



MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent /Carer

The children have made a brilliant start back to school this week and attendance has been excellent. It is wonderful to the whole school back on site; learning again and playing with their friends.

I know that the lockdown and the demands for remote learning were tough for everyone and I would like to thank you for all the help and support that you managed to give your child or children during January and February. Our teachers have selected some children for special awards because of the efforts that they made with their work, well done to everyone for trying really hard.

I truly hope that the combination of social distancing measures and vaccination help to keep infection rates low so that schools can remain open in the long run and not be subject to another closure.

We all have our part to play in this; in school we are maintaining the systems that were in place during the autumn term with additional handwashing, cleaning and the use of the 'bubbles'. I urge every family to maintain their vigilance too; please maintain your social distancing on the walk to school, at the gates and on the way home. We are still awaiting the publication of the Ofsted monitoring report from February and we will share this with you once it is published, once again a big thank you to the parents who managed to find time to complete the Ofsted questionnaire.

The signs of spring are here; the days are getting longer and weather warmer. Let's maintain our vigilance and keep Gilesgate free from COVID so that our children can attend regularly and make good progress with their learning up to the summer, so can I remind everyone to maintain social distancing on school premises when dropping off and collecting children.

Kind regards
Mark Turner

	Closing Date	Re - Open
Easter 2021	Friday 26 th March 2021	Tuesday 13 th April 2021
May Day 2021	Friday 30 th April 2021	Tuesday 4 th May 2021
Summer half-term 2021	Friday 28 th May 2021	Monday 7 th June 2021
Summer 2021	Tuesday 20 th July 2021	Thursday 2 nd September 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Grandparent's,
What a challenging start to the year we have all had! It was with great pleasure that we welcomed the children back this week, knowing how much they had missed their friends it was lovely to see the smiles on their faces and the volume of noise increase within the school!

I know from telephone conversations we have had with you how difficult it has been for some of you trying to balance work, home, childcare and home schooling. You have done a brilliant job during such a stressful time. I hope you can now get some space to recharge your batteries!

As lockdown continues if you are struggling due to furlough or unemployment please do not hesitate to contact me for support or financial advice, if I can't help I am sure I can find someone who can. Please be sure to read the information about school uniforms.

Go gently and continue to stay well and safe.

Lily Morris - Positive Futures Advisor

In school Monday Morning, Tuesday Morning and all day Thursday.

Child's Details

Please can you ensure your child's address, contact telephone numbers, medical and dietary details are up to date.

To help to reduce Covid transmission we aim to go paper free. Therefore, could all parents and carers provide school with an email address to allow us to email correspondence direct.

Back to School Fund

We have a limited fund to help our financially vulnerable families purchase uniform, shoes and coats for school.

Anyone who needs to access the fund can contact Lily Morris or the school office in confidence.



Durham Gilesgate Primary School

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy coming up for a parent governor. Parent governors are elected by other parents at the school. Any parent or carer of a child who is at the school at the time of election is eligible to stand. If anyone is interested in this supportive role, please contact Mr Turner or the school office for further information.

Free School Meals Eligibility

Just a reminder to all families that if your circumstances change due to the Coronavirus pandemic and you think your child (even those in Reception to Year 2) may be eligible for free school meals, please contact us. This is the criteria set out by Government for eligibility we can apply on your behalf if you email us the following details: Parent's full name and date of birth, National Insurance number, postcode, your child's full name to gilesgateprimary@durhamlearning.net We will let you know if you are eligible.

Covid Symptoms and updated information

Although County Durham has seen a decrease in cases of coronavirus lately, we are asking parents to continue working with us to keep members of the community safe. Your child should not attend school if anyone in your household or support bubble is being tested or has a positive test. If your child is unwell in anyway with winterflu symptoms (cough, high temperature, lack of taste and smell) Please do not send them to school and arrange a test as soon as possible. The symptoms of coronavirus are increasing, so if we feel your child is unwell, we will ring parents / carers and ask you to come and collect them. Together we must ensure that staff, children and our community are kept safe.

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

...IS LOOKING FOR THE UK'S
BEST YOUNG BAKERS
AGED 9 - 15

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK

APPLICATIONS CLOSE
SUNDAY 28TH MARCH 2021

Enquiries:
applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk



Y6 Leavers Hoodies

The Year 6 leavers hoodies that we ordered by parents are in school ready to collect.

If your child would like to order a leavers hoodie, parents can order direct from www.schoolleaverscompany.co.uk/shops/reorder

School Tracksuit Bottoms

The tracksuit bottoms that were ordered in November have arrived and they have been sent home with children this week.

Registering for the Priority Services Register.

The Priority Service Register is a free service provided by energy suppliers, network operators, water and communications companies. It can give everyday peace of mind to the most vulnerable customers. It's there to ensure that organisations are aware of those in their service areas with additional needs and people who would be put at risk by a service failure.

Who is eligible - People who have children under the age of 5, those of pensionable age and people with chronic illnesses or disabilities. It can also help those who have different communication needs or are in temporary situations where they need extra support.

How to be added to the register - Contact your supplier or company, by phone or online, and ask to be added to the register. If you're unsure who supplies your energy or water you can find out online. Citizens Advice can also help. Check the Consumer section of our website or call our Adviceline on 0808 2787821 Mon-Fri 10am-4pm).





LOCKDOWN LEARNING SUPERSTARS!!!!



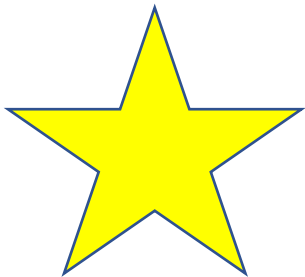
NURSERY SUPERSTARS

★ Nicholas ★ Areesha ★ Isla
★ Jay ★ Jade



RECEPTION / YEAR ONE SUPERSTARS

★ ★ Barbara ★ Dylan ★ Kasim
★ ★ Khloe ★ Tommy ★ James



YEAR ONE / YEAR TWO

★ ★ Rafif ★ John ★ Matyas
★ Katie ★ Casey ★ Charlie
★ ★ Melody ★ Zara ★ Vinnie ★ Cameron
★ Jacob ★ Raghd ★ Ameila L



YEAR THREE / YEAR FOUR

★ ★ Tyler ★ Ellis ★ Joshua
★ Jay J ★ Paras
★ Leah H ★ Anna



YEAR FOUR / YEAR FIVE

★ ★ William B ★ Henley ★ Bobby
★ ★ Ava T ★ Leola



YEAR SIX

★ ★ Rimas ★ Lacey ★ Kye

WELL DONE TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING CHILDREN FOR ALL THE TIME AND EFFORT THEY HAVE PUT INTO THEIR WORK.

THANK YOU TO PARENTS AND CARERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!!

