



## General News

### Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

We are heading into an exciting and busy half term as we start to prepare for our Christmas festivities.

With darker mornings and evenings, please ensure your children can be seen and are safe on the way to and from school. Our safety officers will be sharing the message 'Be Bright, Be Seen' in the coming weeks.

Please check your emails and School Gateway app regularly to keep up to date with school events.

As always if there is anything you need to discuss or share, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your support.

Miss E Jackson  
Headteacher

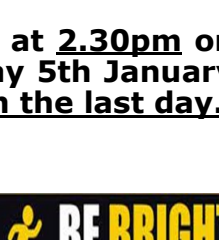


### Safeguarding at Gorsewood

At Gorsewood, safeguarding all of our pupils is a priority. If you have a concern or need some support or advice please speak to us.

If you have any concerns for the safety of a child please speak to the designated safeguarding lead **Miss E Jackson** or in her absence the deputy designated safeguarding leads are **Mrs C Westwood** and **Mrs J Neilson**.

If it is out of hours you can contact Halton Children's Social Care on 0345 050 148.



### General Reminders

#### Warm Clothing

As the weather is now a lot colder, please can you ensure your child has a suitable outdoor coat with them at all times.

#### School Closing & Opening

**I would like to remind you that school finishes at 2.30pm on Friday 19th December and we return on Monday 5th January 2026. After school club will run until 4.00pm on the last day.**

#### BE BRIGHT BE SEEN!

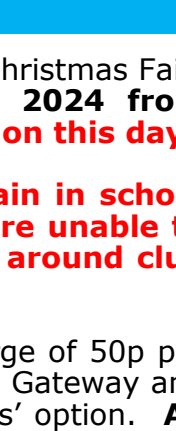
As both the mornings and evenings are now much darker we would like to remind you all to be safe at all times. If you are out and about please remember to wear bright reflective clothing and take extra care on roads and if using scooters or bicycles.



### Parking Around School

**Please can we remind all parents/carers to park safely and responsibly outside the school.**

Thank you for your continued support.



### School Fundraising Donation Days

#### Fri 7th Nov = Crazy Hair Day

In exchange for a selection box/sweet donation

#### Fri 21st Nov = Own Clothes Day

In exchange for a tombola donation

#### Fri 5th Dec = Own Clothes Day

In exchange for a selection box donation

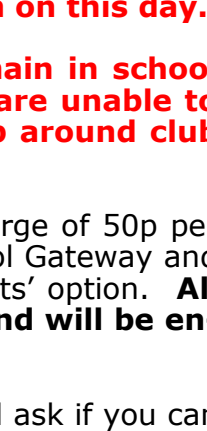


Further information will follow nearer the time.

### Children in Need Own Clothes Day - Friday 14th Nov

Gorsewood will be joining many others around the UK to participate in fundraising for BBC Children in Need 2025.

We will be taking part with an **Own Clothes Day on Friday 14th November**. We are asking for donations of 50p per pupil which can be paid online via the School Gateway or in cash if preferred.



Children can come to school wearing own clothes and CIN merchandise if they wish to.

### Christmas Fair

We would like to invite you to attend the Gorsewood Christmas Fair! **This will take place on Friday 5th December 2024 from 1.45pm. Please note school will close at 1.30pm on this day.**

**All pupils must be collected by an adult or remain in school until 3.15pm. Please let the office know if you are unable to collect your child at 1.30pm. After school wrap around club will run as usual.**

Children can attend free of charge but there is a charge of 50p per adult. If you require tickets please login to the School Gateway and purchase the amount you require using the 'Payments' option. **All adults will need to have paid the entrance fee and will be entered into an entrance raffle.**

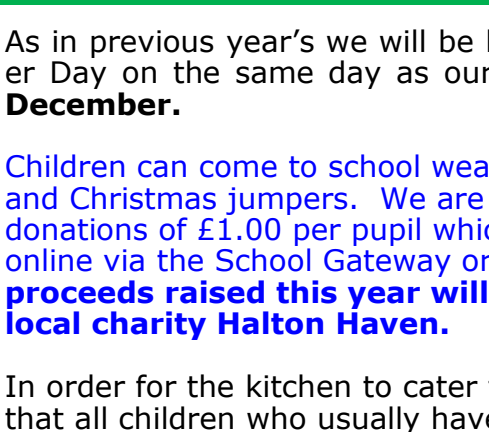
We will be using cash on the day for the activities and ask if you can please bring change with you.



#### Christmas Carols

School will close at **2.30pm** on Friday 19th December for the Christmas holiday.

**As in previous years, we would like to invite all parents/carers to join us for carols on the playground at 2.15pm.**



#### Christmas Raffle

Once again, in order to raise money for the school fund we are holding a Christmas raffle and would be grateful for your support.

Tickets are £1.00 per strip and can be purchased via the School Gateway or at the office. We will let you know when tickets go on sale.

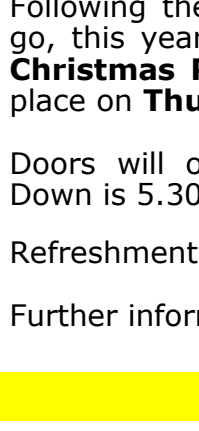


### Christmas Performances

The KS1 Christmas performance of Jesus' Christmas Party will take place on:

**Wednesday 10th December.**

There will be 2 performances at: **10.00am & 2.15pm.**



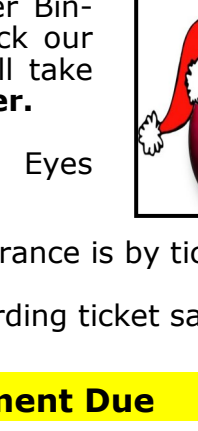
Admission will be by booking only and is restricted to a **maximum of 2 seats per family.**

Further information will follow.

The KS2 Christmas performance of Bah Humbug! will take place on:

**Wednesday 17th December.**

There will be 2 performances at: **10.30am & 2.00pm.**



Admission will be by booking only and is restricted to a **maximum of 2 seats per family.**

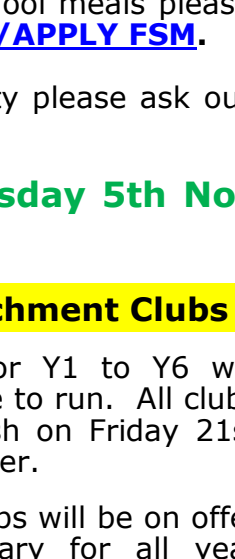
Further information will follow

**Unfortunately due to hall space and maximum capacity guidelines we cannot accommodate any additional siblings or prams for these performances. All prams will need to be left at the front of school.**

### Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day

As in previous year's we will be holding our annual Christmas Jumper Day on the same day as our Christmas Dinner on **Friday 12th December.**

Children can come to school wearing own clothes and Christmas jumpers. We are asking for donations of £1.00 per pupil which can be paid online via the School Gateway or in cash. **All proceeds raised this year will be in aid of local charity Halton Haven.**



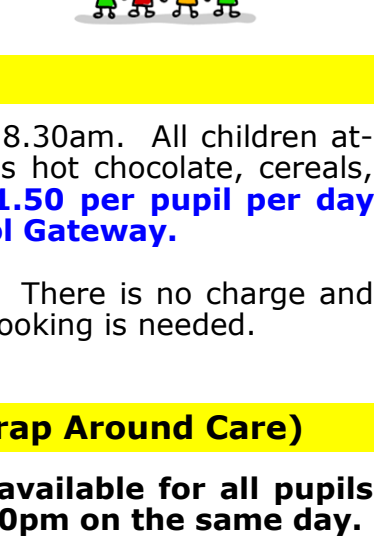
In order for the kitchen to cater for correct numbers, we will assume that all children who usually have a free school meal will be having a Christmas Lunch.

**Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who do not receive free school meals and who would like a Christmas Lunch will need to order and pay online through the School Hub as usual; the cost is £3.20 per pupil.**

### Christmas Bingo!

Following the success of our Easter Bingo, this year we have brought back our **Christmas Prize Bingo!** This will take place on **Thursday 11th December.**

Doors will open at 5.00pm and Eyes Down is 5.30pm.



Refreshments will available and entrance is by ticket only.

Further information will follow regarding ticket sales.

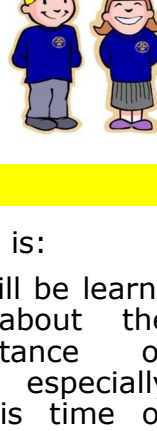
### Tuck - Payment Due

There are still outstanding tuck payments. We are asking parents/carers for a contribution of **£5.00 per pupil for the full academic year.**

If you do not want your child to have tuck please let the office know and we will remove the charge from your School Gateway account.

### School Meals & School Hub

A reminder that you can view menus up to 3 weeks in advance and order school meals at home with your child. Please visit the [School Hub](#).



If you think your child may be entitled to free school meals please check your eligibility online using this link: [CHECK/APPLY FSM](#).

If anyone would like any help in checking eligibility please ask our FSW Jo Neilson who will be happy to help.

Orian have arranged a theme menu for **Wednesday 5th November - Bonfire Night Menu.**

#### Pastoral Support

A reminder that our pastoral team are always around for any support and advice. Jo Neilson our Family Support Worker is always around at the start and end of the school day.

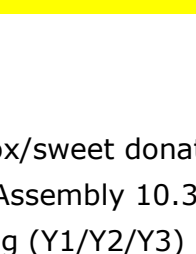
We will always do our best to support all our pupils and families in any way we can.

**If at any point you feel are struggling, please contact school so we can offer advice and support.**

#### Enrichment Clubs

Clubs for Y1 to Y6 will continue to run. All clubs will finish on Friday 21st November.

New clubs will be on offer in January for all year groups.



### Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs daily from 7.30am until 8.30am. All children attending receive free breakfast which includes hot chocolate, cereals, bagels and juice. **The cost to attend is £1.50 per pupil per day and must be booked online via the School Gateway.**

Early Bird Drop Off runs daily from 8.30am. There is no charge and children can also access free breakfast. No booking is needed.

### Gorsewood After School Club (Wrap Around Care)

**Our After School Wrap Around Club is available for all pupils and sessions can be booked up until 2.30pm on the same day.**

Please see below for the new sessions now on offer. All sessions include a drink and snack. **Please book via Clubs option on School Gateway.**

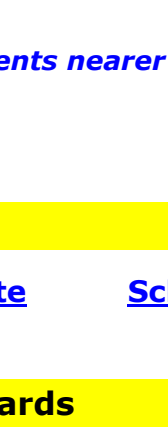
**Session A: 3.15pm to 4.00pm = £5.00**

**Session B: 3.15pm to 4.30pm = £6.50**

**Session C: 3.15pm to 5.00pm = £8.00**

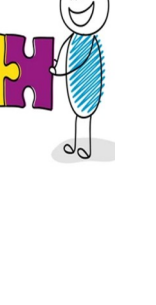
**Session D: 3.15pm to 5.30pm = £9.50**

**Session E: 3.15pm to 6.00pm = £11.00 (Not on Fri)**



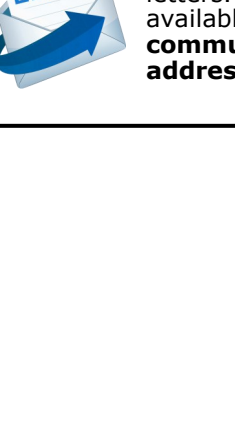
### School Uniform Orders

Uniform orders should be made through the school office. Please allow time for your order to be processed (around 7-10 days). When your order arrives we will send you a text message to arrange payment and collection.



### Values of the Month

During Nov our value is:



We will be learning about Remembrance Sunday and Years 4, 5 and 6 will lead assemblies.

We will take time to reflect on the conflict in the world today and understand why peace is so important.

During Dec our value is:



We will be learning about the importance of love, especially at this time of year and what happiness means to us all.



### School Houses

Children continue to earn points for their allocated houses.

Our 4 houses are: **Ash, Oak, Birch and Sycamore**



### Diary Dates - Oct

- Mon 3rd Nov - School reopens
- Wed 5th Nov - Bonfire Themed Menu
- Fri 7th Nov - Crazy Hair & Hat Day (selection box/sweet donation)
- Wed 12th Nov - Y4/Y5/Y6 Remembrance Day Assembly 10.30am
- Thu 13th Nov - Family Learning Online Wellbeing (Y1/Y2/Y3)
- Thu 13th Nov - SEN Support Plan Drop in KS1 9.00am to 12.30pm
- Thu 13th Nov - SEN Support Plan Drop in KS2 12.00pm to 3.30pm
- Fri 14th Nov - Children In Need Own Clothes Day (50p donation)
- Thu 20th Nov - Y6 Forest School
- Fri 21st Nov - Y3 & Y5 Martin Mere Visit (**school uniform to be worn**)
- Fri 21st Nov - Own Clothes Day (tombola gift donation)
- Thu 27th Nov - Y3 Forest School
- Tue 2nd Dec - School Health Flu Vaccination Program Follow Up
- Wed 3rd Dec - Fundraising Craft & Chat Session (1.30pm to 3.00pm)
- Thu 4th Dec - Y2 Forest School
- Fri 5th Dec - Own Clothes Day (selection box donation)
- Fri 5th Dec - Christmas Fair (school closes at 1.30pm)
- Wed 10th Dec - KS1 Christmas Performances (10.00am & 2.15pm)
- Thu 11th Dec - Christmas Bingo! (5.00pm)
- Fri 12th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner Day
- Wed 17th Dec - KS1 Christmas Performances (10.30am & 2.00pm)
- Fri 19th Dec - Carols on Playground 2.15pm
- Fri 19th Dec - School closes for Christmas 2.30pm
- Mon 5th Jan - School reopens

**Further information will be sent out for events nearer the time. Additional events may also be added.**

### Useful Links

[School Term Dates](#)

[School Website](#)

[School Twitter](#)

### Attendance & Rewards

Attendance continues to be a priority for school. Good attendance is essential for children to reach their potential.

Our whole school target is 96%. If we achieve this target we will have a whole school reward. Each week if your child's class has attendance of 95% or above they will receive a jigsaw piece. When the jigsaw is complete the class will win a prize! Classes who achieve 100% attendance for the week will receive 2 jigsaw pieces.



**Everyone can help to complete their class jigsaw!**

**Our current attendance is 95.3%**

**Please note term time holidays/leave of absence requests will not be authorised.**



A reminder we no longer send out paper copies of newsletters and letters. All communication is sent by email however paper copies are available if requested. **If you are not receiving any communications please update the office with your email address [here](#).**