

The Gorse Weekly

NEURODIVERSITY WEEK

Next week marks Neurodiversity Celebration Week. The aim of the week is to raise awareness of different conditions within this term and celebrate the Neurodiverse community. As part of the week we will be taking time to talk to children about different conditions such as Autism, Dyslexia, ADHD and Dyspraxia and highlight the strengths of people who are neurodiverse, as well as challenge preconceptions of what they can or cannot achieve.

As a school we work very closely with parents of the many children in school who are neurodiverse in one way or another including hosting a SEND Parent Champion group which gives us a vital parental perspective on helping make Gorse Bank as inclusive an environment as possible. Whilst it should be celebrated, neurodiversity can of course at times pose challenges for some young people and we are hugely appreciative of the collaboration we have with parents when this is the case.

We pride ourselves on being such an inclusive school and this came out very strongly in last years Ofsted inspection. We believe it is important for children to be comfortable with - and appreciative of - growing up in a diverse environment and we have seen over many years how this benefits **all** pupils.

To find out more about Neurodiversity Celebration Week you can visit the website: www.neurodiversityweek.com/ If you have any further questions about this or would like more information, please contact our SENDCO Mrs Turrell via the school office. Further resources can also be found on our website here: <https://www.gorsebank.org.uk/curriculum-statement/send/>



RAMADAN / EID AL-FITR

This week, millions of Muslims in the UK and around the world began observing the holy month of Ramadan. Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and is a time of fasting, reflection, community and family. It is during this month that Muslims believe the first verses of the Quran - Islam's holy book - were revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.

During Ramadan, many Muslims fast during daylight hours, an act meant to encourage spiritual reflection and dedication to God. Whilst younger children will often not take part in this element of the month, we respect that some may want to and would encourage any parents in this situation to contact school to discuss how we can support this.

The month concludes with the festival of Eid al-Fitr (currently expected to be 10th April this year) which we will be celebrating in school during the first week back after the break with some assemblies, crafts and a celebration lunch. We will also be having a charity dress down day on the Friday to reflect the charitable aspect of the festival.

More details will be shared nearer the time but if any of our parents who celebrate the festival would be willing to come in and speak to the children about it we would love to hear from you. If you are interested in doing this, please contact the school office either on 01625 468040 or via email at admin@gorseybank.org.uk FAO Miss Ratcliffe.

WILMSLOW RUNNING FESTIVAL

A number of the Gorsey team will be taking part in the Wilmslow Running Festival next Sunday in aid of our school charity the Children's Adventure Farm Trust (CAFT). If you would like to sponsor us you can do so on our JustGiving page here: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/gorseybankcraft>. Equally if any parents or pupils are running feel free to direct any friends or family wanting to sponsor you to the same page!

We'd like to wish all members of the school community taking part all the best and hope to see some of you either pounding the roads or cheering from the pavements on the day!



SPRING SING TICKETING

Requests for tickets for one of our Spring Sing performances (29th-31st March) are still being taken on a first come, first serve basis. Tickets are free but due to capacity in the school hall it is essential that you have one for admission on the door. Unfortunately we are unable to admit anyone who does not have a ticket. Tickets can be requested by using the following link <https://forms.office.com/e/Pc6G2WjaWr>. Confirmation will be sent out next week.

Article 26

Every child has the right to help from their government if they are poor or in need.



TWITTER/X SUBMISSION REMINDER

If you would like to follow your child's year group Twitter Feed please follow these two steps:

1. Search your child's class' account (e.g. @GorseyY4) and request to 'follow' on the Twitter (X) app
2. Register your account for verification through our Form - this has been sent out via MCAS but if you need the link again please contact the school office

The rationale for the dual authentication is to ensure all accounts requesting to follow us through the app are who they claim to be. Please note that you will need an existing Twitter/X account to do this.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS ELIGIBILITY

If you think that you may be entitled to Free School Meals, please follow this [link](#). This will take you to the Cheshire East Free School Meals page where you can check your eligibility and make an application.

The Free School Meal scheme is separate to the Universal Infant Free School Meals for Reception and KS1 children.

If you are eligible for Free School Meals you may also benefit from Household Support Fund Vouchers which will support you with the following:

- Help with boiler repair or replacements for home owners
- Help with housing costs for those in rented accommodation

More information on family support can be found on the dedicated page of our school website which can be accessed by clicking on this link.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

18th Mar - Neurodiversity Celebration Week

24th Mar - Wilmslow Running Festival

26th-28th Mar - Spring Sing (Rec-Y2)

28th Mar - Random Acts of Kindness Day

28th Mar - end of term

15th Apr - INSET Day

16th Apr - start of term

19th Apr - School Eid celebrations

19th Apr - Dress Down Day

26th Apr - Year 1 Assembly (2.30pm)

6th May - Bank Holiday (School closed)

8th May - Wilmslow Schools Cross Country

10th May - Reception Assembly (2.30pm)

13th May - Year 6 SATS Week

24th May - Sports Day (9.30am)

24th May - end of term

3rd June - INSET Day

4th June - start of term

13th June - Y3-5 Play with the Hallé concert