

# Gillingstool Primary School

# NEWSLETTER



*Inspire, Believe, Achieve*

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*

I hope you have all had a restful half term break. The end of term was certainly a busy one - with Decades Week and our Year 6 residential adding something special to the first term of 2022.

We return now, refreshed, ready for another busy few weeks. There is a lot to look forward to as winter draws nearer with parent consultations, class visits and assemblies, Getting Along Week and of course our Christmas productions and events.



Please check the important dates section below and make a note of the relevant dates so you don't miss out.

*Mrs C Carter*

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM ONE AND TWO

2<sup>nd</sup> November – Individual Photos

7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November – Parent Consultation Meetings

8<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am and 11.00am - Open Day Tours for Reception 2023

14<sup>th</sup> November – Getting Along Week

16<sup>th</sup> November – Y4, 5, and 6 Cinema Visit

21<sup>st</sup> November 9.10am – Y5 Class Assembly – Y5 parents invited

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2pm - Open Day Tours for Reception 2023

5<sup>th</sup> December 4pm - Open Day Tours for Reception 2023

8<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day

9<sup>th</sup> December 2pm – Y1 and 2 Christmas performance for parents

14<sup>th</sup> December 2pm Reception Nativity performance for parents

15<sup>th</sup> December – class Christmas parties

16<sup>th</sup> December 1.30pm – Carol Concert – parents invited

# FOG – Friends of Gillingstool

The Friends of Gillingstool would like to say a 'Thank You' to everyone that supported their Halloween Sale at the end of term.

FOG are now beginning to plan Christmas events. They are asking for donations of any unwanted Christmas presents (socks, hankies, toiletries etc) that might be used for stalls or raffles. Please send any donations to the office.

If you might be able to help with Christmas events let Jessica (Y4) or Matt (Y1) know on the playground.



## SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

If your child is starting primary school in September 2023 then the application window is now open.

Parents need to apply for primary places via the South Glos website  
[www.southglos.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

Applications must be made by the given deadline in order to maximise the potential of getting your chosen school.

**The deadline for primary applications is January 15<sup>th</sup> 2023.**

## 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.

### **Open Day Dates**

**8<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am and 11.00am**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> November 2.00pm**  
**5<sup>th</sup> December 4.00pm**  
**11<sup>th</sup> January 2pm**

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.

## PARENT CONSULTATION MEETINGS

Parent Consultation meetings are being held in person at school on  
**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> of November.**

**Please book your appointment on Arbor. A link has been sent via email.**

Year 3 parents will be offered an alternative time due to Mr Lewis being absent for jury service.

# UNIFORM DONATIONS

With the cost of living crisis hitting us all, school are really grateful of any donations of school uniform that we might be able to pass on to families in need.

If you have any 'pre-loved' uniform that your children have outgrown, please pass it on via the school office, Mrs Carter or Miss Vokes.

## 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 entrances to the school on Gillingstool or Bath Road as residents then struggle to access their driveways and you may be blocking access for emergency vehicles.**

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

## REMINDERS

**Please ensure that all uniform is named with permanent marker or a name tape.**

We have had a huge amount of lost property in the first few weeks of term and without names we can't return it to its rightful owner.

**Please ensure children do not wear jewellery to school.**

Watches and stud earrings are the only acceptable items for health and safety reasons.

**Please ensure children bring only water in their water bottles, fruit for a break time snack and no fizzy drinks or chocolate bars in their packed lunches.**

We are a healthy school and we promote a healthy diet during school hours.

## 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.



## 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 6

Josh  
Melody  
Betty  
Liara  
Daniel  
Dexter  
Albert

#### Week 7

Miley  
Nicoleta  
Dilon  
Jaxon  
Chandler  
Otis  
Khalil

## 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.

## 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.

# 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 term of the year currently stands at **93.11%**

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%
Week 2		95%	97%	98%	99%	93%	92%
Week 3		79%	94%	94%	96%	91%	98%
Week 4		88%	96%	97%	92%	97%	98%
Week 5	98%	93%	92%	99%	95%	99%	95%
Week 6	91%	84%	89%	92%	95%	81%	93%
Week 7	91%	84%	87%	90%	95%	81%	95%

This term's attendance race was a close run thing with both Y4 and Y6 getting a pizza delivery 😊



31<sup>st</sup> October  
Issue 4 2022



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