

Gunthorpe C of E Primary

March

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a great first week back at school, even enjoying some sunshine at times. The children are desperate to get back on the field, the grass has been cut, we just need a few dry days and Summer won't feel too far off! We welcome 2 new friends to our pre-school this half term, Maisie and Jackson. We hope you will enjoy Gunthorpe. I have seen the children in Infant 1 being so welcoming already.

Speaking of Infant 1, we owe a big thank you to the FOGS families (and friends!) and Mr Brewster and Mrs Findlay for their hard work over half term. They showed many of our school values (Service, Friendship and no doubt determination!) working together to improve the Infant 1 playground. Replacing wood and painting the fence, re-felting the storage, removing some broken equipment from our climbing frame and having a general clear out. It really is appreciated. If you feel you could volunteer some time or resources please speak to myself or FOGS as we plan to have another session in the future. All of this helps to raise the profile of the school that we all care about so much. I have flyers for the school, if you would like to share information about us in the local area, any help with promotion is helpful.

Finally, here is a picture of us at Young Voices in Sheffield last month. What a day it was, singing our hearts out with 4000 other children. I had a great time and I know the children did too. Same time next year?!

Take care Mrs Brown



Easter Celebrations

We would like to invite families to our Easter service, on Thursday 3rd April at 2.15pm in the school hall. We will also be joined by Rev Anna and of course we will be singing with our usual level of volume! We would also like to give children the opportunity to have an egg decorating competition and an Easter bonnet parade. Children should have their entries in school on the morning of the 3rd April so that we can display them all during the service. In addition, Pupil Parliament are asking for donations of Easter Eggs, Easter craft kits, themed sweets etc that they can sell raffle tickets for. After the success of last year, the children would like to sell the raffle tickets on the playground straight after school for a couple of nights during the week leading up to the Easter service and then we can pick out the lucky winners on the 3rd. Please send in donations to the office so we can see how many prizes have been donated. I have given Pupil Parliament the task of deciding what a fair price is for the tickets, so we will let you know next week!

Poetry Competition

We have now started our annual poetry competition preparation and all the children have now chosen the poem they would like to perform to their class. We ask that children practise performing this at home and we will also give time to this in school. Class judging will take place during the week comm. 17th March. We will then have Gunthorpe group winners who will perform in front of their parents, the whole school and the judging committee (2 Governors and a member of Aspire) on Friday 28th March. This year all Aspire schools will be taking part in a grand final. The children who win the Gunthorpe finals will represent our school and this will take place on Wednesday 2nd April, venue TBC.



FOGS (Friends of Gunthorpe School)

FOGS will be supporting the school for World Book Day, which takes place this year on Thurs 6th March. There will be a pre-loved book sale (adults and children's books available) and also a tombola. This will take place after school on World Book Day. Either in the hall or on the playground, depending on the weather. Please also be aware that the next FOGS meeting is planned for Thurs 20th March at 9am, in the school hall. As always, everyone is welcome.

We will also be holding a 'Break The Rules Day' at the end of the Spring Term, on Friday 4th April. FOGS will send us the rules that are to be broken and as is usual, parents make payments for the rules the children would like to break via Parentpay.

School Dinners

We have been informed by Nottinghamshire County Council that the cost of school dinners will be increasing from 1st April. A school dinner will cost £3.16 for all Juniors who are not in receipt of a free school meal. Infants will continue to have Universal Free School Meals. In other news, Becs, our amazing cook achieved the highest food hygiene grading of 5 stars this week. Well done!

World Book Day

A reminder that all children are invited to join us on Thurs 6th March for a day of fun, quizzing and sharing a general love of books. All children will receive a token that will enable them to receive a brand new World Book Day text, free of charge. We have once again worked with Lowdham Bookcase to supply these books for the children. Our theme for dressing up this year is *animals and fantastical creatures* from books. Will Elmer the elephant make an appearance, perhaps we will see a Gruffalo or one of the many creatures in the Jungle book. The children have shared many ideas with us already and we can't wait to see their ideas on the 6th March.



Awards and Achievements Assembly

We have another assembly to celebrate all the wonderful things our children do out of school. This is scheduled for Wed 19th March at 9am in the school hall. Parents are more than welcome to attend. Please send in any certificates/medals/trophies etc by Tues 18th so I can collate all the different awards that have been presented to the children. This should be anything they have achieved from November 2024 onwards. I realise that some children may have lots to celebrate but we do ask that they just choose 1 thing so that we have the time to give to all the children who have sent in achievements. Don't worry if your child doesn't have anything this time, it isn't compulsory, just a chance to share in each other's good news!

E-Safety Consultation

I have updated our e-safety policy and this is now available to view on the school website, in the policies section. Please take note of the acceptable use codes of conduct outlined in the policy, which apply to all users of the school's IT systems and internet, including both children and adults.

If you have any comments or questions regarding this, please contact the school office by Friday, 14th March. After this date, it will be assumed that you agree to adhere to the standards outlined in the policy.

Attendance News

A big thank you from myself and the Governors for your continued support with attendance. It really does make a difference when your child attends school regularly, even on those days where they feel under the weather. We will always contact you if they deteriorate and appreciate you working with us. I know lots of families are avoiding holidays in term time too and again, for this we thank you. Attendance currently stands at 96.5%.





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring term

- 5th March - After school Athletics (Yr 3-4)
- 6th March - World Book Day, inc an after school book sale and tombola
- 11th March - Year 5/6 Body Image workshop
- 12th March - Listen Up Conference (Worship and Wellbeing Team)
- 19th March - Achievement and Awards Assembly @ 9am
- 20th March - PSHE specialist workshops (all classes)
- 20th March - FOGS Meeting 9am in school hall
- 21st March - Comic Relief
- 24th March - Parents Evening (3.30-5.30) All classes
- 25th March - Parents Evening (4-6) Infant 1 Junior 1&2
- 26th March - Parents Evening (4-6) Infant 2
- 26th March - After school Rugby Festival (Yr 1-4)
- 28th March - Poetry Final - Gunthorpe
- 31st March - Year 5/6 - self esteem workshop
- 31st March - Rock Steady Easter Concert @ 2.15pm
- 3rd April - Easter Service (2.30pm in the hall)
- 4th April - Break the Rules Day
- 4th April - Break up for Easter
- 22nd April - Return to school

Summer Term

- 5th May - Bank Holiday
- 12th-15th May - Year 6 SATs week
- 9th-13th June - Year 4 Multiplication Check Week
- 20th June - Little Lifesavers Year 5/6
- 25th-26th June J1 Residential
- 27th June - INSET Day
- 1st July - Year 6 Transition to Secondary workshop
- 10th July - Junior Production (Time TBC)
- 14th-18th July - J2 Activity Week
- 15th July - Sports Day
- 17th July - Wheelchair Basketball - whole school
- 17th July - Leavers BBQ (After school Time TBC)
- 24th July - Year 6 Leavers Service (Time TBC)
- 28th/29th July - INSET Days

Next academic year 2025-2026

- 2nd Sept 2025 - INSET Day
 - 3rd Nov 2025 - INSET Day
 - 3rd July 2026 - INSET Day
 - 27th July 2026 - INSET Day
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