

GOLDFIELD INFANTS' AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Spring Term Newsletter



Friday 5th January 2024

Contact us: admin@goldfield.herts.sch.uk



Happy Birthday

Georgia, Olivia, Henry, Oscar, Max, Arthur, Zoe & Grayson



Welcome back and Happy New Year to you!



I hope everyone had some time to rest and recharge over the holiday even if it wasn't quite the holiday you had planned. I know some were poorly and plans had to be changed at the last minute. However you have spent the last couple of weeks, I hope you managed to have some fun with some, if not all, of your favourite people. I want to pass on our enormous thanks for your kindness and generosity at the end of term. As a school we felt utterly spoilt by your heartfelt words and gifts—thank you all.

REMEMBER, REMEMBER.....

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|-----------------|--------------|---|
| 4.1.24 | | School reopens- Spring Term begins |
| 17.1.24 | 9.15am | Year 1 Phonics Meeting in the hall |
| 26.1.24 | After school | FROGS Movie Night |
| 30.1.24 | | Seasonal Change- Year 1 |
| 31.1.24 | | Seasonal Change- Year 2 |
| 1.2.24 | 8.30-9am | Sharing Morning |
| 6.2.24 | | Safer Internet Day |
| 7.2.24 | 9am | Wellbeing morning |
| 14.2.24 | | BLP Day |
| 15.2.24 | | Chinese New Year Dance Worksop |
| 19.2.24-23.2.24 | | Half Term |
| 5.3.24 | 3.45-7pm | Parents Consultation |
| 8.3.24 | | Visiting Speaker to talk to Year 2 about Ramadan |
| 18.3.24-22.3.24 | | Scholastic Book Fair |
| 28.3.24 | | End of term- early finish Nursery- 11.30 No lunch club Reception, 1 & 2- 1.45pm |

Keeping Our Children Safe

The Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) has been set up so that all agencies and organisations who work with children and young people work together to keep children safe. Call 0300 123 4043 at anytime if you are a child or young person being abused or mistreated; or if you are an adult worried about a young person. Call 999 if you're in immediate danger or a crime is being committed.

Start of the School Day

Classroom doors open at 8.45am, ready to start the school day at 8.50am. If you arrive and the doors are closed, you will need to sign in at the office. Children arriving after this time will be considered late and this will be logged as an unauthorised absence. If all the gates are locked you will need to enter via the Christchurch Road entrance. Nursery AM Session begins at 8.30am & Nursery PM Session begins at 12.15pm. Please [click here](#) to read the school's Attendance and Lateness policy

Applying for a Reception & Year 3 Place Deadline—January 15th 2024

Remember to [apply online](#) for your child's place for September 2024.

Dates for tours of the school for Reception and Nursery places for September 2023 are on our website under Admissions. Please contact the office to book a place.



How are you?

Christmas can be a time of fun, excitement and happiness. It can also be a time of stress, financial worry and strained relationships. Whatever you are feeling it often helps to talk to someone. If you need help and are not sure where to go you can visit the [Hub of Hope](#). For 24 hour support Herts residents of all ages can contact a 24/7 Single Point of Access (SPA) Mental Health Helpline team at any hour of the day or night, 365 days a year. The team can provide advice and support for Herts residents who are experiencing a mental health crisis, need some mental health support or just want to talk on: Freephone 0800 6444 101 or NHS 111 and select option 2 for mental health services. You can also access [Samaritans](#) any time online or by calling 116 123.

Safeguarding your children is our priority. Please contact the schools Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) with any concerns- Miss Cooper, Mrs Blake, Miss Hammill, Miss Jackson, Mrs Matthew & Mrs Sladden. Further safeguarding information and support can be found vis the [NSPCC](#) website.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

We strongly encourage families to have open discussions about online safety and what children are doing online. Please take the time to review how safe your child is online and set limits on when and where devices can be accessed. Remind children never to share personal information or meet strangers contacted online without trusted adult supervision. Monitor your child's internet activity and utilise parental controls when possible. Working together we can help students make wise online choices this holiday season. Please contact the school with any cyber-related concerns.

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.



Attendance

Did you know that you can log onto Arbor and see what percentage your child's attendance is. Our attendance has usually hovered around 97% , but over the last couple of weeks we have seen a drop. As a result of this, there is a national drive to get children back into school with high attendance, so we will be monitoring this closely. We will contact you if there is a concern following our Attendance Policy. If there is ever a difficulty with school attendance or punctuality though please do let us know because we would always like to work with you and support you to get your child into school. With that in mind, can I remind you that there are very few occasions when absences will be authorised as being an exceptional circumstance. Routine dental and optician check ups should be booked for holiday and weekend appointments where possible, and holidays will not be authorised in school time.

| Understanding the impact of lateness and attendance on learning time | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Minutes late per day | How much missed in a school year | Percentage attendance | How many days missed in a school year |
| 5 minutes | 3.4 school days | 97% | 6 school days |
| 10 minutes | 1.4 school weeks | 95% | 10 school days |
| 15 minutes | 2.6 school weeks | 90% | 20 school days |
| 20 minutes | 2.8 school weeks | 85% | 29 school days |
| 30 minutes | 4 school weeks | 80% | 39 school days |
| Although teachers do their best to help children with lessons they have missed, they are not able to repeat the whole lesson again for one child, so this is lost learning time. | | | |
| Research shows that pupils with no or very low absence/persistent lateness are 2.2 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs compared with those with less than 95% throughout their school career. | | | |