



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

A very warm welcome back to school and a Happy New Year to all of our families. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and enjoyed your time together. It has been lovely hearing such exciting holiday news from children.

We had a very busy December and it was fantastic to end our term with our Christmas plays and festive carols on the playground.

We are all excited to start 2023 and have lots of great trips, activities and opportunities planned over the year to look forward to. We have a whole school visit to Chester Zoo at the end of January as well as our Year 3 residential trip next week. We also have the Fun Food Chef returning and bikeability courses for different year groups in February.

As we move into the new year, we will be focusing on home reading and ask all adults to read at home regularly with their child. Reading is such an important skill, the more practice and support we can give our children, then the more progress they can make with their reading.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr. Seuss.

We look forward to working in partnership with you again this year.

Kind Regards

Miss E Jackson
Headteacher

General Reminders

Staff

Mrs Chorlton has now returned from maternity leave and is excited to be back. Miss Banlin will continue to work at school and will be delivering interventions.

Water Bottles

A reminder that water bottles for use in school should be named, only contain water and should also have a sports cap. School water bottles are available from the office for £2.00.



Uniform

As we start the new term I would like to take the opportunity to remind you all of our school uniform expectations. **We expect all our pupils to wear the correct school uniform.**

Staff encourage children to be smart and presentable in wearing the school uniform and we also ask for parents/carers support in this matter.

We would like to remind you of our current school uniform:

- Blue Gorsewood Sweatshirt/Cardigan/Fleece
- Grey Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore
- White Shirt or Polo Style T-Shirt
- Black, Flat Sensible Footwear (No Coloured Trainers, Mules, Jellies, Open-Toes)
- Grey Shorts/Blue & White Gingham Dress - Summer Term (After Easter)

On PE days children should come to school wearing their PE kits:

A Gorsewood PE kit with black pumps or trainers for outdoors
OR
Plain white t-shirt, black shorts, black pumps or trainers
ALSO

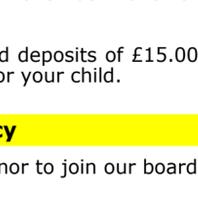
In colder weather dark tracksuit/jogging bottoms can be worn with a Gorsewood PE hoodie or Gorsewood sweatshirt/cardigan/fleece.

Please note football kits, gym wear and other sports items are not PE uniform.

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our recent fundraising efforts. Please see below for money raised for charity:

Jumper Day for Stick N Step = £115.00



Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Fair. **We raised a total of £1161.62 for school funds.**

Kingswood Visit (Nov 2023)

This visit will take place next academic year in November 2023 for pupils who will be in Year 4 (current Year 3).

A letter with full details has been sent home and deposits of £15.00 are required by 3rd February to secure a place for your child.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor to join our board of governors.

Governors are the link between the school and the community and representatives of all those with an interest in the well-being and reputation of the school are needed. Parents are very important in keeping the governing body aware of the views of parents and the local community. They are a vital part of our team.

Our chair of governors and myself are happy to talk to anyone who is interested or might want further information. Please call in to school.

Please note that for the protection of children all governor appointments are subject to a vetting process and identity check.

Celebrating Success

Well done to all of the children who received a reward in one of our Celebration Assemblies last month.



We continue to recognise kindness, resilience and excellent effort in our learning.

Thank You

Please see the email below that we have received and would like to share with you. Thank you.

Dear Miss Jackson

Thank you and the staff and pupils at Gorsewood Primary School for giving 59.4kg of food, which represents 170 meals provided to people in need. We do rely on both food and financial donations and we are experiencing even more demand for our services in the current economic climate of increasing food and energy prices which impact heavily on people in precarious financial situations. Your generosity enables us to continue helping the most vulnerable people in our area so thank you again for thinking of the foodbank.

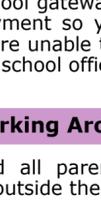
Warmest Regards

Eddie
Eddie Thompson MBE, Foodbank Manager
Runcom and District Foodbank

Tuck

Tuck money is still outstanding for this academic year for some pupils. **The amount due for the full year is £5.00** which covers daily fruit.

We would appreciate payment for those who have not yet paid.



Coffee Morning - Mon 9th

We will be running a coffee morning on **Monday 9th January 9.15am to 10.15am** at Halton Mental Health Support Team in attendance. During the session we will be talking about managing and supporting children with anxiety.

Please book online.

Value of the Month

This month our values is: **HOPE**

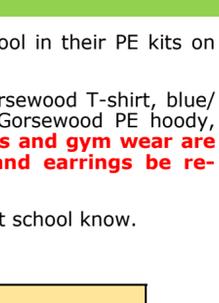
We will be finding out and exploring our hopes and dreams for the future for ourselves and our families and the world we live in. We will learn about inspirational people and the importance of having hope.



"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness" Desmond Tutu

Whole School Visit to Chester Zoo - Fri 27th Jan

This exciting whole school visit will take place on **Friday 27th January 2023**.



The cost of the visit is £6.00 per pupil and needs to be paid by Tuesday 24th January.

Please log in to the school gateway to your child can take part. If you are unable to pay on line please call into the school office.

Parking Around School

Please can we remind all parents/carers to park safely and responsibly outside the school.

Many cars are still parking on the single yellow lines and crossing pavements too which is putting children at risk.

The 'Drop & Go' area is often under used and we would encourage parents/carers to use this for an easy drop off. Mrs Newby is always there to walk your child into school.

Our local PSCOs will be monitoring parking around school. Thank you for your continued support.



Swimming

This half term Year 4 will be swimming.
Swimming will take place on a Thursday afternoon and will start w/c 9th January 2023.

After School Clubs

New clubs will start w/c Monday 16th January and run for 5 weeks until w/c 13th February.



PE Reminder

A reminder that children should come to school in their PE kits on the days they have PE.

PE kit consists of a plain white T-shirt or Gorsewood T-shirt, blue/black shorts or black jogging bottoms and Gorsewood PE hoody, sweatshirt or fleece. **Please note sports kits and gym wear are not PE uniform. Please can watches and earrings be removed on PE days.**

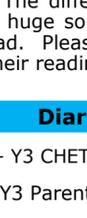
If you are struggling to buy PE items please let school know.

Timetable

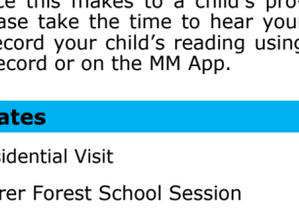
Year	Days	
Year R	Wednesday	Friday
Year 1	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 2	Monday	Friday
Year 3	Monday	Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday	Thursday (Swimming)
Year 5	Tuesday	Friday
Year 6	Wednesday	Thursday

Marvellous Me

Please make sure you have signed up to Marvellous Me so you can be kept updated with what your child is doing in school each day.



Twitter

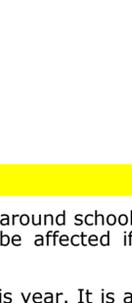


@gorsewoodprimar

School Houses

You will know that the whole school including staff have now been organised into our school houses. Everyone has now received a badge to show which house they belong to.

Children continue to work hard to earn these points. The winning house for this half term will receive a treat.



The current scores are:

Ash 2760 Oak 2637
Birch 2382 Sycamore 2739

Reading



Reading is very important and we expect all children to read at least 3 times each week to an adult at home. The difference this makes to a child's progress is huge so please take the time to hear your child read. Please record your child's reading using either their reading record or on the MM App.

Diary Dates

- Wednesday 11th Jan - Y3 CHET Residential Visit
- Thursday 19th Jan - Y3 Parent/Carer Forest School Session
- Friday 27th Jan - Whole School Chester Zoo Visit
- Monday 30th Jan - Attendance Focus Week
- Thursday 2nd Feb - Fun Food Chef Visit
- Friday 3rd Feb - Fun Food Chef Visit
- Monday 6th Feb - Fun Food Chef Visit
- Monday 6th Feb - Start of Bikeability
- Tuesday 7th Feb - Safer Internet Day
- Wednesday 8th Feb - Y6 Norton Priory Visit
- Friday 17th Feb - Rockkidz! Visit
- Friday 17th Feb - School closes for half term
- Monday 27th Feb - School reopens

Attendance

We are aware that there are lots of bugs and illnesses around school at the moment and we understand attendance will be affected if your child is ill.

Attendance continues to be a key priority for school this year. It is a legal requirement that all children attend school regularly and are only absent when absolutely necessary.

The number of leave of absence requests has recently increased. We would like to remind you that school may not authorise any leave of absence unless it is for exceptional circumstances. A holiday is not classed as exceptional circumstances.

Please help us to ensure your child achieves their potential by promoting good attendance and punctuality.

Whole School Attendance Reward

Children are currently working on building the attendance wall to earn an **Own Clothes Day**.

Whole school attendance to date = 94.29%



Reward = Own Clothes Day

Bricks Earned = 3

Bricks to Earn = 7

Everyone can help to build the pyramid and earn the reward!

Punctuality

A reminder that all children should be in their classrooms for 8.55am when school starts. **Please ensure your child arrives before 8.55am so they don't miss out on any key learning time.**

- Gates Open: 8.45am
- Early Bird Drop Off: 8.30am (no charge and breakfast included)
- Breakfast Club: Opens at 7.30am (£1.00 charge includes breakfast)

Useful Links

[School Term Dates](#)

[School Website](#)

[School Twitter](#)

School Gateway Reminders

Currently payment/consent is due for:

- **Tuck** - Payment of £5.00 due for all pupils for yearly tuck (fruit)
- **Y5/Y6 St Braivels Cardiff Visit** - Next payment due by 13th Jan
- **Y3 CHET:** Payment in full due now
- **Y6 Norton Priory:** Payment due by 3rd February
- **Whole School Chester Zoo:** Payment required by 24th Jan
- **Kingswood:** Deposit due by 3rd February (current Y3)

A reminder we no longer send out paper copies of newsletters and letters. All communication is sent by email however paper copies are available if requested. **If you are not receiving any communications please update the office with your email address [here](#).**