



GAINFORD C E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER 2020



Message from Mrs Riley

Usually in December the youngest children at Gainford Church of England Primary School are all excited to perform some of their Nativity songs at Gainford Lunch Club, organised by the registered charity Teesdale Day Clubs. It is a visit that everyone looks forward to, whatever their age. The Teesdale Day Clubs provide fabulous support to mostly but not exclusively elderly residents in Teesdale villages including here at Gainford. This helps to combat isolation, improve health and wellbeing and to provide a source of information and support. This year has meant that many people are feeling much more isolated than usual given the Covid measures in place. Sadly, the clubs are not able to meet at the moment but there is still lots of support available from the volunteers who work for this registered charity.

Instead of performing their carols and songs the children have made Christmas Cards that can be shared out amongst the club members across the Teesdale Area. Here at school we are delighted to be able to make this small contribution to brightening up someone else's Christmas and to support the fabulous work this charity does across the year. I really do hope that we will be able to resume our visits again in 2021. Here are just a couple of comments made by our children.

Lydia (aged 9)

'I really enjoyed making my card. I painted it with watercolours. I like the thought that it will be sent to an older person in Teesdale because I think they will feel very happy when they receive it.'

Archie (aged 9)

'I think they will feel happy to get the cards. They must miss their friends at the Lunch Club so the cards will make sure they feel loved and not lonely. Christmas joy makes everyone happy really!'

Internet Safety

As part of our computing Curriculum we teach all children about internet safety and about being safe when working or playing on line. Many of our pupils access on line gaming, YouTube videos and regularly use a variety of apps on their devices. The links below offer advice and guidance for parents and carers on how to help keep children safe on line. There is information on the latest apps and social media platforms with recommendations about how age appropriate these sites are and also information on how to set parental controls. It is certainly worth having that conversation with your child about what they *do* access online.

Here are the links -

<https://www.internetmatters.org> and <https://www.net-aware.org.uk>

Covid-Update

Please inform school as soon as possible if a member of your household is being tested for coronavirus.

Here is a link to the do's and don'ts of tier 3 <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-3-very-high-alert>

Quick Reminder/Appeal

Any parents/carers who need to enter the main entrance are kindly requested to wear a face covering.

If you shop on Amazon you can do more than discover great deals: Simply shop at smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1068320-0 or with AmazonSmile **ON** in the Amazon Shopping app, and AmazonSmile donates to The Friends Of Gainford School at no extra cost.



Attendance for this week

(absence due to Covid measures is not included)

Our Minimum Target is **96%**

Well done to all classes who have all achieved attendance above our minimum target.

A special well done to **Class Wear** for attendance that was the best out of the entire school.

Class	Attendance %
Swale	97.50
Wear	98.85
Tees	98.00

Headteacher's Awards

Every Friday we have our Celebration Collective Worship, currently in two Bubbles!

This week the theme was -RE

These are the children who have received the award this week.

Class Swale	Betty Thea Preston
Class Wear	Dexter Emelia
Class Tees	Whole class for excellent reflection work

Dates for your Diary

Nativity Wednesday 9th December

Christmas Lunch Wednesday 9th December

Santa Fun Run Thursday 10th December

Secret Santa Friday 11th December

Class Wear Christmas Party Monday 14th December

Class Tees Christmas Party Tuesday 15th December

Class Swale Christmas Party Wednesday 16th December

Friends of Gainford School (FOGS)

EasyFundraising

Why not raise extra funds for school when shopping online by going through EasyFundraising [Friends of Gainford School Easyfundraising](#)

There are no catches or hidden charges, and we will be really grateful for your donations. Its free to sign up.

School Council News

School Council have had a very busy week. As well as having their usual weekly meeting they have helped to wrap some of the presents for one of our Christmas fundraising activities. For some children it was the first time wrapping a present and it was certainly a big learning curve!!

Fun Fact

Lapland makes up about one third of Finland's total area, and it is a region, not a country. It covers northern Sweden, Finland, Norway and part of Russia's Kola Peninsula. To put its size into perspective, Lapland is as big as Belgium, Holland and Switzerland all put together.