

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 June 2016



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our June Newsletter, with updates and other information. You should have already received a newsletter for your child's phase, informing you all about the learning and experiences planned for the last few weeks.

Upcoming events:

Weather permitting we have **SPORTS DAY** on **Monday morning (27th June)** at the park. Children will be involved in team events and move around for event to event. This year Reception, Y1 and Y2 have different events to Y3, 4, 5 and 6; this allows us to challenge children more. We're aiming to start at 9.15am. After the success of last year's tug of war, we are proposing a Parents' Race at the end of the morning – a sprint this year!!! Please make sure children have the right clothing, including PE kit, a cap, water bottle and sun-cream. The children already know their teams and team colours (Continents: Asia – green, Africa – yellow, Europe – blue, Americas – red.). We look forward to seeing you there.

Themed Day – '**Our Community – Respect for All**'. This year, our annual **Family Picnic** will be on **18th July (1.30 to 3pm)**. During the day all the classes will be making hats, flags and food as a celebration of our Gainsborough Family and Community. Each class will also make a banner showing the different communities they belong to. Children are encouraged to dress up (or bring clothes to change in to) and we welcome any support throughout the day. Please speak to class teachers if you can offer support in the morning. During the day, Ex-Gainsborough pupil, Danny Lee-Grew will be performing a magic show to KS2 children and doing walk around magic throughout the picnic.

Eid – with the change in Eid (marking the end of Ramadam) having changed to 5th/6th July, we have had the difficult decision about changing the planned closure of the school. We will be authorising absences for children celebrating Eid on 6th July, however, we will still be **closed on Thursday 7th July**. With so many working parents, a change in closure days really impacts on childcare arrangements.

The author Ali Sparkes is visiting us for the morning of **Friday 8th July**. She will be talking to KS2 children in assembly about how she became an author and then working with some of our children to inspire them to become authors too! She has kindly agreed to also sign some of her books. We will be selling her books before she comes so that those children that want them can have them ready on the day.

Family disco – thanks to all involved who made our Family Disco in May such a success. We will be planning more family events in the future ☺

Parent Mail – please make sure you have signed up with Parent Mail. We are increasingly using it for our communication with you. If you have any questions please speak to a member of our office staff.

Cancelling of clubs – there have been a couple of occasions where we have had to cancel clubs at short notice. Before making this decision we do a full staffing review and risk assessment, to try and continue with it. Thank you for your support.

If you have any concerns, information to share or questions please contact us. The feedback we get allows us to continually improve.

Many thanks

Ms D Strain
Head Teacher

Staff changes for September

Leavers: Miss Sikander is getting married and moving out of London. We will be sad to see her go and thank her for all her hard work while she has been at Gainsborough, but wish her much luck, love and happiness. After 12 years at Gainsborough Miss Dickeson will be leaving us at the end of term. She has been here since qualifying as a teacher, has worked with 3 Head Teachers and has an exciting opportunity, in a bigger school, to further extend her Leadership. We will greatly miss her and wish her every success in her new role. In her time at Gainsborough she has grown into an outstanding teacher, led on curriculum changes, promoted a love of music and singing and really impacted on the learning of many children. Big thanks!

Joiners: Mr Taylor will be joining us as a teacher and we are just in the process of finalising 2 further appointments. Watch this space.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
JUNE	27 th SPORTS DAY (from 9.15am in the park)	28 th	29 th	30 th 2.30 - African Drumming Concert (Y3 & 5)	July 1 st 9am - Reception to Y1 Parents' Transition meeting Y2 to Chalkwell Y4 - Freshwater Theatre (pm)
JULY	4 th 9.30/2.30 - EYFS: End of Year Show	5 th	6 th 9.30 Poetry Recital	7 th SCHOOL CLOSED	8 th 9 – 12 - Ali Sparkes Author Visit 2.45pm - Y6 Dance Performance
JULY	11 th	12 th 2.15 Y5/6 Concert Canning Town Library visit	13 th Reception to Chalkwell Y6 Trip to Southend with Taxi Drivers	14 th New Classes Assembly 3.30 – 7pm - Celebration Evening and reports out	15 th Nursery to Chalkwell 100% Attendance Awards Trip (31 pupils)
JULY	18 th Our Community: Respect for all Day 1.30 – 3pm - Family Picnic	19 th	20 th Y6 trip to Victoria Park (am) 2.15 - Attendance/Prizes assembly	21 st 9.20 - Y6 Leavers assembly <u>1.30 – children finish</u>	22 nd <u>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR PUPILS</u> (INSET Day)

OTHER INFORMATION

We continue to challenge children with their behaviour for learning, encouraging them to be independent, to ask questions and to work through problems. Although many like to get everything right, we are showing them how some of the best learning comes from our mistakes and when we get things wrong (the conversations after). We also look at what to do when we fall out with friends, children have practised our key phrase, "Stop it, I don't like it!" Children know it is their responsibility (and the expectation) to stop when someone says this. We have a clear Positive Behaviour Policy and always follow up on incidents; our system of rewards and consequences provide the framework for all expectations. By working together we know we can keep improving behaviour choices, friendships and responses to difficulties. If you would like any further information or support, please speak to your child's class teacher.

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

Thank you to all the parents/carers who always inform/telephone us when their child is off. As you know, part of our role is to follow up any absences and it makes our job easier if you call us early in the morning. 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 common Newham policy.

HEALTH & SAFETY IN THE PLAYGROUND

Please allow the teacher to get children lined up in the playground at the end of the day and only take them when you or your child have spoken to the teacher and they have seen you. If someone different is collecting your child please make sure you inform the office who will get a message to the class teacher.

Please ensure your children do not go on any of the playground equipment before or after school. We are only insured for its use during school playtime and lunchtimes.

BIRTHDAYS

If your child has a **birthday** and would like to bring a treat for their class, make sure that this is **fruit or a healthy treat.** Teachers will be unable to give out party bags and cake. If in doubt, please check with the office.

NUTS: Please do not allow your children to bring anything with nuts into school. This includes peanut butter and Nutella sandwiches.