

### Our Vision

We **ASPIRE** to be the best we can be.  
We learn from our **EXPERIENCES**.  
We **CHALLENGE** ourselves each day.  
We respect and **CELEBRATE** our Gainsborough family.

# Head Teacher Newsletter July 2016



Dear Parents/Carers,

Here we are at the end of another year; it's been a full one, with lots of great learning and achievements. Thank you to all who attended our Celebration Evening, our end of year concerts and assemblies. They have all been great successes and a brilliant opportunity for children to celebrate the great learning they have done this year.

There was a great turn out and the sun was shining for our annual Family Picnic. It brought our Gainsborough Family together and enabled us to reflect Our Community – Respect for All. Thank you to all who came along, and to ex-Gainsborough pupil, Danny Lee-Grew who kept children entertained by performing a magic show to KS2 children and doing walk around magic throughout the picnic.

We have so much to celebrate this year and continue to grow from a good to an excellent school – achieving better than National Outcomes in EYFS, Y1, Y2 and at the end of KS2 😊. Thank you to all the children and staff for their focus, enthusiasm and hard work; and to you, for supporting the learning at home.

I thank you once again for all your help and commitment to the school, and look forward to the new school year in September. Children are due back on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September. I would like to wish you all a happy and restful holiday.

Many thanks

*Deborah Strain*  
Head Teacher



### **Goodbyes...**

*It's that time of year where we have to say goodbye to staff who are moving on: we wish Miss Sikander much luck, love and happiness in her marriage and move out of London. After 12 years at Gainsborough we say goodbye and thank you to Miss Dickeson. She has been here since qualifying as a teacher, in her time at Gainsborough she has grown into an outstanding teacher, led on curriculum changes, promoted a love of music and singing and has had a real impact on the learning of many children. Big thanks!*

Miss Lizzie and Miss Marlene are also amongst staff leaving us for new ventures. Both are extending themselves with further education and taking steps forward in their careers. Thank you for your hard work and good luck 😊

*And hello...*

*In September we will be saying hello to: Mr Taylor (Y6), Miss Nessa (Y1) and Miss Sewbans (Y1) who will be joining us as teachers*

### **Staffing Structure 2016 - 17**

Deborah Strain - Head Teacher			
Penny Bullen - Deputy Head Teacher			
Lisa Christall – AHT (Y1/2)	Felicity Coetzee – AHT (Y3/4)	Alex Roberts – AHT (Y5/6)	
Theresa Hedoun/Rokya Miah – YN Brownen Hawkes - YR Emma Webb - YR	Stephanie Sewbans – Y1 Anisa Nessa – Y1 Oliver Dean – Y2 Laura Mattieson – Y2	Julie Carver – Y3 Shereen Agar – Y3 Siobhan Murphy – Y4 Fernando Leyenda – Y4	Merline Worgess – Y5 Susan Liu – Y5 Patrick Taylor – Y6 Caroline Pitts – Y6
Annette Clark – Reading Lead Kereen Hurst – EAL Lead	Caroline Cawtherley – SENCo Theresa Hedoun – SEND Support	Tracy Atherton – Interventions/Cover/Support	Sara Amin – RP Lead Aoife Obatse - RP

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

All children at Gainsborough are expected to wear our school uniform; it supports our sense of belonging and family. **Please label your child's clothes with their name.** Our school colours are navy and white. School jumpers (with the logo) can be purchased through Tesco school uniform and The Uniform Shop in East Ham. All children should have a **named PE kit in school**—this should also be school colours (navy and white). Jewellery is not generally allowed in school, but small stud ear-rings and a watch may be worn. These **MUST** be removed for all PE lessons.

### **SCHOOL TIMES**

The school gates open at **8.40am**. Please make sure that all children are in school by **8.50am** at the latest. School finishes at **3.15pm**. Parents should make sure that their children are collected on time. If there are any changes to your usual collection arrangements please phone the school to let us know.

### **ABSENCE**

We have an obligation to follow up absences of all children when they fall below 95% and a legal duty to put actions in place to ensure attendance improves. Please work with us on this.

The Governors **do not allow any holidays or family visits to be taken in term time**. We would like to thank all those parents/carers who have supported the school in this decision. We appreciate how expensive it is to take a vacation during school holidays. **There have been families who have been fined for taking children out during school time – this is a fine for each parent for each child.** This is common Newham policy.

### **Breakfast Club and Monday to Friday Club**

Both these clubs now have more children than spaces. We are unable to take children who have not booked and paid for a space in either club. We will be sending out further information in September. Please see the school office for further details and to confirm your child's place for September. Both clubs will start (for those booked) on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Other after school clubs**

When we have settled back into school in September we will be sending out letters with offers for our numerous after school clubs.

### **Online Safety, Chatrooms and Pokemon Go**

It's come to our attention that some children have been accessing chatrooms at home and chatting with 'new' people online. Please be extra vigilant and talk to your child about keeping all personal details private. There's lots of great information to support parents. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

#### ***What children do online and through social networking***

Children and young people go online to connect with friends, and make new ones, to browse the internet for information, chat with others and play games. They may:

- search for information or content on search engines like Google and Bing
- share images and watch videos through websites or mobile apps like Instagram, Pinterest, Vine and YouTube
- use social networking websites like Facebook and Twitter
- write or reply to messages on forums and message boards
- play games alone or with others through websites, apps or game consoles
- chat with other people through online games, BBM (Blackberry Messenger), game consoles, webcams, social networks and tools like whatsapp

When online, children and young people can learn new things, get help with homework, express themselves creatively and connect with friends and family. There are also risks, but by understanding and talking about the dangers you can help keep your child safe online. The most important thing is to **never share personal information, including pictures, and always let parents/carers know what they are accessing.**

Pokemon Go – we will be putting a support information on our school website. There are some concerns about keeping children safe whilst using this game/app.

