



## Gonerby Hill Foot Church of England Primary School

Gonerby Hill Foot, Grantham, Lincs NG31 8HQ

Tel: 01476 565800 Fax: 01476 569647

Email: [enquiries@gonerbyhillfoot.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@gonerbyhillfoot.lincs.sch.uk)

Website: [www.gonerbyhillfoot.co.uk](http://www.gonerbyhillfoot.co.uk)



# Gonerby Gazette

Welcome to the first newsletter of the school year. We are delighted with how well the children have settled back into school and straightaway showing a super, positive attitude towards their learning. We can see that many of them are determined to meet their goals this year.

We have welcomed our new reception pupils into school, in addition to new pupils in other year groups. We have also welcomed some new staff. Mrs Garland is our new Assistant Head, alongside Mrs Gaylard who has recently returned from maternity leave. Mrs Morris is teaching King-Smith class and Mr Warden and Mr Thompson are our new PE apprentices.

After a successful 2017/18, culminating in [super end of year achievements](#), we are looking forward to an exciting and productive 2018/19 academic year.

## Curriculum Information

The children are already enjoying their new topics. Y3/4 had a super visit to be archaeologists at Flag Fen and Y6 are looking forward to a very active and adventurous residential visit at PGL Caythorpe.

[Flag Fen Visit website article](#) – by Amy and Willow, Year 3

Here are the 'Big Questions' and links to curriculum newsletters for parents with details of what the children will be learning this term.

- Year 5/6 – Upper Key Stage 2 – [Who were the Maya and what can we learn from them?](#)
- Year 3/4 – Lower Key Stage 2 – [Who were the first people to live in Britain?](#)
- Year 1/2 - Key Stage 1 – [What makes Grantham a great place to live?](#)
- [Reception Welcome Letter](#) and [Reception Newsletter](#)

## Learning Journals and Homework

We have already received some super feedback on our new learning journals. They provide a wealth of information about school, along with a record for your child's reading at home and details about weekly home learning tasks. Teachers will also put messages about homework on ClassDojo so please look out for these and ask if you are unsure of anything.

## Mini-Police - By Imogen and Isabelle, Year 6

On Monday 10th September, Year 5 & 6 were visited by a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) to talk about the role of the PCSO and the opportunity to become a Mini PCSO within the school.

The role of the PCSO is to keep the community safe and report on anything unsafe.

If we want to become a Mini PCSO, we need to prepare a speech with that we will read out in front of the Year 4s, 5s and 6s who will choose someone to become a Mini PCSO.

If we get chosen, we will get the opportunity to be on duty during school time so that we can help people and report anything that may be unsafe and we will get lots of different equipment including a coat with a badge, a notebook and a high visibility jacket.

We think that this is a really exciting opportunity and look forward to seeing who is chosen as Mini PCSOs!

### **Parking and Road Safety**

With so many pupils, it is inevitable that there will be difficulties parking at drop off and collection times. For the most part, parents do their best to park safely and courteously. Unfortunately, we have already heard from local residents that this is not the case for everyone and, since the start of the school year, some residents have experienced their driveways and pathways being blocked. In the interests of pupil safety and maintaining good community relationships, we ask that everyone please be considerate when parking.

We have also received a concerning report from a parent that adults have been spotted unsafely crossing the very busy road outside school while pupils are present. On the whole, parents and pupils cross carefully using the pelican crossing. It only takes a few extra seconds and it is important that adults are good role models – especially when a child's life may depend on it.

### **Class Assemblies**

We all look forward to our class assemblies and parents of pupils in the class leading are very welcome to join us. Below are the dates for this term.

- Dahl – 27<sup>th</sup> September
- Defoe – 4<sup>th</sup> October
- Carroll – 11<sup>th</sup> October
- Lewis – 18<sup>th</sup> October
- Potter – 1<sup>st</sup> November
- Sendak – 8<sup>th</sup> November
- Ahlberg – 15<sup>th</sup> November
- Carle – 22<sup>nd</sup> November
- Blyton – 29<sup>th</sup> November
- King-Smith – 6<sup>th</sup> December

Please remember that assemblies start at 9am and taking photographs and video is not allowed.

### **Parent Governor Vacancy – You School Needs You!**

We are looking for a parent or carer to join our governing body. Are you:

- Keen to support the strategic direction of our school?
- Able to spare a couple of hours each half term?
- Interested in working as part of our diverse governor team?

We are particularly keen to hear from parents with experience in either finance, resource or people management or working within the community or education. We have sent out details on ParentMail today but please speak to Mrs Stylianides if you're interested and would like more information.

Nominations must be submitted to the school office by 10am on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

### **School Uniform**

It is lovely to see the children in their lovely smart uniforms at the beginning of the year. Please note that pupils should now be wearing a white shirt and red tie along with a school cardigan or jumper. They can wear trousers, skirts, shorts or pinafores as long as they are grey. Shoes should be black and sensible (no heels or trainers) and boots can only be worn in bad weather.

Please also ensure that your child has a full PE kit and this is in school so your child is well prepared for lessons. All pupils need a PE kit in school every day which consists of: a red T-shirt, red or black shorts, a pair of trainers for outdoors and plimsolls for indoors. Your child will also need a dark tracksuit when the weather gets cooler.

School uniform can be purchased online from Nationwide Uniforms by following the link on our website. It can also be purchased at the office or from Grantham Clothing.

A lot of pupils have returned from the summer holidays wearing earrings. Please remember that jewellery is not allowed. In the case of newly pierced ears, protective tape must be worn to cover the earring for PE and playtimes. After the initial 8 week settling period, earrings should be removed.

### **Mobile Phone Policy**

An increasing number of pupils own mobile phones but, particularly in the interests of safeguarding pupils, we would generally discourage them bringing mobile phones to school. However, we do appreciate that some parents may wish their child to bring a mobile phone to school if they walk to and from school without adult supervision. If this is the case, we have strict procedures and permissions in place. Please take time to read [our policy](#) on using mobile phones in school.

### **Important Diary Dates**

- KS2 Harvest Festival – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 9:30am at St. Seb’s Church
- Infant Harvest Festival – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September, 9:15am in school
- Y6 Caythorpe PGL Residential - Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September
- Y5 start Bikeability (4 days) – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September
- Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September
- Y2 Visit to Wyndham Park and Circus - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September
- Grandparents’ Day Lunch – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October
- Individual Photos - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October
- School Nursing Team in for Flu Vaccinations (Rec to Y5) – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October
- Book Fair starts – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October
- Parents’ Evenings – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October
- Break up for half term – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October
- Staff InSET Day – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018
- Pupils return to school on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October
- Children in Need Day – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November
- Choir for Christmas Performance at Walton School – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November
- FSA Discos – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December
- Reception and KS1 Christmas performances – PM 12th and AM 13th December
- Infant Pantomime Visit – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December
- Christmas Fair – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December
- KS2 Christmas Service – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 11am at St. Seb’s Church
- Infant Christmas Service – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 9:15am in school
- KS2 Christmas Sing-along - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm in school

You can find all our term dates for the 2018/19 academic year on our website via this link:

<https://www.gonerbyhillfoot.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1445&type=pdf>