for health and hygiene purposes.

PARKING



Parents and visitors are reminded that the school car park is for staff of both schools,

those with Blue Badges for disabilities and New Siblands students 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.

OPEN DAYS

If you or your friends are looking for a place in a 'Good' school for Reception for September 2023 then come along to one of our many Open Days.

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

Open Day Dates

5th October 9.30am and 11.00am
13th October 2.00pm and 4.00pm
8th November 9.30am and 11.00am
22nd November 2.00pm
5th December 4.00pm
11th January 2pm

Due to increased interest, we recommend booking in advance – please contact the office on 01454 866527 or office@gillingstool.org.uk.

POSTAGE STAMP APPEAL



Thanks to all our families who have collected an amazing quantity of bottle tops last year.

From September Gloucester hospital have asked that we support them with their new challenge of collecting used stamps instead. Please start snipping them off your envelopes and bring them in to school. This will help to support fundraising for patients with Lymphoma. It is a very worthwhile charity and we would like to contribute as much as possible.

CHANGE TO COMMUNICATIONS

Reminder: we are moving to Arbor for all communications. Please ensure you have set up the Arbor communications link –and ask in the office if you need any assistance.

It is VITAL that every parent/carer has access to Arbor as all communication will come from this app going forward.



2022/2023 Project 5 Course Dates

Term 1 - Wednesdays 3:30-5:00pm 28th September, 5th, 12th & 19th October
JIGSAW Thornbury, St Mary Centre

Term 2 - Mondays 1:00-2:30pm 14th, 21st, 28th November & 5th December
Oldbury-on-Severn C Of E VC Primary School, Thornbury

Term 3 - Saturdays 9:30-11:00am 14th, 21st, 28th January & 4th February
JIGSAW Thornbury, St Mary Centre

Term 4 - Mondays 3:30-5:00pm 27th February, 6th, 13th & 20th March
JIGSAW Thornbury, St Mary Centre

Term 5 - Mondays 1:00-2:30pm 24th April, 8th, 15th & 22nd May
Location TBC

Please book at www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/events

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The government have recently published a paper 'Working Together to Improve School Attendance'.

This recognises that in line with the approach of living with COVID it is important that children attend school as often as possible. Excellent attendance is fundamental to ensuring that children reach their full potential and have the best life chances and opportunities in their future lives.

Prior to the pandemic, we had a target for attendance of **96%** as the government understood that there may be occasions when children are not well enough to attend.

Our overall attendance for the first week of the new year currently stands at **96.57%** 😊

We appreciate that children who have COVID will need to isolate for 3 days and if they have sickness or diarrhoea need to stay home for 48 hours but please make sure they return to school **as soon as they are well enough**. Colds are common at this time of year but most children with colds are still well enough to be in school. Please **call in everyday** if you child is not well enough to attend.

We would also like to remind parents that **holidays will not be authorised during term time** and taking holiday may incur a fixed penalty fine.

To encourage good attendance we share weekly attendance data with the children. The class with the best attendance each term gets a treat as a reward.

This Term's Attendance Data

	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Week 1		99%	97%	96%	93%	98%	97%

This term's attendance race has just begun but what an amazing start – we have a number of classes hoping for a pizza delivery 😊



HOT CHOC HEROES



Our children joining me for Hot Choc with the Head this week were chosen for outstanding efforts in class, great behaviour and being good friends to others.



Our Over and Above Superstars ... Week 1

Amy
Avaleigh
Elena

Eva
Mischa
Jessica-Rose

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR VACANCIES



We have a vacancy for two lunchbreak supervisors.

One post entails aiding and supporting a child with additional needs requiring

1:1 support during lunchtime both in the hall and the playground. The other is a general post supporting across the school

The hours are from 12.00 to 1.00pm each day.

If you are interested in these vacancies and would like more information please contact the office.

JOB ADVERT

Cleaners required at Gillingstool Primary.

£9.50 per hour

Monday to Friday 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Please contact Sue on 07900260791



COVID REMINDER

The following are regarded as of COVID in children (NHS England): a high temperature, continuous cough, a headache, a sore throat, a blocked or runny nose, diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick.

The Local Authority anticipate that in most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with these key symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend the school, given the potential risk to others.

If a **child** has a **positive COVID-19 test result** they should **stay at home** and avoid contact with other people for **3 days** after the day they took the test. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature they may return to school.

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.



12th September
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