



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L
G A Y T O N R O A D • H E S W A L L • W I R R A L • C H 6 0 8 P Z

Newsletter 18- 14th July 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Bubble closures:

Many thanks to all our parents for your unwavering support during our recent bubble closures. I am so sorry for all the inconvenience caused and appreciate how challenging this period is for parents. We have had a number of classes closing in order to isolate and a number of staff isolating as a result of this. Many thanks to everyone who has had to endure periods of isolation and the associated frustrations this causes.

Once again, I would like to thank staff for reverting to online learning via Google Classroom and trying to keep some sense of normality for the children whilst they have been isolating at home. Our children, yet again, have been completely wonderful and constantly amaze me with their resilience and ability to adapt and accept the current circumstances. This is certainly not how we wanted the end of the year to work out for our children or staff, but all we can do at the moment is follow the guidelines that are in place for schools and hope that we do not have any further cases.

Covid 19 & plans for the school return in September:

From September, there will be some changes for schools in relation to covid-19. Schools will be expected to still have a covid-19 risk assessment in place and this will be shared with the whole school community.



- *Bubbles will not be in place.
- *Our children will be able to play and interact with each other from F2- Year 6 (we are so excited for this change as we know how much our children have missed interacting with each other).
- *Face to face assemblies will resume.
- *Enhanced cleaning will remain in place.
- *Ventilation within the school environment will still be a high priority- windows will remain open.
- *Children will still use hand sanitiser/hand washing will remain.

- *School will no longer be responsible for contact tracing. Close contacts will now be identified by Test and Trace.
- *From 16th August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, the close contact will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test.

September dropping off and pick up timings:

We will be keeping the staggered starts in the morning so you will be able to drop off your child from **8:40am- 8:50am**. However, we will only be using two gates and will not be using the car park entrance.

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KS2 children will enter via the junior gate on the playground and will go straight into school.
KS1 & F2 children will enter via the infant gate on the playground. F2 pupils will go through the Y3/4 door into school and our Y1 and Y2 children will walk around the back of the building into their classrooms.

End of day arrangements:

We will revert to our pre-covid timings.

F2, Y1 & Y2 will finish at 3:20pm & Y3-6 will finish at 3:25pm.

Reports & school work books.

Your child should have brought their school report home with them on Tuesday 13th July 2021. If you wish to speak to your child's class teacher regarding the report, please contact the school office and the class teacher will arrange a telephone appointment with you. We have included a feedback form within the report and would very much appreciate it if you could return this to school by the end of term.



If your child is in Y5, you can choose to collect your child's report from the office or wait until the Y5 children return to school on Monday 19th July 2021. The NFER results are not in the reports for Year 5 as Mrs Hulley has been isolating so these will be sent home on Monday when Mrs Hulley returns to work.

Your child will be bringing their school book's home on **Wednesday 14th July 2021**.

Power Maths

From September, we will be implementing a new maths scheme across the school. This scheme is called '**Power Maths**' and has been approved and recommended by the DfE.

This scheme is the only mastery programme which is perfectly aligned to the White Rose Maths scheme that we have previously been using. It is built around a child-centred lesson design that models and embeds a growth mind set approach to maths and focuses on helping all children to build a deep understanding of maths concepts.

All staff will be trained on the inset day in September and then we will be launching the scheme with all our children. During the autumn term, we will be providing an opportunity for parents to find out more about Power Maths.



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OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)

We will be sending out our 1st OPAL newsletter this week in order to update parents with all our exciting recent developments.



From September, we will be asking all parents to send a pair of (labelled) wellies into school with their child. These wellies will remain in school and will ensure that our children can play across the school site (field and playground) throughout the year.

Our F2, Y1 and Y2 children will initially be using the poly-tunnel in order to store and get changed in and out of their wellies. We have added benches in there so it is a perfect space for the children.

We are currently researching options for KS2 welly storage and will update parents with our plans in due course. We will be asking the PTA to support us in fund raising for our longer term welly storage options.

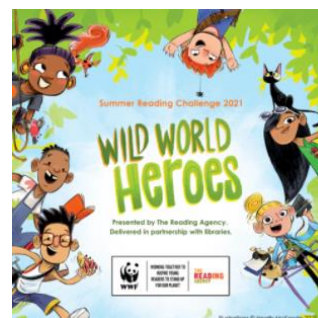


Summer Reading Challenge-

The summer reading challenge has launched. It would be lovely to see some of our children joining in with the challenge. This year the theme is '**Wild World Heroes**' and is a celebration of nature and action for the environment, in partnership with WWF, UK.

This year, the children can take part virtually online at:

www.wildworldheroes.org.uk



Alternatively, the children can go into the library and they will be able to pick up their collector's wallet.

Please encourage your child to take part as it is a wonderful way to encourage reading over the summer months.

Message from Merseyside Police – Private E-scooters: Illegal and Dangerous for children.

Trauma surgeons recently met with Merseyside Police at The Merseyside Road Safety Partnership to tell us about the increasing number of life changing injuries they are seeing after e-scooter collisions.

Lots of sellers hide the fact that **ANY** e-scooter you can buy is illegal to use (except on private land), and police regularly seize them. The orange ones you might see around Liverpool are part of a government pilot scheme and are illegal for under 17s. You have to have at least a provisional driving licence to use one.

We know that e-scooters look fun, but they aren't legal or safe for children.

For more information visit: www.merseysideroadsafety.org/e-scooters-know-the-difference

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Message from our Co-Chairs of Governors:

Dear Staff, Parents and Carers,

What a year it has been! We had been hoping at the end of this academic year to provide a brief overview of governance highlights, however, this year has been anything but normal!

Instead, our thoughts go out to all those in our school community and beyond who have been impacted by the pandemic. Many people have missed out on social occasions, holidays, seeing their families but, at worst, people have lost close family members and friends who have been taken before their time. Despite this, there is optimism and with the easing of more restrictions we are hopeful that September will feel much more like normal.

As governors, we are conscious that upon return in September it will take time, patience and commitment to help our pupils at Gayton to continue to progress academically but equally important to us is that they continue rebuilding their confidence, resilience and well-being.

The governing board would like to acknowledge and thank all staff for their amazing efforts this year. They have worked tirelessly to support pupils, parents and families both at home and within school. The ongoing provision of education to our pupils has been challenging at times but the staff have done everything possible to ensure that learning was able to continue.

We owe particular thanks to Mrs McAleny and the senior leadership team for leading the staff this year and we are thankful for their dedication and commitment.

We would also like to recognise the hard work of parents/carers in supporting their children's learning while at home, many of whom had never envisaged becoming teachers to their own children. To our pupils, thank you for your continued efforts and enthusiasm, we are immensely proud of the way in which you have all risen to the challenge.

We must also say a farewell to our year 6 pupils who are moving on to high school. We wish them and their families every success for the next stage of their journey, we hope that the disruption this year will not detract from the wonderful memories that they have made whilst at Gayton.

Finally, we hope you all have an enjoyable summer break and look forward to welcoming you back in September.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Cowan & Mrs Mann
Co-chairs of governors

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Key Dates:

| Date | Event |
|--|---|
| Wednesday 14 th July 2021 | Children to bring their school books home- please send your child in with a re-usable/strong bag that they can use. |
| Monday 19 th July 2021 | Break up at 2:30pm for summer holiday. S4YC after school club will close at 5:30pm. |
| Tuesday 20 th July 2021 | Inset Day- School not open to pupils. |
| Wednesday 1 st September 2021 | Inset Day- School not open to pupils. |
| Thursday 2 nd September 2021 | Children return to school- start of the autumn term. |

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