



George Washington Primary School

Friday News

12th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a great first week back at school! It was lovely to welcome everyone into the new year at GWPS on Monday and there has been lots of brilliant work.

Reception Admissions – If you have a child due to start school this coming September, the deadline for school applications is Monday 15th January. Applications are dealt with by Sunderland City Council. Please click on the link below to access the admissions application form.

<https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/schools-admissions-infant-junior-primary>

Reading Books – Children will begin to bring home their new school reading book over the next few days. We have carried out an audit of home reading books over the last week and it appears that we are still waiting for a lot of reading books to be returned from before Christmas. Please check at home to see if you have any reading books that your child was given last term and hand them to a member of staff asap. We would appreciate your support with this and would ask that reading books are returned to school every week, otherwise our book stocks become depleted which makes it extremely difficult for us to carry out group reading in school as part of our Little Wandle phonics and reading program.

Year 6 Parents' SATs Information Event As stated on the key dates sent out in September and listed in the newsletter before Christmas, we have a Y6 SATs information evening on Thursday 18th January at 5pm. We want as many parents as possible to be able to attend this event so have decided to run it twice on the same day – as well as at 5pm, we will have the same event at 2:15pm. We envisage this earlier running will take us up to near the end of the school day for collection time. At this event, we will explain the itinerary for SATs week, look at some past papers and give advice to enable you to help and support your child at home. If you cannot make it along, please contact Miss Allen or Miss Walters. Both the earlier and later event will be held in the school hall – please come to the school office to sign in.

INSET Day This academic year we have one staff training day which is next Friday, 19th January. School will be closed to children on this day, re-opening on Monday 22nd January.

Benefit Support On Monday 29th January, from 9am to 11:30am, Dave Barker from Together for Children will be in school offering 15-minute appointments for parents/carers with benefit advice and support. He can advise on benefits including Universal Credit, Child Disability Benefits, Personal Independence Payments, Child Benefits and any other government benefits. Moreover, he can support with advice and applications for all of these. If this is something that may be of use to you, please contact the school office to book an appointment.

School Meals - The school meals service is holding "A Taste of Italy" promotional day on Thursday 18th January. The menu choices are listed below:

Colosseum Chicken Alfredo with garlic bread and Pantheon garden peas
Pompeii Spaghetti & Meatballs with garlic bread and Pantheon garden peas
Leaning Tower of Margherita Pizza with potato wedges and Bella baked beans
Followed by Ciao Chocolate Brownie or Florence fruit salad

We would encourage all children to have a school meal on the day. If your child does not normally have school dinners, then please let the school office know in advance if they'd like to be part of the promotional day so that the kitchen has accurate numbers. As well as spot prizes in school on the day, some children will be entered into a prize draw to win one of a selection of £20 Amazon vouchers.

Dancing Superstar In December, Leila in Y3 attended her Christmas showcase and managed to come away with two titles on the night, including 7 and over ballerina of the year – what a fantastic achievement. As well as the two titles, Leila's teachers commented that she was one of the 'most helpful and considerate pupils' and 'helped to boost the confidence of younger children.' We are very proud of you, Leila.



Forest School Forest School sessions will resume at the earliest during the week beginning 22nd January depending upon the conditions outside. Keep an eye on the newsletter for more details about dates.

Children will need to wear appropriate clothing for forest school. They must have long trousers, a long-sleeved top and sturdy trainers or shoes. Wellies are a great option. When the weather is cold, children will need to have coats that they can wear on our forest school site. **If children do not have the appropriate clothing (including shoes to change into) they will not be able to take part in the forest school session.**

PE Days Please find below updated PE days for this half term. On their PE days, children should come into school in PE kit for the full day. School PE kit is a white T-shirt with dark coloured shorts or trousers. **Football kits or similar clothing should not be worn.**

Year Group	PE Day	Swimming Day
Reception	Wednesday	
Year 1	Thursday	
Year 2	Tuesday	
Year 3	Wednesday	
Year 4	Tuesday	4CL – Thursday 4JP - Friday
Year 5	Thursday	Wednesday
Year 6	Monday	

Have a great weekend everyone.

R. Knight

Mr R Knight
Head of School

Class	Star of the Week
RMS	Ollie Quinn
RLM	Dexie Jones
1NM	Evie Lopez
1LM	Reggie Turns
2KH	Tommy Hudson
2NM	Freddy Norman
3WA	Kate Forster
3AW	Wilf Robinson
4JP	Isaac Chukwu
4CL	Jaxson McGuinness
5CW	Mason Shannon
5BG	Zak Malloy
6EA	Cameron Donnachie
6GW	Korben Anderson