



GONERBY HILL FOOT

EASTER NEWSLETTER

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

RETURN TO SCHOOL
MON 19TH APRIL

PARENTS EVENING
27TH APRIL 5-7:30PM
28TH APRIL 3:30 - 6PM

SPORTS CLUBS

SPORTS DAY
KS2 6TH JULY 1PM
EYFS & KS1 7TH JULY
1PM

LEAVERS SERVICE ST
SEBASTIAN'S 21ST
JULY

LEAVERS DISCO AND
BBQ 15TH JULY
5.30-7.30

The sun is shining, the weather is warming up and the nights are lighter. A great time to take a break from school and the routines and hopefully enjoy socially distanced connection with family and friends, a chance to have a picnic in the park and relax.

Although Covid remains close, with cases in and around our community, which means we need to remain vigilant and cautious, I hope you will find some time to reconnect and restore.

This term has been another challenge and I have been in awe of the amazing resilience and ingenuity of staff and parents as we have worked together to ensure our children continue to flourish. Since everyone returned we have celebrated the chance to be together and get ready for an amazing summer term.

Enjoy the holidays, there is a Egg Hunt organised by the FSA, see Dojo, as well as an Easter Day Service at St Sebastian's at 11.00am on Sunday 4th April.

As we have celebrated Easter in school we have focused on remembering and how Jesus promised to remember us all, we have also looked at forgiveness and the importance of the Easter message in our everyday lives as we live and work together.

I look forward to welcoming you all back into the summer term on the 19th April so that we can continue to learn and flourish together.

Don't
shine so
others can
see you,
shine so
that through
you others
can see Him.
-C.S. Lewis

Vision and Values

Across next term we will be looking at the vision and values we have at GHF and working on our curriculum to make sure that we continue to offer the children the very best experiences and learning opportunities, giving everyone chance to be the best they can be. I will be asking for parents to help with this, please watch out for further information.

I feel full of optimism and hope that we will have a summer fayre, our school will be open for sporting events and even an end of year musical.



Y1&2

We were thrilled to return back to school on 8th March after having 2 months at home. The children and families engaged in their home learning so well but there was no better feeling than coming back together again and hearing children laugh and play together. The children have settled in brilliantly and we have worked on reconnecting with each other as well as getting back on with learning.

We have been working hard learning about story writing, fractions, food chains, special religious books and different weather patterns across the United Kingdom as well as different places in the world. We are so proud with how much the children have learnt, they even became weather forecasters for the afternoon and had an exciting Teddy Bear's Picnic!

In the middle of all our learning, we celebrated some special days including dressing up as heroes for Comic Relief and wearing purple for epilepsy awareness. What has astounded the adults in school and filled us with pride, is how resilient our children are and how happy they are to share their ideas and experiences. Whether our learning has been about Islam, weather patterns in other countries or epilepsy awareness, there seems to be an expert amongst our children somewhere who is keen to tell us what they know and speak about it so articulately. You are amazing Key Stage 1!



EYFS

The children settled back into school and their class routines very quickly. It was lovely to see everyone back with their friends, playing together and sharing experiences. As the Spring began to blossom around us, we enjoyed looking closely at the wonderful world around us. Whilst visiting our school nature area, we were excited to find huge clusters of frogspawn floating on the surface of the pond. We collected some of the frogspawn to observe closely in the classroom. We were thrilled to watch tadpoles hatching from their eggs. We then decided that it would be best to return the remaining frogspawn to their natural habitat so that the life cycle may continue.

As Easter approached, we have enjoyed learning all about Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter day. The children enjoyed making an Easter garden, Palm crosses and Easter cards and we are very excited for our Easter egg hunt kindly organised by the FSA on the last day of term. Happy Easter from us all.



Message from Mr Buckeridge

As we draw near to Easter, I have been struck once again at how confusing the first Easter was for Jesus' disciples. All the hopes they had, seemed to have been dashed. The whole time had been an emotional rollercoaster. I love how Jesus greets them the first time He meets them as a group: 'Peace, be unto you'. One of those disciples would later pen these words, 'casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you; Peter had learned that, in the risen Jesus, he had a friend who was strong enough to carry his worries, and who cared enough to do so.

This has been another difficult term to cap a turbulent twelve months. I would like to thank the staff once again for their tireless efforts to make remote learning as effective as possible. After a year of seeing them go above and beyond - and beyond again - we can but express our gratitude and hope they understand how deeply this is felt. We also recognize that there has been an incredible burden on parents and so would thank you for your active participation in ensuring your children continued to make progress despite the circumstances.

I hope that you will be refreshed over the holidays and ready for a new term of (hopefully) minimal disruptions. Have a great break - you all deserve it!

Serving our Community

Red Nose Day fun! Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute to our Hero Celebration day.

Including the sale of our Red Noses we raised £724 which will be donated to Comic Relief.



Year 3&4

We have been mightily impressed with how well the Y3/4 children have moved from their home learning back to school learning. They are so keen to learn! Our first week back involved us getting very messy with collage. We researched different water-based pieces of art and practised skills such as scrunching, twisting, curling, quilling and fringing. After deciding what mood we wanted to create, we put all our learning together to make some absolute masterpieces which are now proudly displayed along the corridors.

Throughout this week and continuing right up to the Easter holidays, we have been concentrating on team work, building our resilience, increasing our stamina when concentrating and celebrating all the 'Actions to Happiness' we have achieved. Red Nose Day was a right laugh! With riddles, jokes and some wild and wacky costumes we shared lots of giggles and raised lots of money for a brilliant cause. We also very much enjoyed Purple day where we learnt lots about epilepsy.

A number of our Y4 children are in the process of being trained as Antibullying Ambassadors.

They have already taking part in training and are looking forward to earning their badges!

With their help, we can continue to ensure that our school community (both within the school building and online) continues to remain a safe and happy place to be.



Covid Updates

As we go into the holiday the government have asked that any positive tests of pupils where symptoms started within 48hrs of being at school are reported to me so that I can inform contacts to isolate. The government continues to state that lateral flow tests are for families and bubble members to pick up asymptomatic people and anyone with symptoms needs a PCR test.

Currently positive Lateral flow tests are being confirmed with a PCR test. Please remain vigilant to the stay safe guidance as you enjoy the holiday. The best way to contact me during the holidays is via dojo.

Summer Uniform

Should your child wish to wear summer uniform after the holidays they are welcome to do so, PE kit will continue to be worn on relevant days, these are not changing after Easter.

Y5&6

What a busy three weeks we have had! During our first week back, the year 5 and 6 children immersed themselves in Art's week – Mood in the Landscape. They experimented with different collaging techniques and learnt how to apply oil paints to give texture to their final piece. All the while considering the mood of their painting through colour choices. In the end they all produced the most fantastic volcanic landscapes. Continuing with the creative theme, the children all had the opportunity to construct 3D volcanoes using paper mâché (Thank you to all the parents who sent in bottles, card and newspaper). The grand finale was the eruption of 8 superbly made volcanoes using a mixture of vinegar and bicarbonate of soda.



As well as enjoying a range of fun and creative activities, the children have been working really hard completing a range of assessments. We have analysed the papers to find out where we need to focus our learning next term. The children will also be receiving some extra sessions to boost their learning. Finally, we have introduced the children to our end of year performance. Without giving too much away, they are super excited. We will be carrying out auditions the first week back. All children should now have brought a booklet of song words home to practise.

Dojo Communications

I am sure you will all agree with me that Dojo has been an amazing asset to our communications, particularly during periods of lockdown and times when messages needed to be shared quickly and confidentially. I have become aware that teachers are receiving increasing numbers of messages at weekends and evenings. To ensure their wellbeing and work/life balance, I will be initiating a 'No-reply' Policy between the hours of 5pm and 8am and across the weekend. Please note, we are happy for you to send messages outside these hours, as we understand that may be the only time you have to write them, but please do not expect a response. Teachers may send whole class reminders about PE for example but no individual correspondence will be undertaken. If you have an urgent need for a response - eg positive covid test, please send me a message on Dojo and I will continue to monitor the account outside the given hours. I hope you understand the importance of protecting this time for all staff. Thank you for your ongoing support.

