



Good news for children in the village.

The Parish Council have been in touch to let us know that Gainford children's play area will be opening up today **Friday 14th June**. Come along **3.30pm-5.00pm** for the official opening. I've heard there's free ice cream too!

Staffing Information

Mrs Linsley our Administration Officer, has been successful at interview and will soon be taking up the post of School Business Manager at St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School in Crook from Monday 24th June. Very well done!! Whilst we celebrate in her fabulous promotion we know that she will be missed at Gainford Primary. Mrs Linsley started with us in May 2022 and she was so impressed with what our school had to offer she even brought her daughter to join us too! I know that she has thoroughly enjoyed her time working in our school and is sad to be leaving us but excited about the new opportunity ahead and we wish her well in her new venture. Good Luck Mrs Linsley! Thankfully Mrs Linsley will still be working with us 1 day per week up to the end of the summer term so she is not allowed to leave completely just yet!

The Trust we are joining is also going to offer us some office support until they appoint a member of staff for September.

Please direct all emails to gainford@durhamlearning.net rather than Mrs Linsley's email address to ensure they are picked up.

Our caretaker Mrs Reed has been at our school since 1999 and retires at the end of the summer holidays. She has previously worked as a lunchtime supervisor as well as being our very hardworking caretaker and has seen so many children, staff, parents and a few headteachers come through our doors! She is the school's longest serving member of staff but I know she will be looking forward to her long-awaited retirement; a well -deserved rest and a few holidays in term time I'm sure! We all wish her a long and happy retirement.

Senior Teacher/Class Tees Teacher

As we move to join the trust a Senior Teacher for Ingleton Primary and a Senior teacher for Gainford Primary have been appointed to assist the new Executive Headteacher Mrs Whitaker

Mrs Lucy Smith, currently at Ingleton Primary, will be our school's Senior Teacher and also the class teacher for Class Tees. She is an experienced Year5/6 teacher and will be working closely with our staff to learn all about the children she will be teaching next year. She is excited about starting at our school and will be meeting the children very soon.

Please take the time to read the attached letter from Mrs Whitaker.

Pants Appeal/Uniform Appeal!

At times some of our younger children Class Swale children are so wrapped up in what they are doing that they don't quite make it to the toilet! This usually means a change of pants and



often socks too and sometimes a whole new outfit!! Can Class Swale parents please check to see if they have any of our clothing items at home and please send them back to school.

If you do have uniform (any age) that is too small for your child and would like to donate it to school that would also be appreciated We will set up our rail of pre-loved uniform and make it available for all parents to access.

The Rocky Monster Show' Performance

Class Tees pupils will be heading to the stage to perform their end of year production, 'The Rocky Monster Show'. With the support of pupils in Class Wear they will be performed on the date and times below: -

Wednesday 17th July performances at 1.30pm & 6pm Tickets are now on sale (£2.50) please notify us of how many tickets and which performance you would like tickets for via Operoo. Please pay for tickets via Parentpay.

Sports Week 17th June – 21st June

Mrs Muir has planned lots of activities for the children to enjoy next week

- **All children can come to school in their PE kits on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.**
- **Your child can bring their bike to school on Wednesday if they would like to do so**
- **but they *must* have a bike helmet** (no scooters or skateboards please). They will learn skills and bike maintenance. Bikes can be dropped off on Tuesday after school if necessary and we can store them in school. If your child does not want to bring a bike there will still be activities to do in the Wheelie Wednesday session

Friends of Gainford School-Big Summer Raffle

Please can you return any sold ticket stubs and money to the school office. If you need more please contact the office or if you can't sell the tickets please return them to school.

Games Night/Fayre

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS) are planning to hold a Games Night Fayre on **Thursday 27 June starting at 3.30pm-5.00pm**. All families are welcome. Most activities are between 25p and £1.00 so hunt out that loose change! We will also have tea, coffee, sweets and cakes and if you can help with any donations for the stalls below we would appreciate this

- Teddy Tombola – any cuddly toys in good condition
- Jam Jar tombola- jars filled with toys/pencils/hair bobbles/pencils/socks you name it!
- Gift Tombola – Hunt out any unwanted gifts
- Book Stall
- Bottle Tombola – any bottles of alcohol
- Cake stall- cakes and scones would be wonderful

Any donations will be greatly appreciated.



Year 6 Leavers Service Durham Cathedral

This week our Year 6 pupils attended the Leavers' Service at Durham Cathedral. They had a fabulous morning with singing, activities and lots of opportunities to reflect on their time in primary school and to give thanks to all of those who had supported them on their school journey. Kai and April carried our school banner very proudly down the aisle of the Cathedral. Each school also left a donation for the Lesotho charity.

Kai 'I enjoyed the activities. There were fun ways to do things. The Cathedral was so huge and it makes you feel special to be in it with the other Year 6s.'

Seb 'I- really enjoyed the Lego activity at the Leavers' Service; we had to build something that represented ourselves'

Emilia 'Durham Cathedral was such an amazing place for us to have the service. The songs were so cheerful and every person in there was singing. It was a memory I will have for a very long time.'

Emily The Stick Man activity was really good; it made you think of the people who had helped you to do things. I liked the songs and singing too.

Ryan the service for all of the Year 6 leavers was good. The Stickman activity made us think about all of the people who had helped us in school. It felt special.'

Anthony 'The Leavers' Service was good. Durham Cathedral is a special place to have a Leavers' Service for Year 6's. My favourite activity was using the Lego-it made you think of others.'

We look forward to our own Leavers' Service on Monday 22nd July at St Marys Church at 9.10am-all welcome.

Supporting Year 6 pupils

We support our Year 6 pupils by working closely with the secondary schools they will be moving on to. This week we have had a visit from Mrs Bell, the Year 7 Lead from Teesdale Academy, and Mrs Rayner, from Hummersknott Academy, they spoke with the children starting at their respective schools in September and the children found these visits very useful. It also helped the pupils to understand that it is quite normal to feel anxious about starting secondary school! All of our Year 6 pupils now have their transition days booked (see diary dates) where they will spend two or three full days getting to know their new schools.

St Mary's Church Leap of Faith

Well done to everyone who abseiled down the church tower at St Mary's Church last weekend! This raised over £500 for the church. Mrs Gallagher enjoyed the view from the top and the trip down and well done to Georgia, Toby, Joe and our very own Gainford Bear who also took part! I'm sure you spotted this event in the Teesdale Mercury.



Gainfest

Don't forget this fabulous event is on the village green from 1.30pm on Saturday June 22nd. Everyone welcome! The fancy dress theme is Heroes ...but remember not every hero wears a cape!

Supporting our Special Needs Pupils

Here at Gainford Primary we pride ourselves on being a very inclusive school, ensuring that every single pupil has access to our exciting curriculum which we adapt where necessary. Our staff all work very hard to meet the needs of all pupils. We have a high percentage of special needs pupils and have earned a reputation as a school that offers excellent support, not only for our pupils but for their families as well. Being Inclusive is one of our Core Christian Values and it is wonderful to see the pupils demonstrating how inclusive they are.

I must mention Miss Farley this week, who as well as being our Early Years Lead is also our school's SENDCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator). This is a very tricky post and Miss Farley works tirelessly supporting staff to ensure that the needs of all of our SEN pupils are met. This includes applying for funding to help us support our pupils and reviewing our SEN pupils support plans with staff. It also includes lots and lots of very boring paper work! I know because I passed this job onto her! So Headteacher's award for Miss Farley this week too!

Have a lovely weekend

C Riley



'Together we love, learn and flourish'

Rights Respecting - the Rights of the Child

Article 28: Every child has a right to an education.

The children have been learning about the right to an education. Our Year 6 pupils have attended their Leavers' Service giving thanks for all who have supported them throughout their primary education.

Our pupils have learnt that not all children in the world have access to an education and the impact that conflict and wars can have on a child's education.

Attendance w/e 14.06.2024

Our Minimum Target is 96%

Well done to all classes who have achieved attendance above our minimum target.

A special well done to **Class Wear** for attendance that was the best out of the entire school.

Class	Attendance %
Swale	93.75
Wear	94.28
Tees	91.66

Gold Headteacher Awards

Each week in our Celebration Worship assembly Gold Headteacher's awards are presented to some children who have excelled when working towards our theme of the week. The theme this week was for **Maths**

Class Swale	Angus, Lennie, Florrie B
Class Wear	Phoebe Ada
Class Tees	Elizabeth Ryan A

Diary Dates

Please see our Diary dates for the remainder of the academic year at the end of this newsletter.

Extra-Curricular Clubs (3.30pm-4.30pm)

Multisport – Tuesdays 3.30pm -4.30pm
Mini Disciples – Wednesdays 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)-Our Parents Action Group

If you are keen to support our school and learn more about FoGS please contact school or drop FoGS an email gainfordfogs@gmail.com

HOUSEPOINTS/DOJO points

Well done for all the hard work and effort in school this week! The Dojo points have been totalled up and this week **Sycamore** have come out on top. Well done! Who will win the house-point trophy at the end of the year? It's a close-run race at the moment!

OAK 271

WILLOW 243

SYCAMORE 261



Diary Dates – Whole School

Weekly

Tuesdays	Multi Sports 3.30pm-4.30pm	Y1 - 6	7 Sessions – Summer Term 2
Wednesdays	Mini Disciples 3.30pm-4.30pm	Class Wear & Class Tees	7 Sessions – Summer Term 2

Events

26/06/2024 to 28/06/2024 incl	Hummersknott Transition	Y6	
27/06/2024 to 28/06/2024 incl	Wyvern Academy Transition	Y6	
27/06/2024	Games Night & Raffle Draw	All families welcome	3.30-5.00pm
28/06/2024	South Shields Trip	Class Swale & Wear	During School Hours
01/07/2024	Thanksgiving church service lead by Church for Mrs Kidd and Mrs Riley	All welcome	9.10am at St Mary's Church Gainford
10/07/2024 to 11/07/2024 incl	Staindrop Transition	Y6	
11/07/2024 to 12/07/2024 incl	Teesdale School Transition	Y6	
17/07/2024	Key Stage 2 Production	All welcome	1.30pm & 6.00pm
18/07/2024	Sports Day	All welcome	1.30pm at community field
19/07/2024	Colour Run	Whole School	
22/07/2024	Year 6 Leavers Service	All welcome	9.10am St Mary's Church, Gainford
23/07/2024	Break up for Summer		

School holidays for the 2023/24 academic year

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-opens
Summer 2024	Tuesday 23 July 2024	Thursday 5 September 2024



School holidays for the 2024/25 academic year

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-opens
Summer 2024	Tuesday 23 July 2024	Thursday 5 September 2024
Autumn half-term 2024	Friday 25 October 2024	Monday 4 November 2024
Christmas 2024	Friday 20 December 2024	Tuesday 7 January 2025
Spring half-term 2025	Friday 21 February 2025	Monday 3 March 2025
Easter 2025	Friday 11 April 2025	Monday 28 April 2025
May Day 2025	Friday 2 May 2025	Tuesday 6 May 2025
Summer half-term 2025	Friday 23 May 2025	Monday 2 June 2025
Summer 2025	Friday 18 July 2025	TBC

CPD Days (School Closed)

September 4th 2024

January 6th 2025