



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## October 2023



### HEADTEACHER END OF TERM UPDATE

Dear Parent/Carer

What a lovely start to the year we have had, good weather has meant we can be out and about, enjoying our local environment and the children have had a wealth of experiences to support their physical, mental and academic development as you will see throughout the reports in this edition.

We are saying goodbye to Mrs Liddiard who, after 21 years at GHF, has decided that she is ready to change the pace! She has been an amazing asset to the school and has supported hundreds, if not thousands of children over her time here. We wish her all the best for her new adventures.

As you all know we had a visit from Ofsted earlier in the term and it was a wonderful opportunity to show the inspector all the exciting things we are doing and for him to see the children shine as they spoke with confidence about all that they do at school. I will share the letter with you as soon as we receive it.

Next term, in addition to the great experiences we offer your children we are also pleased to be offering an opportunity for parents to get together and explore the complexities of family life in our externally run sessions. Focusing on developing resilience and improved wellbeing for your children and wider family I am sure it will be a great chance to get together, learn and share experiences over a cup of tea and biscuits. Full details are included further along in the newsletter - Please complete the Parentmail form, or contact the school office, if you are interested in coming along.

*Jayne Watson*

### KEY DIARY DATES

- 30 OCTOBER - STAFF INSET
- 31 OCTOBER - START OF TERM
- 31 OCTOBER - YEAR 2 ONLINE SAFETY WORKSHOP
- 2 NOVEMBER - FLU IMMUNISATIONS
- 3 NOVEMBER - YEAR 3 AND 4 ROOTS TO FOOD
- 7 & 8 NOVEMBER - YEAR 5 AND 6 WOOLSTHORPE MANOR TRIP
- 12 NOVEMBER - KS2 CHRISTMAS CINEMA TRIP
- 13-18 NOVEMBER - ANTI BULLYING WEEK
- 15 NOVEMBER - RECEPTION CLASS - NURSERY DRESS UP AND CLASSROOM DROP IN FOR PARENTS AT 3PM
- 16 NOVEMBER - NAVIGATORS GR CLASS ASSEMBLY
- 17 NOVEMBER - CHILDREN IN NEED
- 12 DECEMBER - EYFS/KS1 NATIVITY IN SCHOOL - PARENTS WELCOME
- 13 DECEMBER - EYFS/KS1 NATIVITY IN SCHOOL - PARENTS WELCOME
- 18 DECEMBER - CHRISTINGLE MAKING WITH PARENTS
- 19 DECEMBER - KS2 CHURCH SERVICE AT ST SEBASTIANS, EYFS/KS1 IN HALL



# Reception Class



We have looked at The Colour Monster linking different emotions to a colour. We have completed lots of different activities linking to the book. We thought about how we felt and how colours can change or mix up. We have started every afternoon with a mindful activity getting ready for an afternoon of learning.



Every Monday Navigators GR are lucky enough to have a 'time to share' slot with our new Explorers in reception and they spend the time chatting and sharing their favourite stories or books they are currently reading. This morning Navigators are publishing their own version of our Literacy text this term 'The Nowhere Emporium' and they will share the stories they have written with their Explorer this coming Monday. The children are so excited to share their stories and we are excited to read them too.



# Year 1



## Pathfinders ES

The children designed their own puppets in DT and had great fun making them. We also made a wonderful display with the flowers and butterflies that we crafted with the other Pathfinder classes.



Pathfinders SG enjoyed developing their DT skills. We are practising cutting skills and exploring different ways of fastening things together. We made wooden spoon puppets, paper skeletons and jelly fish! Great job everyone!







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We've been on a deer/hedgehog/snake/fox/rabbit hunt. We're preparing to write our own story about Pathfinders going on an animal hunt. We encountered leaves, willow trees and tunnels on our way. Eventually we spotted our own animal.





## Year 2



The classes created some beautiful flowers, ladybirds and other autumnal animals for our new corridor display.

We started our PSHE topic called Happily Ever After. We talked about tales and what they are. The children got given a character and have to come up with a tale, some even shared their tales with the whole class.







## Year 3 and 4



Our Adventurers have had the exciting task of designing and creating their own stop motion piece of short film. The children bought in toys from home to act as characters in their film, then had the job of slowly moving the toys to create a changing scene.

They have grasped the challenge and worked very hard on their creations, demonstrating a great level of persistence and team work.







## Year 5 and 6 Design and Technology project.

The children in 5/6 were challenged with creating a train carriage that includes a working mechanism to lift a load. They worked hard on their collaboration and communication skills to combine their ideas and create their final products.



## After School clubs

We have a varied selection of after school clubs available at our school. These change each term and are offered to different year groups to try and cater for everyone. Miss Marshall has been running a cheerleading group, and the class have had great fun learning the formations and positions, as you can see in the photos below!

We send invitations out for new clubs near the end of each term, so please check your parentmail for any updates for your child's year group.





# Funfields before and after school club



Funfields have been celebrating all thing's Harry Potter! The children got very creative making their own wands and casting magical spells!

For those parents who work and need before and after school care for their children, this is available on our school premises from 7:30am until 6:00pm.

Funfields provides a safe, secure and relaxed environment, offering a range of activities that reflect the interests of the children in their care. With access to the full school grounds and facilities, there are plenty of opportunities to keep the children busy. The cost of care is very reasonable and discounts are available for siblings.

Funfields is run by Mrs Mandy Fields who can be contacted as follows:

- By email [funfields@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:funfields@yahoo.co.uk)
- By telephone 07922 005673. Please leave a message or send a text if there is no answer.



## Well done, Mrs Hills!



On Sunday, 15th October, I ran my first ever Half Marathon in Manchester to raise money for Cancer Research UK - a cause close to my heart. I had completed my 12-week training plan but managed to pick up a calf injury 2 weeks before and a cold in the days leading up to the event. With my calf strapped up and loaded with cold and flu medication, I was ready to go! The day started at a very chilly 4 degrees Celsius with frost on the ground but I soon warmed up once I got going and the sun made an appearance. The atmosphere and the support from the crowd on the day was absolutely amazing, and it, and all the support from family and friends, helped me to conquer the challenge. I managed to run the entire course although I did almost stumble across the finish line - luckily, Cancer Research UK was on hand with a massage for my tired, achy legs. I'm absolutely buzzing and proud of what I've achieved, and I hope this will be an inspiration to others: if I can do it, anyone can!

Although I'm currently very tired and achy and ready for a good rest, I'm already thinking about starting to train for a full marathon next year - watch this space!

***If you would like to sponsor Mrs Hills, the just giving link is:***

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/peggyhills](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/peggyhills)



Please see below for details of a FREE parents course at school which will run for four weeks, beginning Tuesday 7 November from 1.30 – 3.00 pm. Information has also been sent via Parentmail – please let us know on the Forms section if you would like to attend.



Taking time to



## Stop Understand and Move On

*Top tips and tools to help children develop greater resilience, understand themselves and embrace wellbeing.*

Children are often asked to bring a pencil case to school with specific 'tools' and equipment for them to use in different lessons. However, do they have the tools and equipment to deal with challenges in life that involve emotions, self-worth, resilience and confidence? This course is for any parent, guardian, carer or those who are supporting children and families who wants to explore new ways to help children (and adults) navigate through the rollercoaster of life. The course aims to provide a 'toolkit' to help manage the big emotions and challenges that inevitably come their way.

This is not a parenting course in the sense of what we often think of a parenting course, but it is a course for parents (and anyone involved in working with children) to help better understand themselves and their children. You will gain some simple, but life changing tools to help support the journey of parenting. Here are just a couple of comments people have given in recent feedback:

"It is engaging and empowering"

"I have learnt lots and it was made great fun by Ed and Sarah"

"Loved my time on the course, just sorry it had to end"

"Thank you so much for your time and help. I have loved every second and will take away so much information to help our family."

The course takes the principles from Paul McGee's Sunday Times Bestseller book 'SUMO', uses them, along with a wealth of resources, real life examples as well as practical tips and tools to allow people to easily embed the principles into family life.

### Course Outcomes

#### ***Me, you and the big world out there.***

In this session we will explore the meaning of wellbeing. For us and our family what does this look like? How can we be in control of this and how can we help our children be in control of this for themselves too? We will look at the importance of learning to press 'pause' to self-regulate, think and make good choices.

#### ***Shall we think about that?***

We think a lot. We spend almost all of our time thinking, however, is all of that thinking *healthy and helpful* or can it sometimes be *unhealthy and unhelpful*? In this session we will be learning how to tell the difference between the two. We will understand how our thinking is strongly linked to our emotions and actions. We will explore how our brain works for us but can also work against us.

#### ***Let's Flip it and it is ok not to be ok***

Following on from all the thinking we have done in the last session, this session is full of simple and practical tips and tools to help use when "faulty thinking" creeps in to help us to have *healthy and helpful* thinking patterns rather than *unhelpful and unhealthy*. We will also be discussing what we need to do when it all gets too much and how this time can provide us with the valuable opportunity to make choices about how we best move on.

#### ***I can't, I won't, I don't***

Have you ever felt like you were speaking a different language to other people? Have you ever felt frustrated that you are not heard or really listened to? This session investigates the idea of perspectives and how these can affect how we respond and react to one another. This final session is also about looking ahead, exploring why we put things off and how we can find ways to overcome those barriers especially when we believe in the power of yet!

We honestly believe in the content of this course and everyone who has attended has taken something away from it of benefit. Often when dealing with children, us as adults need to understand that our behaviour and responses are sometimes what need to change – small incremental changes in our responses, armed with a greater understanding of what is going on for the child and some tools to apply in different situations can result in big changes. We would love to see you – *and remember it is completely FREE!*





Children 0-5 years and siblings up to 8 years welcome

# Room on the Broom at Holiday Fun



A fun filled and exciting session for families to enjoy where they will be joining in activities, games and singing songs, come along and have some fun. Lots of Spooky themed activities for you to enjoy.

**Friday 27th October  
10am-11am**

Belton Lane Children's Centre  
Green Lane, Grantham,  
NG31 9PP  
Tel No. 01522 550901



Thank you for all your generous donations to the foodbank for our Harvest Festival celebrations this year. They have written to thank the school, and we in turn forward those thanks to you for helping such a worthwhile cause.




## Gonerby Hill Foot EYFS 2024

*Let all that you do be done in love.*  
**1Corinthians 16:14**

APPLICATIONS  
OPEN  
15th  
NOVEMBER 2023

**SCHOOL VIEWINGS AVAILABLE AS FOLLOWS:**

Tuesday 7th November 10:15-10:45 – SLOT FULL  
Wednesday 15th November 10:15-10:45 – SLOT FULL  
Tuesday 20th November 10:15-10:45 – SLOT FULL  
Thursday 22nd November 10:15-10:45 – SLOT FULL  
Thursday 29th November 10:15-10:45 – SLOT FULL  
Monday 4th December 10:15-10:45 – SLOT FULL  
Tuesday 12th December 10:30-11:00 – SLOT FULL  
Tuesday 5th December 10:15-10:45 – SLOT FULL

**All slots full aside from:**  
**Thurs 11 Jan 1.45 – 2.15 pm**

Mrs. Watson and the family of Gonerby Hill Foot are looking forward to showing you around our happy and inclusive school.

**STAY AND PLAY SESSION:**

Following on from the guided visits to GHF – we would like to invite families to a 'stay and play' session for an hour to experience one of our amazing Early Years classrooms with our Early Years staff team on January 9th 2024. Time TBC

If you would like to view the school or book onto the stay and play session please email [enquiries@gonerbyhillfoot.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@gonerbyhillfoot.lincs.sch.uk)  
Or call 01476 565800