

# The Gorsey Weekly

## **READING AT GORSEY BANK**

## BOOKSHELVES

Every term, every year group has their learning supported by an amazing selection of books which make up what we call our Curriculum Bookshelves. Each book on the shelf is selected by our teachers to inspire and engage the children as well as supporting one of our termly themes of hope, courage, identity, belonging, growth, curiosity, creativity and heroism.



Over the years we've had many nice comments about how enthused the children have been about the books and requests for similar or linked books that they could get hold of to read at home. In response to this, we now also produce termly 'Supporting Bookshelves' solely for this purpose. Both Bookshelves, along with other reading recommendations can be found on the year groups pages of <u>www.gorseybank.org.uk</u>



## **AUTHOR VISITS**

We're delighted to share the news that our first visiting author of the year will be the brilliant Jess Butterworth, author of a range of amazing books including 'Running on the Roof of the World' which is currently being enjoyed by our Year 5s as one of their Bookshelf texts for this term. Jess will be doing a whole school assembly before visiting classes for some writing workshops. She will also be signing copies of her books and taking part in an interview with our Department for Education.





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Visiting authors form part of our wider approach to developing our reading for pleasure culture. As well as hosting events such as our annual Family Book Evening as well as a number of book fairs, we are also lucky enough to be able to take groups of children to watch authors at other venues including taking Years 5 and 6 to see Adam Kay next month and our recent trip to the world famous Hay Literary Festival.

Contact with authors is a really significant part of our culture and in addition to the above we maintain good contact with a number over Twitter as well as through online sessions.





## SAFEGUARDING

Ensuring appropriate vetting of all adults who work with children is of course of paramount importance to all schools. There are stringent processes for all recruitment across the Laurus Trust and every interview panel has at least (and usually all) member/s specifically trained in safer recruitment.

Our focus for this week's staff training in safeguarding was on the Trusts whistleblowing procedures for colleagues should they ever have any concerns and any adult working within our schools. The specific policy for this is read by all staff and can be found on the Laurus Trust website <u>here</u>.

#### **OUT OF HOURS REFERRALS**

Should any parents ever have any concerns about the safety of a child, either in school or out, they should request a conversation with myself as Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Mrs Bell as Deputy Lead (DDSL). This will of course be treated in the strictest of confidence.

Should a concern arise outside of school hours, parents are advised to contact and <u>Cheshire East Consultation</u> <u>Service (ChECS)</u> on 0300 123 5022.

### SECOND HAND UNIFORM

Big thanks to Lizzie Jones for organising the second hand uniform sale today. Thank you also to those who donated items.

We do have limited storage in school so whilst we are very grateful for donations, if you do have anything, please contact the office prior to bringing them in to school.

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

## ATTENDANCE

The national press have been focusing on school attendance recently, with record low levels in the wake of the pandemic. Given that, we thought we would share our attendance levels with you in a bit more detail.

The current national average for primary schools is 94% while ours currently sits at 97%. That said we have 2 classes with attendance levels of 91% and 92% which, if they stay at that level for the rest of the academic year, would mean that the average amount of time lost in that class would be more than 3 weeks. This would have a seriously adverse impact on both the child's education and their welfare.

Let's make a concerted effort to improve these numbers with only genuine illness being the reason to keep your child off school. If you need any support or have any questions, please contact our welfare team on <u>01625</u> <u>468040</u> or email <u>welfare@gorseybank.org.uk</u>

## WATER BOTTLES

A reminder that all pupils should have their own plastic water bottle with them each day (these are stored in purpose built crates so preferably of normal size and ideally the school bottles).

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

20th Oct - Last day of term

- 30th Oct INSET Day
- 31st Oct Start of term

31st Oct - Aspirations Week

6th Nov - UK Parliament Week

7th Nov - Parent Council

8th Nov - Y5/6 Adam Kay visit

9th Nov - Jess Butterworth Author Visit

1st Dec - PTA Christmas Fair

7-8th Dec - Rex Cinema visits

22nd Dec - End of term