



Gonerby Hill Foot Church of England Primary School

Gonerby Hill Foot, Grantham, Lincs NG31 8HQ

Tel: 01476 565800

Headteacher Mrs Jayne Watson



Email: enquiries@gonerbyhillfoot.lincs.sch.uk

Website: www.gonerbyhillfoot.co.uk

Newsletter 27th November 2020

I am proud to say that we have survived another lockdown, another closed bubble and our kitchens being closed with such resilience and determination from the whole school community. Not only have we survived, but we have flourished – continuing to develop new ways of doing almost everything. Today is our first party day and I have dropped into some of the parties this afternoon before writing to you. It is always wonderful to hear children laughing and playing and enjoying themselves and I have to reflect that despite the challenges of being open during a pandemic there are many benefits to working in this wonderful building and spending time with these wonderful children and adults every day.



Five ways to wellbeing

As we move into December and Tier 3, preparing for Christmas we need to remember to look after our own Wellbeing so we can continue to support those around us. I hope your child enjoys the next three weeks as we complete Christmas activities and celebrations and that you feel at least a little bit involved through class stories and the things the children will bring home. We will be supporting Save the Children this term.

Mrs J Watson
Headteacher

Forgiveness

Our value this term is forgiveness, we have looked at Bible stories including the Prodigal son and The Unmerciful Servant. We have been looking at how we can use these stories to inform how we live our lives day today thinking about forgiveness as a gift that makes us feel better as well as mending relationships with others.

Birthdays

We are aware that many children are not able to celebrate their birthday in the way they normally would with friends and games and parties, so we have decided as a school to hold a birthday party on the last Friday of each month in the classroom starting 27th November. This week we will include everyone who has had a birthday this academic year and moving forward anyone in that particular month. The party will include games and activities and singing Happy Birthday. I hope your child will enjoy the experience.

Christmas

I am sure you appreciate that things will be different this year. The children will be making cards and calendars in class as normal and we will be watching a digital pantomime sometime in the week 14th December. We will support Save the Children with a Christmas Jumper day on the 11th December and will ask for a ParentMail donation of £2 please.

The children will be making a Christmas decoration for you to buy to support the FSA. I am sure many of you are aware of this small group of parents who work tirelessly to raise funds for school across the year with discos, fayres and other events to enable us to enhance the curriculum for your child. We will be asking that you buy the decoration for a ParentMail donation of £2. Each year group will make a different style so that over the years you can create a collection of memories whilst supporting your child's education.

We will be holding a Christingle making event at some point before the holidays and will also be joining a virtual carol service for schools at Lincoln Cathedral.

I am sure you will agree that Christmas would not be the same without hearing children singing and to enable this to happen in a COVID safe way we have decided to have outdoor carol concerts over several afternoons. You will receive further information, but for those of you who need to try and arrange time to be here the dates are 2:45pm –
McKee and Carle Dec 11th
Lewis, Carroll and Defoe Dec 14th
Blyton and Dahl Dec 15th
King Smith and Ahlberg Dec 16th
Potter and Sendak Dec 17th.

Christmas Party

To end this term we will have a party day on 17th December, this will also be a time when we celebrate and December birthdays. It isn't possible to offer a full Christmas dinner this year so instead the kitchen will be making a Christmas Buffet which the children will eat in the classroom. If your child would like the Christmas Buffet, please order the meal in the usual way on ParentMail - there will be no other choice for lunch on that day. If your child would rather have a packed lunch from home then they will eat it in the classroom at the same time as everyone who has ordered the buffet. Please remember that we are a nut free school and any food brought from home must not contain nuts. We have a number of children with severe nut allergies.

Bible Club

Mr Buckeridge, our Chair of Governors, used to come into school to lead a Bible Club last academic year. As he is unable to run a club across the whole school at the moment he has decided to offer a remote 'postal' club for the children.

The plan would be for children who sign up, to be given an envelope on a Monday, which had been isolated over the weekend. At home, the children would watch a little video which would help them understand the story, accessed via a channel on Youtube. The children would then complete the activities in the envelope and put in a post box in the school entrance to be collected the following Friday. As they complete the lessons each week they would gain points which would lead to a reward with a little prize at the end of the half term.

We have shown the clip below to the children and asked them to let their teachers know if they want to join and I thought it would be nice to let you know also. If your child is interested they can tell their teacher or you can let me know via the school office.

<https://youtu.be/AsNI-e0X8aw>

Primary School applications

If you have a child born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 they will be due to start primary school in September 2021. Applications can be made online <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/apply-school-place> from 16th November 2020 until 12 noon 15th January 2021. Offers will be available on the 16th April 2021. As we are unable to offer tours of the school this year, please contact the school office if you would like to attend a virtual meeting 14th December at 5pm.

COVID-19

The main coronavirus symptoms:

a high temperature

a new, continuous cough

the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell

If your child develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms described above, they must stay at home and arrange to be tested. *Please also inform school about the test and update us once the results are known.*

If your child is being tested, the rest of the household must self-isolate whilst you await the results of the test, but the rest of the household do not need to arrange their own test unless they are also displaying symptoms.

If your child feels unwell with a sore throat, stomach upset or a headache. These pupils don't need to book a test but may need to stay at home and seek medical advice through their GP or pharmacist as usual. Please continue to report any pupil absence to the school office on 01476 565800

Parking and Road Safety

We are still receiving a number of complaints about inconsiderate and often dangerous parking outside school and on the surrounding roads. Please note that we pass on complaints to the PCSO who follows them up. In the interest of safety, please think carefully about how and where you park at pick up and drop off times.

Key Dates For Your Diaries

November 2020

Friday 30th Birthday celebration

December 2020

Friday 11th Christmas Jumper Day to support Save the Children

Friday 11th McKee & Carle carol singing

Monday 14th Lewis, Carroll & Defoe carol singing

Tuesday 15th Blyton & Dahl carol singing

Wednesday 16th King Smith & Ahlberg carol singing

Thursday 17th Potter & Sendak carol singing

Thursday 17th End of term for pupils

Friday 18th Staff training day

January 2021 Happy New Year

Monday 4th Back to school

You can find all our term dates for the 2020/21 and 2021/22 academic year on our website

As we are heading into the colder weather there is always the chance of snow. In the event that school has to close because of bad weather, we will contact you by ParentMail, please make sure the school office has your up to date contact details. BBC Radio Lincolnshire will also announce school closures due to bad weather and you can tune in on 94.9FM, 104.7FM or Digital radio