

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 May 2016



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our May Newsletter, with updates and other information. You should have already received a newsletter for your child's phase.

This term, as always, there has been lots of great learning going on. As we fast approach the final term of the academic year, we are reviewing and assessing the progress of the children and the learning opportunities across the year groups. We've had visitors join us in school (including 'The Bug Man' and 'Technology Tom') and many classes have been out on trips too. We continue to subsidise these trips, as we see them as so important to extending and supporting learning.

Our Year 6s were amazing in tackling their SATs - they have worked very hard and were really up for the challenges within. We had a monitoring visit for Newham during the week and the feedback was very positive, highlighting the children's fantastic attitude and resilience in tackling the papers. We are all very proud of them and ensure they know SATs only measure part of what makes them great!

Our Year 2s have been equally amazing at working through their SATs and have responded well to the challenge. They have also been engaged in some great independent learning and challenging each other with questions.

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. By working together we know we can keep improving our friendships and how we respond to difficulties. If you would like any further information or support, please speak to your child's class teacher.

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

MATHS BOOK SALE:

Would you like to help your child at home with their maths? We are selling old texts books (in excellent condition) as the school has invested in a new set for each year group.

They come in a set of 3 (1 for each term) and will help your child if worked through with an adult. We are selling them as a set for £1, or 50p individually. They will be on sale next week in the ks2 playground.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
May				5 – 7pm – Family disco	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN
M/J	30 th Half Term				→
JUNE	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th
JUNE	13 th Year 4 Boat Trip	14 th Y4 to Soanes (Milne)	15 th Year 4 to Soanes (Zephaniah)	16 th	17 th Newsletters out
JUNE	20 th	21 st Class Photos	22 nd Y5 to the Planetarium	23 rd Y6 Eastlea/ St Angela's transition	24 th Y6 Eastlea transition Y4 to Docklands Y3 to Chalkwell
JUNE	27 th SPORTS DAY (details to follow)	28 th	29 th	30 th African Drumming Concert (Y3, 4, 5)	July 1 st
JULY	4 th	5 th	6 th Poetry Recital	7 th SCHOOL CLOSED FOR EID	8 th
JULY	11 th	12 th Y5/6 Concert	13 th EYFS to Chalkwell Y6 Trip to Southend with Taxi Drivers	14 th New Classes Assembly 3.30 – 7pm – Celebration Evening and reports out	15 th EYFS to Chalkwell
JULY	18 th 1.30 – 3pm – Family Picnic	19 th	20 th 2.15 – Attendance/Prizes assembly	21 st 9.20 – Y6 Leavers assembly 1.30 – children finish	22 nd SCHOOL CLOSED FOR PUPILS (INSET Day)

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.