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[admin@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk)



[www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk)



@goostreyprimary



**9th December 2022**

Dear Families,

**Scarlet Fever**—latest information from UKHSA is on pages 5 and 6. We were informed yesterday that the updated advice is for children to return 48 hours after they start their antibiotics and only then if they are fever free. **As of today, we are not aware of any of our pupils being off school with a confirmed case of Scarlet Fever or Strep A.** However, numbers are increasing in Cheshire so we are asking families to be extra vigilant around possible signs and symptoms.

**REMINDER Christmas Hamper Raffle—tickets are on sale until next Tuesday.**

**Monday 12th December PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR TICKETS FOR ENTRY**

Junior pupils singing in St Luke's Church 9.30am (1 ticket for Y3 and Y4 families)

Junior pupils singing in St Luke's Church 2pm (1 ticket for Y5 and Y6 families)

Juniors singing 6pm Junior Playground (weather permitting ) everyone welcome—please note change of day, originally on 13th.

**Tuesday 13th December** Infant Nativity 9.30am Village Hall 2 tickets per infant family

**Wednesday 14th December** Infant Nativity 9.30am 2 tickets per infant family

**Friday 16th December** Christmas Jumper Day and afternoon film for the whole school

School closes—pupils return on Wednesday 4th January

Reminder—school work is not set for any pupils who are poorly and not well enough to come in to school.

***Term dates for 22 23 and 23 24 are on our website***

The school's official communication with families comes through the newsletter, website, class pages, messages through the app, email and occasionally paper letters.

The PTA have Facebook, class pages for information.

### Useful information

**Before and after school clubs** : booking for ms available on school website

[http://www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk/serve\\_file/48433](http://www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/48433)

**School uniform official supplier** - other options are available, please see the school website for more information.

[www.myschoolstyle.com/school/goostrey](http://www.myschoolstyle.com/school/goostrey)

On-line payment website address [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schoolshop](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schoolshop)

SENCo [mrs.freeman@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:mrs.freeman@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk)

## Elizabethfontein Visit

June 13<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> 2023

Thank you so much to Goostrey School families who have already invited a child from Elizabethfontein into your homes next summer.

We have three children who still need a family to stay with, so if you are interested in hosting a child, please contact Miss Atkins or Mrs Saxton. ([mrs.saxton@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:mrs.saxton@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk))

We are very happy to chat with you if you would like more information.  
Thank you



### Eco News



*Thank you to everyone who has bought Christmas tags.  
The children will start to think how to spend their money at the next Eco meeting.  
Please send this year's cards into school after the Christmas holiday so that they  
can be recycled to make beautiful tags next year.  
Thank you.*



**Saul Thompson** was awarded his yellow belt in karate.  
Well done Saul.



**Clemmie Thompson**, year 4, performed with her dance class at the Holmes Chapel Christmas markets last Sunday.  
Great news Clemmie.



**Tippi** from Year 5 took part in a karate grading this week and was awarded Grade 4th KYU which is a Brown Belt with 2 white stripes -we're super proud of her!!

## Support Dogs stamp collection

Support Dogs is a UK based charity which homes, trains and provides service dogs for disabled people young and old across the country. Their service dogs can provide everyday aid for people with hearing and sight-based disabilities, provide seizure warnings to epileptic people up to 50 minutes beforehand, or even autism support dogs, which help reduce emotional stress in young autistic people. In 2021 alone, the service dogs provided 600,000 hours of support to their owners, helping reduce strain on the NHS and other services, which would ordinarily not be able to provide the same type of support.

Support dogs provide a stamp recycling system, which can convert used stamps into funds to be used in the process of raising these dogs. As Christmas is so near, more and more people will be receiving letters containing stamps, and so a collection box is going to be set up in both the infants and junior sides of the school, to give the best opportunity for everyone to help out.

To prepare the stamps, carefully cut them off the material, and then bring them in to submit in the collection box. It's a simple way for everyone to help out for free.

If you are interested in further information on Support Dogs work, wish to make a further donation or even wish to establish your own stamp collection within your workplace or other community centre, visit <https://www.supportdogs.org.uk/> for details.

Isabella Wilson (ex Goostrey School pupil)

Please keep sending your child's achievements for the newsletter so we can celebrate them together. I love knowing about what the pupils are doing both in and out of school.

## Information from the UK Health Security Agency

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s),

### Re: Increase in scarlet fever

We are writing to inform you of a recent increase in notifications of scarlet fever to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), above seasonal expected levels.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the signs, symptoms and the actions to be taken if you think that you or your child might have scarlet fever.

### Signs and symptoms of scarlet fever

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by *Streptococcus pyogenes*, or group A Streptococcus (GAS). It is not usually serious, but should be treated with antibiotics to reduce the risk of complications (such as pneumonia) and spread to others. The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours, the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and be pale around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a bright red red 'strawberry' tongue.

If you think you, or your child, might have scarlet fever:

- contact your GP or NHS 111 as soon as possible

- make sure that you or your child take(s) the full course of any antibiotics prescribed. Although you or your child will feel better soon after starting the course of antibiotics, you must complete the course to ensure that you do not carry the bacteria in your throat after you have recovered

- stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection

You can help stop the spread of infection through frequent hand washing and by not sharing eating utensils, clothes, bedding and towels. All contaminated tissues should be disposed of immediately.

### Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)

The same bacteria which cause scarlet fever can also cause a range of other types of infection such as skin infections (impetigo) and sore throat.

In very rare cases, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive group A strep (iGAS). Whilst still very uncommon, there has been an increase in iGAS cases this year, particularly in children under 10 years old. It is very rare for children with scarlet fever to develop iGAS infection.

As a parent, you should trust your own judgement.

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

your child is getting worse

your child is feeding or eating much less than normal

your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration

your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39C or higher

your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty

your child is very tired or irritable

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs

there are pauses when your child breathes

your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue

your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

### **Stop the spread**

During periods of high incidence of scarlet fever, there may also be an increase in outbreaks in schools, nurseries and other childcare settings. Children and adults with suspected scarlet fever should stay off nursery / school / work until **24 hours** after the start of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in preventing and controlling spread of infection.

Yours sincerely,

### **Resources**

[NHS – Scarlet Fever](#)

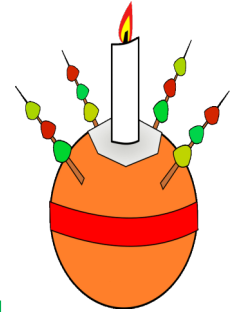
[Scarlet fever: symptoms, diagnosis and treatment](#)

[Health protection in education and childcare settings](#)

[Hand hygiene resources for schools](#)



**ST LUKE'S  
GOOSTREY**



# CHRISTINGLE and NATIVITY



**Children are invited to dress as  
characters or  
animals in the Nativity**

**10.00am**

**Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

Year 2 & Year 6 assessments will be ongoing throughout both the spring and summer term until the **end of June 2023. It is vital that your child attends school for the whole of this period.**

## **TAKING CHILDREN ON HOLIDAY DURING TERM TIME**

### **A guide for parents and carers**

#### **Frequently asked questions**

**Am I entitled to take my child out of school for a family holiday?**

- No.** Parents have a legal duty to ensure that their children attend school or the alternative provision on a regular basis
- The Education Act 1996 makes it a criminal offence for a parent to *“fail to secure their child’s regular attendance at the school”*
- The amendments to the 2006 Regulations remove any reference to *family holidays, extended leave and the statutory threshold of ten school days.*
- The amendments make clear that **Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence (holiday) during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances**
- The amendments give **parents no entitlement** to take their child out of school for a holiday in term time
- The Head Teacher and Governing Body will determine what the exceptional circumstances are

**If we decide to take a holiday during term time what should we do?**

- The parent/carer with whom the child resides must apply in writing to the school
- The letter/application must explain the exceptional circumstance surrounding the request for the leave of absence

**What will the school do then?**

- The Head Teacher will determine whether the exceptional circumstance ruling applies, if not the application will be declined
  - Only the Headteacher (or the Deputy) has the power to approve leave of absence applications. When making the decision the protocols and criteria laid down in the school’s attendance policy must be followed.
  - Each academic year, schools inform parents/carers via a letter, newsletter or some other communication; that they may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice if their child has unauthorised absences in term time
- You will receive a written response from the Headteacher (or the Deputy) letting you know if your application has been approved
- If the holiday goes ahead after the application has been declined the absence will be recorded as unauthorised



### What will happen if the absence is unauthorised?

- The school will decide if a Penalty Notice should be issued. If the school decide that a Penalty Notice is to be issued
- You will receive a letter from the school advising that it has referred the matter to the Local Authority and that a Penalty Notice may be issued;
- The school will inform the Local Authority that a Penalty Notice needs to be issued
- A Penalty Notice will be sent to you, accompanied by an explanatory letter; the Notice gives you the opportunity to pay a penalty fine instead of being prosecuted in the criminal courts

<b>Penalties for unauthorised absence</b>		
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>One child</b>	<b>Two children</b>
Paid within 21 days	£60 per parent	£60 per child = £120 per parent
After 21 days and before 28 days	£120 per parent	£120 per child = £240 per parent
After 28 days	You will receive a summons to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your child's regular attendance	You will receive a summons to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your children's regular attendance

Payments will **not** be accepted after the 28<sup>th</sup> day and payments **cannot** be paid in part or by instalments

**Each school has a designated Education Welfare Officer [educationwelfareservice@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:educationwelfareservice@cheshireeast.gov.uk) or you can also telephone the main office.**

**Tel: 01270 375277**

**Website: [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/ews](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/ews)**

#### **Other leaflets are available to support you:**

- Taking action to improve attendance – explaining legal action - a guide for parents and carers
- Helping your child to attend school. The role of the EWO - a guide for parents and carers

*The expression "parent", in relation to a child or young person, includes any person who is not a parent of the child but who has parental responsibility for him/her, or who has care of the child.*

## Do you have a concern about a child?

Anyone can make a call if they have concerns about a child. This call can be made confidentially.

### Cheshire East Consultation Service

The Cheshire East Consultation Service (ChECS) is the 'front door' for access to services, support and advice for children and their families.

### General public

Phone ChECS on **0300 123 5012 (option 3)** Callers will be directed to a Unit Coordinator who will ask if the concerns are early help or safeguarding. You will then be directed to either Practitioner Support Officer for Early Help requests for support or a Social Worker ( ChECS ) for safeguarding concerns. The worker will gather your information and advise you of the next steps.

If you need to contact someone out of hours and you believe it to be an emergency that can't wait, please call our Emergency Duty Team on **0300 123 5022**.

**If you have something that you would like putting in our newsletter please email it either to *head@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk* or *admin@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk***

**It needs to be with us by 12.00 on Thursday and attached to your email on a WORD document so once approved we can easily cut and paste. Thank you**

**We always welcome pieces about Goostrey pupils and their achievements outside of school. I love to hear what our pupils are celebrating and achieving outside school so we can celebrate in the newsletter and assembly.**

**The responsibility to get permission for other people's children to be on photographs lies with the sender not with the school.**

**We will usually allow local events to be advertised in the newsletter, especially if we think they will be of interest to our pupils and their families.**

**However we do not endorse or take responsibility for anything not directly organised by the school.**

## **Mid-Day Assistants Vacancies**

We are seeking enthusiastic and caring people to join our team supervising our pupils over the lunchtime breaks.

Please contact our School Business Manager, Mrs J Schurer-Lewis on 01270 918940 or via e-mail; [admin@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk) to request an application form and job description.

**Goostrey Community Primary School is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of our pupils. Successful applicants will be required to have enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks, and attend Basic Safeguarding awareness training**



Please click on the link below for full details of our after school provision and electronic copies of our registration and booking forms.

We are open Monday to Friday - 3pm to 6pm.

If you would like to see what the children have been up to this week, please follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

<https://www.goostreyallstars.co.uk/>



**The school's official communication with families comes through the newsletter, website, class pages, messages through the app, email and occasionally paper letters. We do not have an official Facebook account for information.**

## Useful contacts and numbers.....

If there's any other information that you feel should be added to this page, as a weekly standing item, please let me know.

[www.goostreypreschool.org.uk](http://www.goostreypreschool.org.uk)

**Telephone: 07471 756720** - available during pre-school hours only.



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### Before School Club

If you would like to enrol your child for Goostrey Before School Club, please either download a booking form from our website [www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk) or collect from the reception desk. The cost is £4.00 per session and the club operates on each school day, from 8.00 AM to 8.55 AM. Please note no food is served at this club.

The Chair of Governors and the Head teacher meet at least once a week. If you have anything you would like them to discuss / consider please let us know. We will always respond to you.

The web address for ordering school uniform is:  
[www.myschoolstyle.com/school/goostrey](http://www.myschoolstyle.com/school/goostrey)

Class pages, on the school website have lots of up to date information for your child's class. Please keep looking at these as they are updated every week for you.

Thank you

### Compliments and Comments and Suggestions.

If you wish to give school general feedback about any aspect of school life, please email either Miss Atkins on [head@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk) or class teachers, whose email addresses are on each class page on the website; <http://www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk/classes>