

# Gillingstool Primary School

# NEWSLETTER



*Inspire, Believe, Achieve*

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## *Dear Parents and Carers*

We ended last week on a reflective note with a special Remembrance Service led by our Year Six pupils.

The children entered the hall in silence and listened very carefully as Vincent read The Exhortation to begin the special assembly.

We were then lucky to have Mr Olver on hand to play The Last Post on his euphonium to signal the beginning of our two minutes silence. We remembered those lost to war in the past and those fighting injustice around the world today.

Mr Olver played The Reveille to end the silence and then Summer finished our assembly with a thoughtful reading of The Kohima Epitaph, 'When you go home, tell them of us and say, For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'



All the classes behaved impeccably throughout. It was a truly moving occasion and the children showed the utmost respect. We have sold a large number of Poppies over the past two weeks. So thank you to everyone who has made a donation to the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

*Mrs C Carter*

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM ONE AND TWO

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

## RACE FOR LIFE



Thank you to the parents who reminded me that I hadn't shared the news from back in July about how successful our fundrasing was for Cancer Research – it was just before our inspection and events overtook us.

You may remember that back in the summer term, as part of our Sports' Week, the whole school took part in the Race for Life. Our children sought sponsorship for running laps of the school field.

In total as a school we raised over £500 and recognition must go the Emsly in Year 1 who was sponsored and raised £250.50!! Congratulations to Emsly and thank you to everyone who contributed to the total.

## 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**

**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.

## 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 1

Karina  
Josie  
Maisie  
Braydon  
Ruby  
Peter  
Marnie

#### Week 2

Rohan  
Cameron  
Archie  
Isaac  
Louie  
Jonah  
Archie

## 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 **93.2%**

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	96%	93%	91%	95%	89%	99%	99%
Week 2	94%	92%	95%	96%	84%	92%	98%
Week 3							
Week 4							
Week 5							
Week 6							
Week 7							

This term's attendance race is back on. Where is the pizza heading this term? 😊



14<sup>th</sup> November  
Issue 5 2022



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