

The Gorseley Weekly

WELCOME BACK!

A very warm (VERY warm!) welcome back to all members of the Gorseley family. I hope you all had fantastic summer breaks and that you and your children have been looking forward to the start of a new academic year.

It's been brilliant seeing the children return to school so enthusiastically and settling in to their new classrooms this week. I'd like to say a particular well done to all those pupils (including of course our new Reception cohort) who have joined us for the first time this week.

Our main school development priorities for 23-24 remain a focus on an ambitious curriculum, Inclusion, pupil wellbeing and staff development. I will be focusing on each of our four priorities in more detail over the next few weeks in the Weekly.

Regardless of how long your child has been with us, every new year is a change and to help you understand a little more about their new year group, we sent out a welcome document earlier this week which is also now on your child's year groups page of our website (under Useful Information). Later this week we will also be doing a full update to each year group page to give you as full a picture as possible of what your child will learning this year and the year groups expectations in core subjects.

I hope your child has had a really enjoyable first week back.



PTA LAUNCH AND AGM

After another brilliant year of fundraising in 22-23, our amazing PTA will be kicking off the new year with their annual launch event which will be taking place on Wednesday 13th September at Hickory's from 7pm.

Opportunities to support the work of the PTA over the year are many and varied depending on the time you are able to contribute so if you just want to hear about how you can get involved (as well as escaping the house for a midweek drink!) then please join us for this event. This is a particularly great way for new Reception parents to get involved in the amazing Gorseley community we're all so proud of!



THE GORSELEY BANK MISSION STATEMENT:

To nurture lifelong learners who are confident and ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities of the outside world



A FEW START OF YEAR REMINDERS

UNIFORM

Full uniform guidance can be found on our website [here](#). It is important that all children are in full uniform all the time (including correct footwear and specific PE kits) and we ask for your support in ensuring this is the case. If there are exceptional reasons why on any given day your child may not be fully equipped, please let us know.

Please also note the following direct quote from our policy with regards to jewellery: *'NO jewellery of any kind may be worn by any pupil in school AT ANY TIME with the exception that studs may be worn for a period of six weeks after ear piercing'*. Equally, any hair accessories worn should be navy and ideally no larger than needed!

BOOK BAGS

All infants (Reception - Year 2) should be using the school book bags rather than larger backpacks due to limited space for these in classrooms. Bags should not be enhanced by any array of weird and wonderful keyrings.

SNACKS

Children in Key Stage 2 are welcome to bring in snacks for morning break. These can be fruit or vegetable or anything bread based. This does not include packets of crisps or any sugary bars.

WATER BOTTLES

Water bottles should ideally be the school bottles in the colour of your child's house. These can be bought through the school office for £2.50 (cash only). In any case, children should not have a metallic bottle or an oversized one as they do not fit in the specific, regular sized holders used in the classrooms during the day.

SEPTEMBER 2024 RECEPTION APPLICATIONS

We may still be welcoming our new Reception pupils into the Gorsey family for this year but applications are already open for our 2024 cohort!

If you or anyone you know has a child who will be of Reception age next academic year they can apply for a place with us through the [Cheshire East admissions website which can be accessed here](#).

For anyone new to the school community, we run weekly school tour which take place on a Monday at 9.30 led by a member of the Senior Leadership Team and we also have our first Open Morning of the year taking place on Friday 6th October. Both of these can be booked via our website or by calling the school office in 01625 468040.

RAAC

Many of you will have been tracking the story in the media regarding the presence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in schools across the country.

Happily I can confirm that a number of Laurus Trust schools, including Gorsey, were checked for this prior to the story gaining traction over the summer. Nothing was found and this has been reported to the DfE as per their request to all schools.

PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE AN ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL - UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD NUTS, OR ANY PRODUCT CONTAINING NUTS, BE BROUGHT ON TO SCHOOL PREMISES.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

13th Sept - PTA Launch Event (Hickory's, 7pm)

20th Sept - PTA AGM

26th Sept (6pm) - New Reception Curriculum Evening

6th October - Open Morning for prospective parents

4th-5th Oct - Parents' Evenings

20th Oct - Last day of term

30th Oct - INSET Day

31st Oct - Start of term

31st Oct - Aspirations Week

6th Nov - UK Parliament Week

1st Dec - PTA Christmas Fair

22nd Dec - End of term