



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

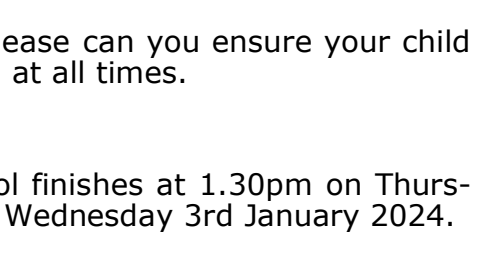
As we head into December, we are looking forward to starting the Christmas festivities. This is a wonderful time of year and we have lots of exciting activities planned. Please check your emails regularly to keep up to date with school events.

We understand this time of year is very expensive. If you need any support, please let us know so we can try to help out.

On behalf of the governors, staff and pupils, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss E Jackson
Headteacher



General Reminders

Warm Clothing

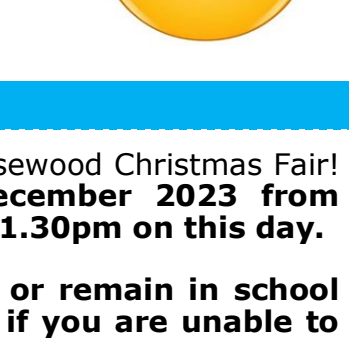
As the weather is now a lot colder, please can you ensure your child has a suitable outdoor coat with them at all times.

School Closing & Opening

I would like to remind you that school finishes at 1.30pm on Thursday 21st December and we return on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

BE BRIGHT BE SEEN!

As both the mornings and evenings are now much darker we would like to remind you all to be safe at all times. If you are out and about please remember to wear bright reflective clothing and take extra care on roads and if using scooters or bicycles.



Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our recent fundraising efforts. Please see below for money raised for charity. A cheque has been sent to all these charities on your behalf.

Red for Racism = £96.00
Children in Need = £123.00
Roadal Dahl Charity = £120.00
Macmillan Cancer Support = £59.00



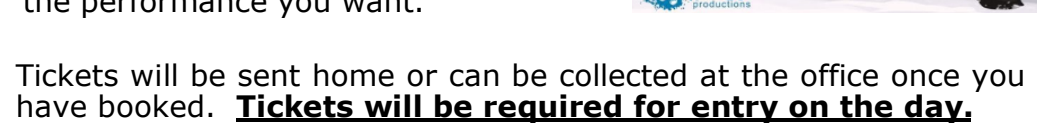
Christmas Fair

We would like to invite you to attend the Gorsewood Christmas Fair! **This will take place on Friday 8th December 2023 from 1.45pm. Please note school will close at 1.30pm on this day.**

All pupils must be collected by an adult or remain in school until 3.15pm. Please let the office know if you are unable to collect your child at 1.30pm

Children can attend free of charge but there is a charge of 50p per adult. If you require tickets please login to the School Gateway and purchase the amount you require using the 'Payments' option. **All adults will need to have paid the entrance fee.**

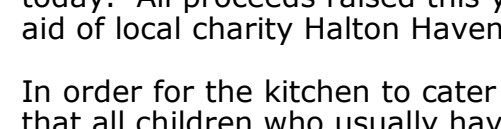
We will be using cash on the day for the activities and ask if you can please bring change with you.



Christmas Carols

School will close at 1.30pm on Thursday 21st December for the Christmas holiday.

As in previous years, we would like to invite all parents/carers to join us for carols on the playground at 1.15pm.



Own Clothes Day

Friday 8th December 2023
Fill a Sweet Cone

To help provide a few more prizes for our Christmas Fair we are asking each child to fill a cone with sweets and return school by Wednesday 6th December.

Every child who returns their bag will be able to wear their own clothes on Friday 8th December.

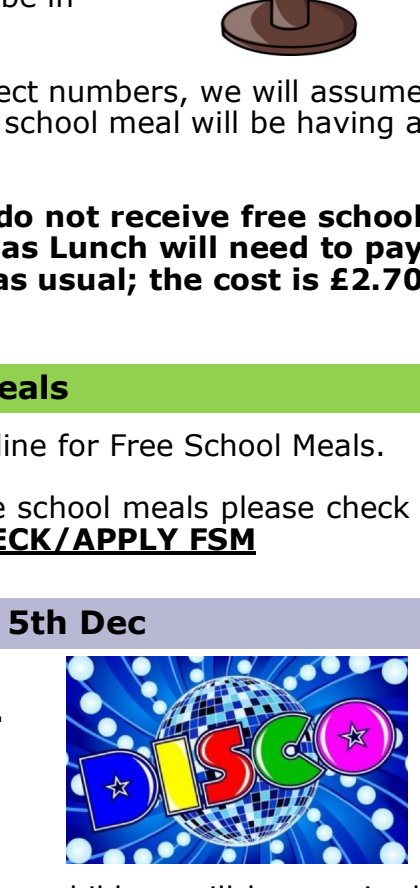
Christmas Performances

This year's Christmas production will take place as a whole school production on **Wednesday 20th December**. There will be 3 performances during the day which will take place at 10.00am, 1.00pm & 2.30pm.

Please note school will finish at 3.30pm on this day.

Admission will be by booking only and is restricted to a **maximum of 2 seats per family**.

If you require tickets please login to the School Gateway and make a booking via the Clubs option selecting the performance you want.



Tickets will be sent home or can be collected at the office once you have booked. **Tickets will be required for entry on the day.**

Unfortunately due to hall space and maximum capacity guidelines we cannot accommodate any additional siblings or prams for these performances. All prams will need to be left at the front of school.

Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day - Fri 15th Dec

As in previous year's we will be holding our annual Christmas Jumper Day on the same day as our Christmas Dinner on **Friday 15th December**.

Children can come to school wearing own clothes and Christmas jumpers. We are asking for donations of £1.00 per pupil which can be paid online via the School Gateway or in cash from today. All proceeds raised this year will be in aid of local charity Halton Haven.



In order for the kitchen to cater for correct numbers, we will assume that all children who usually have a free school meal will be having a Christmas Lunch.

Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who do not receive free school meals and who would like a Christmas Lunch will need to pay online through the School Gateway as usual; the cost is £2.70 per pupil.

Free School Meals

Parents now have the ability to apply online for Free School Meals.

If you think your child is entitled to free school meals please check your eligibility online using this link: **CHECK/APPLY FSM**

Winter Disco - Tue 5th Dec

We have arranged for a Winter Disco to take place on **Tuesday 5th December**.

YR/Y1/Y2: 4.00pm - 4.45pm

Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6: 5.00pm - 6.00pm



There will be no charge for entry however children will be required to bring a gift for entry (tombola gift). **PLEASE BRING GIFT TO THE DISCO.**

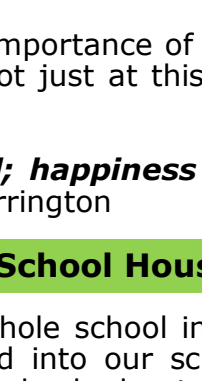
There will be a tuck shop selling drinks, crisps and sweets. Goody bags can also be pre-ordered for £1.00.

Booking is via the School Gateway and will close on Monday 4th December 2023.

Grandparents Christmas Dinner

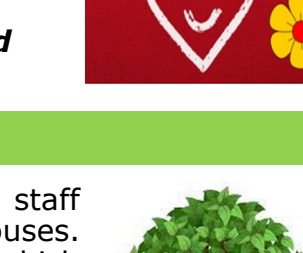
This will take place on **Thursday 14th December**.

Invitations have been sent out.



After School Clubs

Clubs will run until Thursday 14th Dec.



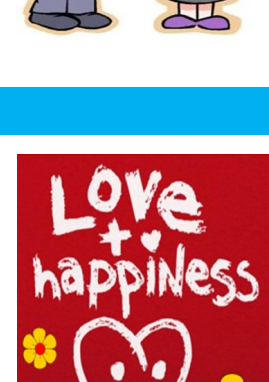
Christmas Raffle

Once again, in order to raise money for the school fund we are holding a Christmas raffle and would be grateful for your support.

Tickets are £1.00 per strip and can be purchased via the School Gateway or at the office.

Prizes include:

- Bed & Breakfast for 2 at The Holiday Inn in Runcorn
- Family Ticket for 4 for Knowsley Safari Park
- Family Ticket for 4 for Blue Planet Aquarium
- Family Ticket for 4 for Delamere Wildshore Aqua Park
- Bottle of Glen Moray Whisky
- 2 Tickets for Reel Cinema World
- 2 Tickets for Gullivers World in Widnes
- £20.00 voucher for Bubbles World of Play
- Free Climb & Shoe Hire at The Climbing Hut (x 2)
- Free Entry Voucher for Coco's Playbar (x 2)
- £15.00 Gorsewood Uniform Voucher (x 2)
- Vouchers for Asda, Costa, Primark, New Look & Aldi
- Chocolate Hamper
- Beauty Hamper
- Gorsewood PE Hoody Voucher
- Gorsewood Cardigan/Jumper Voucher
- Chocolate & Wine Gift Pack (x 2)



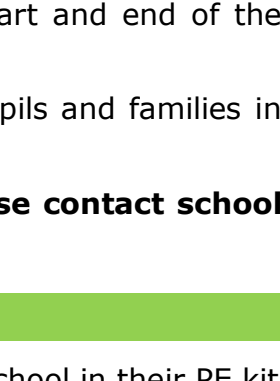
Forest School (Nov/Dec)

Reception will continue to take part in weekly Forest School sessions after the Christmas break.

Year 3 will also take part in Forest School next term on the dates below:

Y3: w/c 8th January to w/c 5th February.

The Year 1 Parent/carer session will take place on Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th December from 2.00pm to 3.00pm. Book online.



Support & Pastoral Support

A reminder that our pastoral team are always around for any of the school day.

We will always do our best to support all our pupils and families in any way we can.

If at any point you feel are struggling, please contact school so we can offer advice and support.

PE Timetable



Children should come to school in their PE kits on the days they have PE.

YR: Tue & Fri	Y3: Tue & Fri
Y1: Tue & Fri	Y4: Mon & Tue
Y2: Mon & Fri	Y5: Thu & Fri (Swim)
	Y6: Tue & Fri

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.



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs daily from 7.30am until 8.30am. All children attending receive free breakfast which includes hot chocolate, cereals, bagels and juice. **The cost to attend is £1.00 per pupil and can be booked online via the School Gateway.**

Early Bird Drop Off runs daily from 8.30am. There is no charge and children can also access free breakfast. No booking is needed.

School Uniform Orders

Uniform orders should be made through the school office. Please note we no longer carry a lot of stock on site so please allow time for your order to be processed (around 2 weeks).

When your order arrives we will send you a text message to arrange payment and collection.

Value of the Month

This month our value is:

Happiness and Love

We will be exploring the importance of showing our happiness and love not just at this time of year but all year round.

"Happiness is the seed; happiness shared is the flower." John Harrington

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.

The current scores are:

Ash = 4513 **Oak = 3887**
Birch = 3512 **Sycamore = 3808**

Well done to ASH who have collected the most house points so far!

Diary Dates

- Fri 1st Dec - Y3 Stone Age Performance (2.30pm)
 - Fri 8th Dec - Own Clothes Day (in exchange for filled sweet cone)
 - Fri 8th Dec - Christmas Fair 2.00pm (school closes 1.45pm)
 - Mon 11th Dec - Year 1 Parent/Pupil Forest School Session 1
 - Tue 12th Dec - Year 1 Parent/Pupil Forest School Session 2
 - Thu 14th Dec - Grandparents Festive Lunch (2.00pm)
 - Fri 15th Dec - Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
 - Wed 20th Dec - Christmas Performance (10am, 1pm & 2.30pm)
 - Thu 21st Dec - Carols on the playground 1.15pm
 - Thu 21st Dec - School closes for Christmas Break 1.30pm
 - Wed 3rd Jan - School reopens
- Further information will be sent out for events nearer the time.**

Useful Links

School Term Dates

School Website

Attendance & Rewards

Attendance continues to be a priority for school.

School current attendance = 95.24%

We aim for all our pupils to achieve 95%+ attendance.

Look out for details of our Christmas Attendance Reward.....

"The 12 Days of Christmas!"

Punctuality

A reminder that **school starts at 8.50am** and children should be in classrooms by this time. Lots of important activities are completed first thing in a morning so please ensure your child is on time every day.

Congratulations

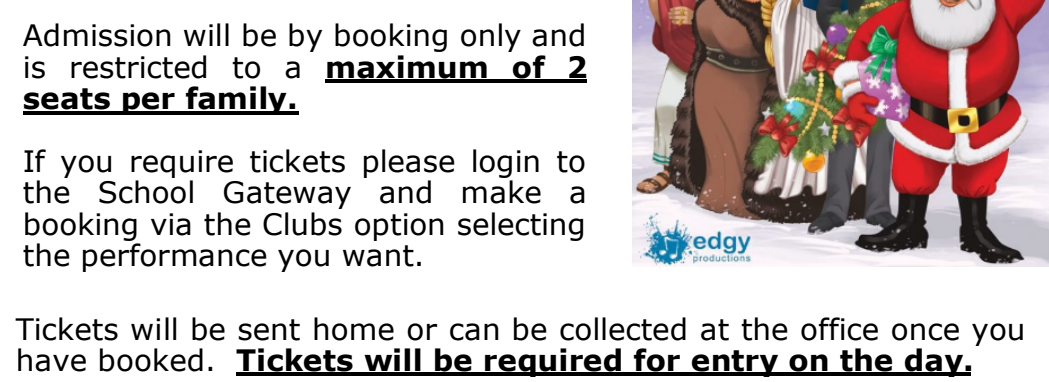
October has been a month where we celebrated lots of achievements in school. We have added some extra certificates to link in with our school rules. We celebrate the following during our celebration assembly.

- ★ **Headteacher Awards**
- ★ **Kindness**
- ★ **Resilience**
- ★ **Always Ready**
- ★ **Respectful**

Congratulations and well done to all our children who have received a certificate - we are very proud of you!

Thank you to those children who have brought in medals, certificates and trophies from home so we can also celebrate achievements out of school.

Times Tables Rock Stars



WHY ARE TIMES TABLES IMPORTANT?

Follow the link below to find out more about Times Tables Rockstars and the importance of times tables.

TTRS Parent/Carer Info

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.**

