



Newsletter
Wednesday 25th October 2023
Email
info@gamesley.derbyshire.sch.uk
01457 853721
Pastoral Manager
Tammy Snape 07922 576932



Dear Families,

I can't believe that we are already nearly at the end of the first half term of the year. It has been a very busy few weeks. Especially with welcoming the Nursery children into the building. I have been so impressed with the way all the children have settled in and know that the two schools have a very exciting and productive year ahead together.

It is lovely to see that so many of the younger children are now able to say "goodbye" to their families at the gate each morning and walk into school independently. Of course, Catkins and Conkers Nursery children, and many children in Orchard, will continue to be accompanied to the classroom doors by an adult, but I hope that very soon all other children, including Reception Acorns Class, will soon be walking in by themselves. There will always be a member of staff at the gate to pass on any messages if need be. Thank you.



Spooky Disco: Thursday 26th October, 4.00pm to 5.00pm (Year 1 to Year 6)

Our first disco of the year will have a spooky theme. Children are welcome to come in Hallowe'en clothes if they wish, but please bear in mind that the theme is SPOOKY and not SCARY! We want our children to have fun and not be frightened, so no masks or pretend weapons etc. please!

The cost of the disco is £2.00 payable on the door and no extra money is needed as this includes something

to eat, drinks and face painting. Our Orchard, Acorns, Conkers and Catkins children will be having their own spooky fun activities in class on Thursday instead.

We are hoping to decorate the hall and classrooms with some spooky carved pumpkins. There will be a prize for everyone who brings a carved pumpkin to school on Thursday 26th October and we will provide battery tealights so your pumpkins can be displayed in their full glory.

Family Dinner Days



Up to two adults plus younger siblings are invited to come along to this term's family dinner days and it's Year 5 Elm Cass's turn this Friday. If you would like to book a school dinner please let the school office know by 9.15am on the day at the very latest – adult dinners cost £4.26 each and children's meals are £3.25. Alternatively, you are welcome to bring along a packed lunch.



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Year 5 Elm Class	Friday 27 th October	12.30pm
Year 4 Chestnut Class	Friday 10 th November	12.30pm
Year 3 Holly Class	Friday 17 th November	12.30pm
Year 2 Willow Class	Friday 24 th November	12.15pm
Year 1 Silver Birch Class	Friday 1 st December	12.15pm
Reception Acorns Class	Friday 8 th December	12.00 noon

Please can I remind our visitors that they should not have phones out in the hall at Family Dinner Days. Some of our children cannot be photographed under any circumstances. Thank you for your support.

Open Evening: Wednesday 25th October 6.00pm to 7.00pm

Do let any of your neighbours, family and friends who are currently deciding which Nursery or Primary School to choose about our forthcoming Open Evening. This is an opportunity for families to meet staff, have a tour of the school and hear about the high-quality education on offer from both schools. We look forward to seeing lots of you on Wednesday 25th – no need to book, just come along.



Year 1 Silver Birch Harvest Assembly: Thursday 26th October – 2.30pm



Families of children in our Year 1 Silver Birch Class are invited to join us for a Harvest celebration on Thursday 26th October. Please come to the front office from 2.15pm to sign in and take your seats.

As always, we are inviting all our families to make a small donation of non-perishable foods, toiletries or household cleaning items. All donations will be distributed to families in need. Thank you very much for your support.

Children in Need: Friday 17th November

The school has a small number of head bands and wrist bands for sale in support of Children in Need. Alternatively, we have been told that "One Stop" will also be stocking the charity merchandise. Children are welcome to wear their head or wrist bands to school on Friday 17th November if they wish to do so.





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Christmas Pantomime (Pinocchio): Monday 4th December



This year, rather than travelling to the theatre, we will be watching a pantomime in school. The performance will be on Monday 4th December with our younger children watching in the morning and the older ones in the afternoon. Please note; Catkins class will not be watching the performance as they are not yet ready to sit for a full hour. There is no charge to our families for this activity as all costs are being met by the Primary School PTA and the Nursery School Fund.

Christmas Fair: Thursday 7th December

The staff from both schools are already busy planning this year's Fair and we really hope that lots of you plus your neighbours and friends will be able to come along and support us. As always, we will be asking for some donations from our families to help us make the fair as successful as possible. The planned donation dates are:



Thursday 23 rd November	Chocolate for the children's chocolate tombola
Thursday 30 th November	Bottles for the adult tombola
Thursday 7 th December	Cakes

We will also be collecting any "good as new" soft toys and teddies for the ever-popular Teddy Tombola and any little gifts for the "Secret Present" stall – please send these in any time after the half term holiday.

If you know of anyone who would like to run a stall at the fair, please ask them to contact the school office.

Thank you everyone!

Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day: Thursday 21st December



As usual, we will be celebrating the last day of term by eating a delicious Christmas dinner together in the hall. Unless we hear otherwise from you, we will book a Christmas dinner for your child and if you are not eligible for Free School Meals, will pop a charge of £3.25 on Parent Pay. Nursery children who usually stay for lunch will be served a Christmas dinner too. It is also a Gamesley tradition that we invite all the children to add something Christmassy to their usual school clothes on the last day of term. This may be a Christmas jumper if you have one, or if not a different, brightly coloured top or simply a piece of tinsel in their hair.



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Stars of the Week

Congratulations to this week's stars who were chosen for embodying the value of being "independent".

Nursery Conkers	Not only is Layla becoming an independent learner, she also always follows our class rules of being kind and listening to the grown-ups.
Reception Acorns	Raina loves learning and is applying herself so well to everything she does.
Year 1 Silver Birch	Sonia is an independent thinker who has her own ideas and finds creative ways to solve problems.
Year 2 Willow	Kaleb is an independent learner both in class and at home. He grabs every learning opportunity with both hands!
Year 3 Holly	Logan has produced some wonderful independent history work this week.
Year 4 Chestnut	Rory demonstrates independence in all aspects of his learning.
Year 5 Elm	Rocco always drives his own learning.
Year 6 Oak	Maisie is always prepared for every lesson and loves to carry out her own research at home.
Orchard	Freddie loves to explore the Orchard learning environment independently.

Very well done too to this week's maths stars (and our Nursery Conkers Class reading star)

Nursery Conkers	Lolah just loves books and is always asking an adult to read with her.
Reception Acorns	Frank relishes exploring new concepts in maths and always challenges himself.
Year 1 Silver Birch	Hunter has a fantastic "can do" attitude in our maths lessons.
Year 2 Willow	Cody is working so hard, not only in class but also on "Numbots" at home. He is applying what he has learned to new concepts taught in class.
Year 3 Holly	Adam-Lahsean has been working independently to master written methods for addition.
Year 4 Chestnut	Archie is so enthusiastic in all our maths lessons and just loves to challenge himself.
Year 5 Elm	Charlie has developed a strong growth mindset and "can do" attitude towards his learning in maths.
Year 6 Oak	Olivia works carefully and precisely in maths lessons and is able to explain and justify her answers.



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Dates for your Diaries

We are trying to add events as far in advance as possible and will update this calendar in every newsletter. We've included all the Christmas activities this week and all the Family Dinner days for the rest of the year have now been added.

Dates for your Diary	
Wednesday 25 th October 23	Flu Vaccines for primary school children
Wednesday 25 th October 23	Reception Acorns Class "Stay and Play" afternoon
Wednesday 25 th October 23	Open Evening: 6.00pm to 7.00pm
Thursday 26 th October 23	Year 1 Silver Birch Class Harvest Festival assembly
Thursday 26 th October 23	Orchard Class Family Fun afternoon
Thursday 26 th October	Class based spooky fun days Acorns, Catkins and Conkers
Thursday 26 th October	Spooky Disco for Years 1 to 6: 4.00pm to 5.00pm
Friday 27 th October 2023	Year 3 Stone Age Workshop in school (rearranged date)
Friday 27 th October 2023	Year 5 Elm Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 27th October 23	Schools close for Autumn Half term Holiday
Monday 6th November 23	Schools open for Autumn Term 2
Wednesday 8 th October 23	Orchard Class shopping trip to Lidl
Friday 10 th November 23	Year 4 Chestnut Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Tuesday 14 th November 23	Year 2 Willow Class trip to Manchester Art Gallery
Thursday 16 th November 23	Year 1 Silver Birch Class trip to "Eureka" Museum
Friday 17 th November 23	Children in Need day
Friday 17 th November 23	Year 3 Holly Family Dinner Day: 12.20pm
Friday 24 th November 23	Year 2 Willow Family Dinner Day: 12.15pm
Friday 1 st December 23	Year 1 Silver Birch Family Dinner Day: 12.10pm
Friday 1 st December 23	Year 3 Holly Class take part in "Victorious Voices" Christmas concert.
Monday 4 th December 23	Pantomime performances of "Pinocchio" in school
Thursday 7 th December 23	Christmas Fair
Friday 8 th December 23	Reception Acorns Family Dinner Day: 12.00pm
Thursday 14 th December 23	Orchard Christmas singalong and "Stay and Play" afternoon: 2.15pm
Thursday 14 th December 23	Acorns Class Christmas Crafts "Stay and Play" afternoon: 2.00pm
Monday 18th December 23	Clubs have now finished for this term.
Monday 18 th December 23	Nursery Conkers Class Christmas concert: 9.15am
Tuesday 19 th December 23	Reception Acorns Christmas concert: 9.15am
Tuesday 19 th December 23	Year 1 Silver Birch and Year 2 Willow Class Nativity Play: 2.00pm
Tuesday 19 th December 23	Year 1 Silver Birch and Year 2 Willow Class Nativity Play: 6.00pm
Wednesday 20 th Dec 23	Christmas parties in Orchard, Acorns, Conkers and Catkins classes



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Wednesday 20 th Dec 23	Christmas disco for Years 1 to 6: 4.00pm to 5.00pm
Thursday 21 st December 23	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 21st December 23	Schools close for Christmas Holiday
Monday 8th January 24	Schools open for Spring Term 1
Friday 26 th January 24	Year 6 Oak Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 2 nd February 24	Year 5 Elm Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 9 th February 24	Year 4 Chestnut Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 16 th February 24	Year 3 Holly Family Dinner Day: 12.20pm
Friday 16th February 24	Schools close for Half Term Holiday
Monday 26th February 24	Schools open for Spring Term 2
Friday 1 st March 24	Year 2 Willow Family Dinner Day: 12.15pm
Friday 8 th March 24	Year 1 Silver Birch Family Dinner Day: 12.10pm
Friday 15 th March 24	Reception Acorns Family Dinner Day: 12.00pm
Wednesday 7 th February 24	Year 5 Elm Class take part in "Young Voices" concert
Wednesday 28 th Feb 24	Nursery Conkers and Reception Acorns classes Baby Dinosaur workshop
Thursday 29 th February 24	Year 6 Oak Class trip to Ashton Central Mosque
Tuesday 26 th March 24	Year 3 Holly and Year 4 Chestnut classes trip to Chester Zoo
Thursday 28th March 24	Schools close for Easter Holiday
Monday 15th April 24	Schools open for Summer Term 1
Wednesday 17 th April	Nursery Conkers and Reception Acorns trip to Bridgewater Gardens
Friday 26 th April 24	Year 6 Oak Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 3 rd May 24	Year 5 Elm Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 10 th May 24	Year 4 Chestnut Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 17 th May 24	Year 3 Holly Family Dinner Day: 12.20pm
Tuesday 21 st May 24	Year 6 Oak class visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelter
Thursday 23rd May 24	Schools close for Half Term Holiday
Monday 3rd June 24	Schools open for Summer Term 2
Friday 14 th June 24	Year 2 Willow Family Dinner Day: 12.15pm
Friday 21 st June 24	Year 1 Silver Birch Family Dinner Day: 12.10pm
Friday 28 th June 24	Reception Acorns Family Dinner Day: 12.00pm
Tuesday 9 th July 24	Year 1 Silver Birch and Year 2 Willow Classes visit to Lytham St. Anne's
Tuesday 23rd July	Schools close for Summer Holiday

I hope you all have a lovely half term break.
 Kindest Regards,

Deborah Meredith