October Newsletter

Gunthorpe C of E Primary School

DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS,

Welcome to October and the start of a more Autumnal feel! We are lucky to still be playing on the field most days but please do send children with a coat as it can be quite chilly in the mornings.

A reminder that it is our Harvest Festival next Tuesday (6th October) at 2.30pm in the school hall. We will once again be supporting a local charity, The Friary. Donations of dried or tinned foods and toiletries are particularly useful.

As a smoke-free and vape-free site, we kindly ask that cigarettes and vapes are not used on school grounds. We have also noticed that some vapes are visible during drop-off and pick-up times. As a school, we are committed to promoting healthy choices and positive role modelling for our children, so we would be grateful if vapes could be kept out of sight whilst on the playground. Thank you for your support with this matter.

A quick reminder that parents evening takes place for all classes in the last week of term. Time slots are available to book on Arbor, if you have not done so already. We look forward to seeing you on either Monday 12th or Tues 13th of October. Each slot is 10 mins. If you feel you need longer with a class teacher, please speak to them separately and we can allocate an alternative time.

Take care

Mrs Brown

WELLBEING WEEK

At Gunthorpe we pride ourselves on nurturing the whole child and as part of this we take wellbeing very seriously. Following the success of last years 'wellbeing week' we will once again be taking the opportunity to celebrate being mentally healthy. Our wellbeing week will take place in the last week before half term, the week comm Oct 12th. We will be talking to the children about ways of positively affecting our mental health, from sport and exercise to music and art. The week will include different activities for the children to take part in. As part of our sessions, the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) will also deliver an activity with each class and share an assembly with us.

FOGS UPDATE

Friends of Gunthorpe School (FOGS) met in early September to discuss the year ahead. Thank you for all your support at the Leaver's picnic and with the Summer raffle we are pleased to say the raffle, tatoos and hook duck activities made a profit of £1212 towards this year. Following our AGM It has been agreed that the coach for the Panto (Aladdin at Newark Palace theatre) and Wheelchair basketball (summer term for all children) will be supported by fogs. In addition, each class will have £500 each towards trips, activities and experiences to enjoy, which is very exciting for the year ahead!!

Our next fundraiser will be a Christmas raffle, where each class will be taxed with a theme to collect prizes for. We will share this later in the term.

Please remember you are all members of FOGS and any ideas, contributions you have will be warmly welcomed. To contact them please email gunthorpefogs@yahoo.com

OPEN DAY 2026

We will be holding 2 open days this year, one on Friday 6th November between 10am and 11.30am and another evening session on Tuesday 10th November between 5pm-6pm. If you know someone who has a child starting school next academic year (Sept 2027), be sure to tell them how lovely our little school is! They can ring the school office to book in. The Local Authority would also like us to remind parents that applications for children starting school Sept 2027 are open from 2nd Nov 2026 to 15th Jan 2027. We have also created a flyer for social media, please help to spread the word by sharing it on Instagram and Facebook

A MESSAGE FROM THE TRUST

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to let you know that following the merger, the formal change of our Trust's name has now been approved. The Trust will now be known as Aspire & Shine Education Trust (ASET). The new name reflects the bringing together of Aspire and Shine and represents our shared identity and future as one Trust of 15 primary schools.

This is a change to the Trust's name only. It does not change your child's school name, individual identity or ethos, and there will be no change to the day-to-day education and care your child receives.

Over the coming weeks, you will begin to see the Aspire & Shine Education Trust name appearing on school websites, letters and other documents as these are gradually updated.

We are proud of the individual character of every school within our Trust, while valuing the strength, support and opportunities that come from working together.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kate Watson
Chief Executive Officer

GIVE US A FOLLOW!

Stay connected with school life by following us on social media. We are excited to launch our new Instagram page alongside our existing Facebook page, where we share news, celebrations and important updates.

Instagram: @gunthorpecofeschoolandnursery
Facebook: Gunthorpe CofE Primary School

PUPIL PARLIAMENT

Children have been busy voting in all the classes for this year's members of Gunthorpe Parliament. This year our school will be represented by Cole, Lewis, Pippa, Elliott, Tilda, Isaiah, Dexter and Tiger Lilly. Well done to all of you and I look forward to our first meeting next week.

Children have also put their names down to be part of other clubs, including Eco club and the Worship and Wellbeing Team.

ATTENDANCE

A reminder that attendance is high on the Department for Education's agenda. Holidays in term time will now not be authorised and there are rules around how many days unauthorised will trigger a fine from the local authority. I have to stress that this is not something the school can influence. We have to report this to the LA and they manage the fines, with the money staying within the authority. Currently, Gunthorpe's attendance sits at 97.9%, which is above the national average. Well done to all our families, a big thank you from all of us.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Autumn Term

Tues 6th Oct - School photos
Tues 6th Oct - Harvest Festival in the school hall @ 2.30pm
Tues 6th Oct - Toot Hill drop in session for Yr 6 parents straight after school
Mon 12th Oct-15th - Oct Wellbeing week
Mon 12th Oct - Parents Evening
Mon 12th Oct - Football Tournament Yr5/6 (after school) @ SNA
Tues 13th Oct MHST - Wellbeing Workshops for all children
Tues 13th Oct - Parents Evening
Fri 16th Oct - INSET Day
Mon 2nd Nov - Children return to school
Thurs 5th Nov - Flu vaccines
Fri 6th Nov - Open morning 10am-11.30am
Tues 10th Nov - Open evening 5pm-6pm
Wed 11th Nov - Remembrance in Collective Worship
Fri 13th Nov - Children in Need
Mon 16th Nov - Odd sock day (Anti Bullying week)
Tues 1st Dec - Start of Alternative Advent
Fri 4th Dec - Village Lantern walk
Tues 8th Dec - Christmas Dinner
Wed 9th Dec - Infant Nativity
Thurs 10th Dec - Senior Singalong
Mon 14th Dec - Panto @ Newark Palace Theatre
Wed 16th Dec - KS2 Christmas Production
Thurs 17th Dec - Party Afternoon
Fri 18th Dec - Last day of term

Spring Term

Mon 4th - Back to school
Wed 13th Jan - Rec/Yr 6 Heights and Weights @10.30am
Fri 15th Jan - Bikeability for Yr 3/4
Mon 18th Jan - MHST sleep workshop for Yr 5/6
Fri 12th Feb - Last day of term
Mon 22nd Feb - Back to school
Fri 26th Feb - Young Voices @ Sheffield Arena
Thurs 25th March - Last day of term

Summer Term

Mon 12th April - Back to school
Mon 10th May-Thurs 13th May - Year 6 SATS week
Fri 28th May - Last day of term
Mon 7th June - Back to school
Fri 23rd July - Last day of term
Mon 25th/Tues 26th/Wed 27th July - Inset Days