



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L  
GAYTON ROAD • HESWALL • WIRRAL • CH60 8PZ

## Newsletter 6- 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

This will be the last newsletter of the autumn term and as we draw closer to the Christmas period, we are looking forward to all the planned Christmas festivities and to welcoming parents into school for our F2- Y2 nativity performance as well as our KS2 Christmas carol service in St Peter's Church. We are also very grateful to our PTA who have arranged lots of fun Christmas activities for the children over the next few weeks. We know how much our children will enjoy these events.

### Heswall Light Switch on Event.

Many thanks to all the parents who came along to support the Heswall Light Switch on. Our choir really enjoyed performing and it was lovely to be part of an event bringing the community together. Huge thanks to Mrs Wright for working with our choir over the last few weeks. We really appreciate all her time and efforts.



**Children In Need-** Many thanks to all the parents/carers who supported Children in Need and helped us to raise an amazing £320.50. We know how much this will be appreciated by the charity.



### Clubs- before and after school.

Please remember that next week (week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> December) is the last week for before and after school clubs.

Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

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## Christmas events:

### Reminder- PTA- Disco – Thursday 8th December 2022

There will be a disco on Thursday 8th December 2022. Tickets are available on Parent Pay.

**All children who are attending the disco must wear their school uniform or PE kit to school as normal.** They can bring a change of clothes with them and we will give them time to get changed into their disco clothes before the start of the disco.

The disco will run from 3:20pm- 4:45pm. We will be asking all parents to come in via the main entrance to collect their child/ren and then leave via the Y5/6 door and out onto the playground. If you have a pushchair, please just wait towards the end so that we can then release you through the main entrance as otherwise you will need to negotiate steps etc.



### PTA Chocolate Bingo event



Our chocolate bingo event (last night) was such a wonderful success. Huge thanks to Glenn, our brilliant bingo caller, and to our PTA for organising and running such a great event. There was so much fun for the children and adults too. We can now look forward to our Easter chocolate bingo event which is planned for the spring term.

### PTA Christmas Shop:

Please note that the Christmas Shop will now take place all day on **Friday 16th December 2022** for all children from F2- Y6. Payments can be made via Parent Pay.

### Nativity costume distribution:

Many thanks to Mrs Thevendra for storing and organising costumes for our nativity play. Mrs Thevendra has allocated costumes with the stock that was available and individual parents will be contacted if we don't have a suitable costume for their child.

### Letters to Santa

Please remember that letters to Santa need to be received by **Friday 9th December 2022**. They can be posted in the post box in the F2-Y2 area.



### Christmas Toy Appeal- Neo Community:



We have partnered (for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year) with the charity Neo Community. They do such wonderful work throughout Wirral providing invaluable support to so many families in need. We are going to be supporting their campaign to ensure that as many children who are in need on the Wirral get a Christmas gift.

A bucket has been placed outside the school office. The bucket has a variety of different gift tags in it. The gift tag will give you enough information to buy a gift for a child this Christmas. The gift doesn't need to be wrapped but should be placed in a gift bag and placed under the canopy on the morning of **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December by 9:00am**. Neo will then come and collect the gifts on this morning.

We know that times are difficult for people at the moment, but if you are able to purchase just one additional gift this Christmas, it would be very much appreciated.

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## Santa's Sleigh- Gayton Route.

Santa's Sleigh, organised by Heswall Round Table, will be visiting Gayton on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022**. The sleigh will commence its route at 6:00pm. The Round Table are giving the school the opportunity to receive a percentage of the collection on the night as long as we advertise the event and encourage as many parents as possible to donate. The volunteers from the Round Table won't be knocking on doors but they will have collection buckets available.



It is such a lovely way for families to start to get into the Christmas spirit with a visit from Santa on his sleigh.

This is the route that Santa will take on the night:



## Homework:

The last day of homework for the autumn term will be Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022. We will still expect children to be reading at home and they will still have spellings to learn as well.

## PTA:

I would like to say a huge thank you to Nicola Chapman, Jen Fitch and Sharon Garforth for being the co-chairs of our PTA for the last few years. They have worked so hard to coordinate events for the PTA and even managed to keep the PTA going during covid times and have raised much-needed funds for the school. We are incredibly grateful to them and the wider PTA for everything they have done. They have now stepped down as co-chairs and handed over to Lisa Dobson and Katie Welton who are joint chairs with Lindsay Murphy volunteering to step into the Vice Chair position. Again, I am incredibly grateful to them for volunteering for these roles as without these positions filled, the PTA would have to fold which would be so sad for our school community.



At the AGM it was lovely to see some new F2 parents as well and we hope that more parents will start to be involved in the PTA so that we can secure the future of the PTA for many years to come. Please remember that all parents are members of the PTA and if you have any ideas for events/ activities please contact your PTA representative or any of the committee members as they would love to have more support.

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## Eco Schools Update Dec 2022



There has already been a lot of work taking place in order to ensure that we achieve our Eco Schools Green Flag again this academic year. We are focusing on three key areas: Transport, Biodiversity and School Grounds.

We began by inviting everyone to bring their bikes and scooters. The response was tremendous and the bikes and scooters looked amazing. The children have had assemblies about World Car-free

day, road safety and the Highway Code. In addition, Year 5 completed their Bikeability training, with many children achieving Level 2.



Our whole school project this year is to achieve the **Woodland Trust Green Tree Award**. The Green Tree Schools Award encourages outdoor learning and inspires pupils to find out about trees, woods and wildlife. In order to gain the award, a variety of challenges have to be completed. Through the completion of the award, our school can take part in fun, practical projects while helping the environment and caring for our school grounds.

Throughout the year, each class will be responsible for completing different challenges. We have already completed several tasks. For example, the children in Year 5 planted a new hedgerow. They also helped their buddies to pot up some trees so that the roots can develop over the next few years before planting on our school field. Thanks to the contribution of Year 5 and F2, we found out this week that we have achieved the Bronze award. Many thanks to Mrs Hulley for all her hard work with coordinating this for our school.



### Reminder: Asda Foundation Green Token Giving- Vote for Gayton!

Please keep voting for Gayton as part of the Asda Foundation Green Token Giving Online voting through the Bromborough Store. We are now back in 2<sup>nd</sup> place so it is vital that everyone continues to keep voting so we can try and move back into 1<sup>st</sup> place.



Parents can vote for our school by visiting [www.asda.com/green-tokens](http://www.asda.com/green-tokens) and selecting Bromborough from the dropdown box. You can vote once every seven days, so please remember to return and re-vote in the following weeks.

**Communication with teachers:** If you need to contact your child's class teacher, you will be able to see them at the gates at the end of the school day. If not, you can email the school office via: [schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk) and the teacher will get back to you as soon as possible. Please remember that teachers are teaching all day and it may not be possible for them to call you back until the end of the school day.

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## Applications for F2 places for 2023-2024



Applications can be made now for any parents with children who are due to start in September 2023. Parents have until midnight on **15<sup>th</sup> January 2023** to make their application. If anyone knows of any local families who may be interested in their child starting at Gayton next academic year, please ask them to call the school office as we are currently offering tours for new intake families, but places must be booked via the school office.

### Additional Bank Holiday- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023

All schools will be closed on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to mark the King's Coronation. Our Year 6 pupils were due to sit their first SAT test on this day so the DFE have now moved all tests forward a day. Therefore, the Y6 SAT timetable will be the following:

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May – School closed**  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May- Year 6 Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation test.**  
**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May- Year 6 Reading test**  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 Paper 1 (Arithmetic) and Paper 2 (Reasoning)**  
**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May- Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)**

**Please remember that we are holding a SAT and Residential meeting for Year 6 parents on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023.**

### Labelling of clothing:

Many thanks to all the parents that have taken time to label your child's clothing for the return to school. We have already been able to reunite children with lots of items of lost property as they have been labelled; it really does make a huge difference so thank you!

Thank you for your continued support,

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. McAleny' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs McAleny

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**Key Dates:**

Date	Event
Week commencing 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Autumn term clubs finish this week.
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	PTA Wreath making event- 7:30pm – Sold Out!
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Santa’s Sleigh to visit Gayton- Heswall Round Table.
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Year 2 to visit Heswall Methodist Church. ‘ <b>Meet the characters of the Christmas Story</b> ’ AM only
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Y6 trip to Western Approaches- WW2 (Liverpool) Payment available via Parent Pay. Separate information has been sent home to Y6 parents.
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2002	PTA Christmas Disco- 3:20pm- 4:45pm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Music assembly at 10:45am. Parents can attend if your child has Tafelmusik lessons or if your child has lessons at home and you would like them to perform.
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	PTA Christmas Bake Sale- After school. Cake donations (home or shop bought are welcome).
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	F2, Y1 & Y2- Nativity performance for parents @9:30am. (2 tickets per family for either one of the performances)
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Christmas Dinner Day- Children can wear their school uniform with a Christmas jumper on this day or reindeer ears/ tinsel etc.
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	KS2 Christmas Carol service at St Peter’s Church at 6:00pm. Parents welcome to attend.
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	F2, Y1 & Y2- Nativity performance for parents @9:30am (2 tickets per family for either one of the performances)
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Neo charity gift collection- all gifts to be dropped off by 9:00am.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Christmas Shop – F2- Y6
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Break up today at 2:30pm for Christmas holiday. Non-School uniform day- donation to the PTA via Parent Pay.
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Inset day- Children not in school.
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Children return to school.
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Deadline for applications for reception 2023-2024.
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Y6 Class assembly at 9:05am. Parents welcome to attend.
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Y4 Class assembly at 9:05am. Parents welcome to attend.
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 & Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2023.	Parents’ evening- further details to be shared nearer the time.

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