



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L
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Newsletter 16- 9th June 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope everyone had a lovely half term break. We are very much looking forward to the last half term of the summer and know that it is going to be an extremely busy half term.

Staffing update:



Mrs Daly will be returning full time from maternity leave on Monday 12th July 2021. Consequently, Mrs Carroll will be leaving Gayton on Friday 9th July 2021 and Mrs Daly will be teaching Year 2 for the final 6 days of the summer term. Mrs Carroll has been a brilliant addition to our team and we are going to miss her a lot but we wish her every success in her new position at Beacon Primary School in Liverpool where she has secured a permanent position.

Mrs Daly has requested flexible working from September 2021 and this has been agreed by the Governing Board. Therefore, we have recently advertised for a 0.5 teacher to job share with Mrs Daly from September. I am pleased to announce that, following a rigorous recruitment process, we have appointed Mrs Wright as our new permanent 0.5 teacher to work alongside Mrs Daly. Mrs Wright is joining us from Upton Heath Primary School in Chester.

We are also pleased to announce that we have recruited Mrs Nicholls on a fixed term contract to cover Mrs Jones' maternity leave. Mrs Nicholls is currently teaching in East Sussex and is delighted to have secured a position on the Wirral as she is relocating back here over the summer holiday.

In the next few weeks, we will be in a position to confirm the teaching structure for September with parents and children.

Transition day: Friday 2nd July 2021

We are hoping to hold a transition day on **Friday 2nd July 2021**. This will mean that each class will move up to their new teacher and will be able to spend time getting to know them. We are trying to arrange it so our new members of staff can join us for this day as well but this is reliant on them being able to be released from their current teaching positions so we are awaiting confirmation of this. As part of these plans, we are hoping to invite our new F2 children into school for a session on this day as well. Further information about these plans will be shared with our new intake parents in due course. This is, of course, all dependent on COVID-19 restrictions.



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Friday 2nd July 2021 is also the agreed day for Wirral transition for Year 6 pupils to visit their new High school. We appreciate that this does not apply to the pupils who are transitioning to Neston but we will make plans for them to be accommodated in school on this day.

Annual reports to parents.

Annual reports to parents will be sent home on **Tuesday 13th July 2021**. In Years 1-6, we are using the same format as last year. Due to us being an early adopter for the F2 curriculum, we have had to amend our report format this year to ensure it covers all the elements of the new curriculum.

Understandably, due to covid-19 and the disruptions this has caused to teaching and learning this year and last academic year, it is highly likely that a lot of children will not be secure at either the expected or greater depth standards. This is completely normal and to be expected. As a school, we will always ensure that our teacher assessment is accurate and therefore this will be reflected in the teacher assessment levels used within the reports.

Class photographs



Class photographs are taking place on **Friday 11th June 2021**. Therefore, please can all children come to school in their uniform on Friday. **If your child normally has PE, they do not need their PE kit on this day.**

Dangers of children swallowing magnets:

We have been asked to highlight to all parents a potentially life threatening TikTok trend, involving tiny magnets that can be easily swallowed and, as a consequence, the NHS are calling for them to be banned. Further information regarding this can be found here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2021/05/dangers-of-children-swallowing-magnets-prompts-nhs-call-for-ban/>

COVID-19 updates:

Please remember the following updates in relation to covid-19.



- If a parent or carer is experiencing one of the 3 main COVID symptoms and is waiting for the results of a PCR test, they should NOT send their children into school while they are awaiting the results. If a parent/carers is waiting for a PCR result, both they and their children could potentially be infectious and therefore the children should not be attending school while the parent is waiting for their test result. If the parent receives a negative PCR result, their children can return to school. If the parent/carers receives a positive result, they and their family members have to self-isolate for the full 10 days.
- Parents/carers should be reminded NOT to use home Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) to test whether symptomatic primary-age children have COVID or not. While convenient to use these at home, the difficulty in carrying out a nasal and throat swab with a young child means that the test results are often not valid. Also everyone, who has at least one of the 3 main COVID symptoms (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of taste/and/or smell) should have a PCR test. If parents have a symptomatic child, they need to book a supervised PCR test (see wirral.gov.uk for details.)
- Public Health England have confirmed that ALL COVID cases in the North West will be considered as likely Indian variant unless/until proven otherwise. Whilst being managed in exactly the same way, the recommendation at this stage (and until further notice) is that all school contacts of confirmed

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cases of COVID will need to be offered a PCR whether they have symptoms or not. This is for the purpose of active case-finding. Staff, pupils and parents should be directed to www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test to book this test. They will be asked to identify whether they have COVID symptoms. If they have no symptoms, they should select 'No' for this answer and proceed through the questions until they get to the question: Why are you asking for a test? They should select the box that says- I've been told to get a test by my local council, health protection team or healthcare professional... And then the option that states: My local council or health protection team has asked me to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms. They can then proceed to book the test.

URGENT: OPAL Donations- Can you help?



Many thanks to all the parents who have managed to drop off some items for our OPAL play project. However, we are desperate for more donations. Currently, we haven't received a lot of donations and ideally every child needs approximately 4 loose parts. So, in a school of approximately 200 children, we are looking for over 800 parts!

This is an overview of the current list of items that we are looking for. If you are able to donate any of these items, please bring them along to the F2, Y1 & Y2 entrance in the morning from 8:40am- 9:00am. Alternatively, if you can't drop off at these times, please just contact the school office and we will make different arrangements. If you don't have any of these items yourself, please do speak to friends and family members to see if they can help. Any help in securing more of these items would be gratefully received.

- Plastic or metal buckets
- Kitchen utensils, pots, pans, baking trays, sieves, colanders etc for the mud kitchen
- Watering cans, wheel barrows & guttering
- Large pieces of fabric for den building e.g. sheets/curtains/tarpaulin
- Brooms.
- Decorating paintbrushes
- Nets and ropes
- Pegs (to support with setting up dens)
- Suitcases/briefcases
- Cable drums
- Planks of wood e.g. left over pieces from decking etc (please ensure that these do not have nails in them).
- Bamboo poles

Sun Safety:

Due to the hot and sunny weather that we have recently experienced, please can we remind parents of the following:



*Please send your child to school with a hat (labelled with your child's name) and please apply sun cream to your child prior to them coming into school.

*If you wish for your child to apply sun cream during the school day, children may bring sun cream into school in a clearly labelled bottle. This must be kept in your child's school bag for their own use.

Please note that children will be expected to apply their own sun cream and should not share their sun cream with other children.

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Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school every day and a coat/waterproof jacket.

Sports Day:

Weather permitting, we will be holding our Sports Day on Tuesday 15th June during the morning. We are really sorry that we can't invite parents into school at the moment but we still wanted to go ahead as this will be the first time that our whole school has come together since March 2020. Whilst on the field, we will still need to keep the children in bubbles but at least they will be able to cheer each other on and we will all be together as a school.



On Tuesday the children can come into school wearing their PE kit. We would like all the children to wear a T shirt which represents their house. The house colours are shown below:

- *Air- White
- *Fire- Red
- *Water- Blue
- *Earth- Green

Please don't worry if you haven't got a T-shirt in this colour. If this is the case, the children can just wear their PE kit. Please ensure that your child has a water bottle and that you have provided them with a waterproof coat and applied sun cream before they come to school. If it is sunny, your child should also have a sun hat.

If we are unable to go ahead with Sports day on Tuesday 15th June due to the weather, our reserve date is Thursday 17th June 2021.

Labelling of clothing:



Please can all parents support school by ensuring that all clothing is labelled. Please ensure that all jumpers and coats have labels in them so that we can reunite children with their belongings. Thank you for your understanding and support with this.

Unauthorised access to the school site:

Over half term, we have had some 'visitors' to our playground who have caused damage and have utilised the playground for skateboarding. We have reported this to Community Patrol who do monitor our school premises out of school hours. This has also been reported to the police. Please can I ask parents that if you happen to be walking/driving past school and see people accessing our school grounds, you report this to the police via 101. This will help school to ensure that we can keep the premises secure and safe for our children.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs McAleny

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Key Dates:

Date	Event
Monday 7 th June 2021	Children return after half term holiday.
Friday 11 th June 2021	Rourke photography- Class photographs.
Monday 14 th June 2021	Year 6 day trip to Barnstondale Centre. Children to be dropped off at 10:00am and picked up at 7:00pm.
Tuesday 15 th June 2021	Sports Day- Children only as currently parents are still not able to attend events in school.
Thursday 17 th June 2021	Sports Day – Reserve date.
Friday 18 th June 2021	Y6 Preparation for high school transition session- Thumbs up
Tuesday 29 th June 2021	Full Governors' Meeting
Thursday 1 st July 2021	Year 6 Prom at Dee Sailing Club- 6:00pm- 8pm
Friday 2 nd July 2021	Whole school transition day Wirral Wide transition day for all Wirral secondary schools.
Tuesday 13 th July 2021	Annual reports to parents.
Monday 19 th July 2021	Break up at 2:30pm for summer holiday.
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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