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Dear Parents and Carers

Apologies for the delay in sending out the newsletter this week. I wanted to wait until the budget had been confirmed with the Full Governing Board before writing to share our exciting news.

As mentioned in my email last week, it has long been our desire to return to seven classes across the school. However, our hands are tied by the funding in the school budget – a single form entry school is based upon expecting 210 children and we currently have 166 attending at Gillingstool.

However, increasing pupil numbers over the past two years have had a positive impact on our budget and I am very pleased to announce that we will return to 7 classes for the next academic year.

We will now be beginning the recruitment process to find an new teacher. Once this is complete we will be able to confirm the teachers for each class for the new school year.

Mrs C Carter

PARKING

We have had a number of complaints regarding near misses in the school car park with children and parents narrowly avoiding accidents.

Please remember that the school car park is not for parental use.

We would recommend children walk, cycle or scoot to school whenever possible. If driving is essential please park at the Rock Street car park or the rear of the school and walk the rest of the way.

SCOOTERS

It is great to see so many children scooting to school and I know Y2 have really enjoyed their recent Safe Scooter Training sessions.

Please can we all make sure that all children push their scooters when on the playground so we can avoid anyone getting knocked over and keep you all safe.

HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

- Check your family for the three main symptoms every day. STAY HOME and arrange a test if anyone has a **high temperature**, **new continuous cough or loss of taste and smell**.
- Other recognised symptoms are **sudden fatigue**, **sore throat**, **headache and diarrhoea** especially in the first three days the most infectious days of the illness. You will not be able to get a test with these symptoms but please stay home to keep everyone safe.
- Wear a face covering if you are coming onto school premises.
- Arrive on time (not early or late).
- Only one adult to drop off and pick up.
- Maintain 2m social distancing at all time and wait on socially distanced spots.
- Y5/6 parents wait at the rear gate for your children but maintain social distancing at all times.
- Make sure we have 2 emergency contacts (in case your child develops symptoms throughout the day).
- Answer the phone if we call. If a children develops symptoms, they must go home immediately.
- Send children to school in PE kit on PE days.
- Practice thorough hand washing with your children and remind them to catch coughs and sneezes in a paper tissue. CATCH IT, KILL IT, BIN IT.
- Don't come into school unless you have to contact school by phone or email.
- Pay for lunches in bulk, by cheque.

It is STILL vital that <u>face coverings are worn</u> and <u>social distancing maintained</u> whilst you wait on school premises.

Pride in Play



Parents in Reception, Year 1 and those children in school during lockdown have probably heard a lot about Pride in Play, the play and forest school organisation that have been providing our outdoor learning this year. The company is organised by Dave Stephens, whom I have worked with for many years.

Pride in Play are offering a holiday play scheme day this half term at Gillingstool. Take a look at our Facebook page for further information or sign up here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1YuWOF8t-

<u>rfPH7jsKcwk7MQgH4aVOyclWeKKzwalwOdw/viewform?edit_requested=true&fbclid=lwAR3BjL_kWNg5I7mlWuEN7QpT-Ol4c11wNRULOHnYAA704yXTDKN8m3LYYkM</u>

RECEPTION PLACES 2021

Reception places have been allocated for September and we are really looking forward to meeting our newest pupils this term.

There is a concern that some parents may have missed the application deadline because of the pandemic and January lockdown. If you know of anyone who hasn't yet applied please direct them to contact the school office or South Glos School admissions as we still have some places available.

HOT CHOC HEROES

Congratulations to the following students who have gone 'Over and Above' in the past two week and enjoyed a Headteacher's Hot Choc delivered to their classroom.



Harvey Riley
Daisy Max
Charlie Aysi
Esme Dilon
Romany Braydon

Mischa Louie

NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE

We are currently working alongside our new providers to put the finishing touches to our new website. We would love to update the parent testimonials on our page. If you have some positive reflections about Gillingstool that you would be happy for us to share please contact the office office@gilingstool.org.uk



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Inspíre, Believe, Achieve







