



Gosforth Park First School

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

26th April 2019 Issue 1 Summer Term 1



Thank you so much to our two parent volunteers who have helped to transform our garden this week! They have weeded, dug over beds, added in soil improver, generally worked up a sweat – and all for the price of a cup of coffee! There is still plenty to be done. If anyone can spare any time, please let the office know.

We are excited that the garden will soon be ready for classes to do some planting. We have had a generous donation of seeds from one family and a local allotment has donated some plants.

We are hoping to add to our collection of herbs which have been potted and will be placed just outside of the garden. Families can then help themselves to a snip of rosemary or mint etc. for their home cooking!

One of the beds is currently out of action as we have discovered some bumble bees. We were visited by Environmental Services yesterday who informed us they do not pose a threat if they are not disturbed. As bees are a protected species we are unable to move them on and will just have to wait until they decide to relocate or die off which could be anything from 2-8weeks. In the meantime – you can observe them in the garden and read more about them below!

Mrs Lamb

Site Security

Please remember, at the end of the school day, that parents should only access the playground by the main front gate once gates are opened at 3:20. We have had some parents coming around the back via Broadway East School. Our children and staff use the grounds until this time.

Any parents needing to enter school must come via the school office so that they can be signed in so that we know who is on site at all times. This is to keep our children, staff and parents safe.

For the same reason, any parents of children who collect children from Out of School Club are not permitted past the office and children should not be returning to classes to collect belongings as staff are working and have meetings in school.

Thank you for your support

Mrs Lamb

Indigo Class Assembly Friday 3rd May

Doors will open as soon as we can get the hall ready (no later than 9:15) so you can have a cuppa and a chat, then the children will come down at 9:30. We look forward to seeing you there!

Class Assemblies

Class	Date
Reception SC and SW	Friday 10 th May
Orange	Friday 17 th May
Indigo	Friday 3 rd May



Bumble Bees

Now is a great time of year to pay attention to our bumblebees – those small but vitally important creatures that live all around us.

With bees in decline, it's important we take the opportunity to learn more about these special pollinators.

At this time of year the queen bumblebees have just come out of hibernation – huge, furry zeppelins of the insect world. If you have bee-friendly flowers in your garden you will see them hungrily feeding, for they haven't had a meal for seven months.

Once they are replete, you'll see them flying low to the ground – they are hoping to find a hole that leads down to a cosy abandoned mouse nest, their favourite place to build their own nest. Bumblebees are wild creatures, cousins of the smaller, more drab honeybees that we keep in hives.

Take a moment to watch them and you will soon spot different types of bumblebees – we have 26 species in the UK, and you can easily see 7 different ones in any garden or park. Learn these 7 and you can amaze and amuse (or annoy) your friends by pointing out the different types.

1. Most common is the buff-tailed bumblebee, one of the biggest, with 2 golden yellow stripes and a brownish tail.
2. The white-tailed bumblebee is quite similar but as the name suggests, the tail is white, and the yellow stripes a paler, more lemony yellow. Once you have those 2 sorted it gets easier.
3. Look out for the garden bumblebee, like the white-tailed but with 3 yellow stripes and an enormously long tongue, half the length of its own body, that it uses to suck nectar from deep flowers that other bumblebees cannot reach.
4. The red-tailed bumblebee is a piece of cake – velvety black with a bright red bottom.
5. Then there is the common carder bumblebee – a drab gingery brown all over.
6. The early bumblebee is a sweet little bumblebee, smaller than the others, with 2 yellow stripes and a rusty red bottom.
7. Finally, the tree bumblebee, chestnut brown at the front, black in the middle, with a white bottom. Unlike the others, it likes to nest in holes in trees, hence the name.



Take your time. There is no rush. The bees will be with us now until the end of summer. Move slowly and you can get very close to them – they are very docile and will never sting so long as you don't grab them in your hand.

Taken from <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/bee-count/how-identify-bumblebees>

Congratulations!

Well done to Aurelia Garvey for achieving stage 6 in swimming.

Well done to Hadi Kayani for achieving stage 7 in swimming, level A of the Kumon English Programme and Level 2A of the Kumon Mathematics Programme.

Well done to Harry Brown for achieving stage 7 in swimming.

Well done to Melody Makvandi for achieving Stage 4 in swimming.

Well done to Rohan Gent for achieving Stage 8 in swimming. Rohan has also been selected to swim in the Newcastle squad!

Well done to Freya Buck for achieving the Gymnastics proficiency award for level 2.



Classes of the Week!



The attendance cups for this week's best attendance were won by **Orange** and **Violet** class.

Our attendance this week was 97.5%, the same as the last week of Spring term, and still a huge improvement on last year (96.7%)

We only had 7 lates this week (6 families)

Thank you so much for your support.

Mrs Lamb



Our Mathletics trophy goes to **Orange Class** this week and our Mathletes of the week are *Magnus Gouty*, and *Hunain Hashim!*
Well done!

Homework

Class	
Green	Maths: Counting in 2s and 10s Spellings – months of the year
Orange	Maths: position and directions English: Reading Comprehension
Yellow	Maths: Y1 – place value Y2 – interpreting data English – homophones and near homophones
Indigo	Maths: Fractions on a number line Spellings
Violet	Maths: Mathletics; fractions recap and challenge.
Blue	Dividing by 10 including decimals (tenths) Times tables (up to 12x12)



Children's Cancer Run Essential Information

Thank you so much for joining our school team for the 37th Children's Cancer Run on **Sunday 19th May 2019**. I am very much looking forward to taking part and thrilled so many of you can attend.

Please arrive at Newcastle Racecourse, Gosforth Park by **11:20am** ready for our **11:40am start**. Our designated **car park is A**. Meet by our school banner at the school meeting point.

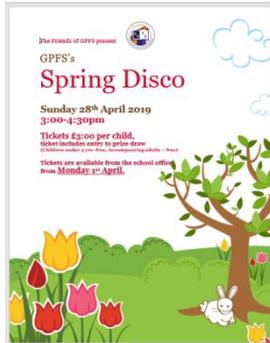
I am very much looking forward to seeing you there on the day! Thank you for helping our school to make a difference.

Miss Walsh



The Friends of GPFS

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely Easter break!



Spring Disco

Don't forget it's our Spring Disco this Sunday 3-4:30pm, don't worry if you have forgotten to buy your ticket, we will be selling tickets on the door on the day.

£3 per child (3yrs+) which includes entry to our prize draw. Please make sure to **write your child's name and class on their ticket** and hand it in when you arrive. Our DJ will draw the winners at the end of the disco.

We will have stalls selling drinks, snacks, pocket money toys, preloved uniform and face paints!

We are really hoping for another amazing turn out to support our school, remember all proceeds from the event go straight back into school to pay for vital equipment and resources for the children!

We would really appreciate cake donations for our cake stall, please bring these into school on Sunday at the beginning of the disco. Also, if you can help at the Disco please let your Class Rep know, Thank you.

GPFS Annual Open Day – Raffle Prizes Needed!!

With the overwhelming success of last year's Open Day fundraising, we have high hopes to exceed last year's total. We are currently looking for Raffle prizes so if you have anything that would be a good raffle prize you could donate or know any companies who would be generous enough to donate please let your Class Rep or the school office know, alternatively you can contact us at 2005friends@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

We will also need some helpers on the day so if you would be able to help out please let us know.

You're all amazing!

We cannot thank our school community enough for the continued support we receive. We have been able to successfully support Gosforth Park First School by helping financially to purchase resources. Through your support we won the Asda Charity grand total of £500 (which we receive next month), with our bucket overflowing with the green coins. Our School once again demonstrated our community spirit with the amazing total we raised for the Parklands Community Crossing **Well Done GPFS!!**

On behalf of the PTFA Committee,

Have a fantastic weekend and see you all at the Disco!!

Jen Higgins

Chairperson