



Newsletter 18th January 2019

Last week:

Best attendance: Y2 98.8%

Unauthorised absences: 1%

Lates: 99 minutes (6 pupils)

As previously notified by letter, we launch our School Spider communication platform for parents **next week**. This will allow you to receive important information directly from the school quickly and easily. We will no longer be using t2p to send text messages.

You will have already received your individual logins and will have used them to book parents evening appointments via our website. Parent login is on the top black bar or, you can receive messages via our **School Spider app**. You can download the app for free from Google Play or Apple App Store by searching School Spider. **You will need to do this to receive smartphone messages.**

Dear Parents,

This week has been **election fever** in the juniors. The children have each had the opportunity to vote for their preferred name for six of our fish. The votes are now in and the winning names will be announced in assembly on Monday.

Please keep checking **the class pages** on the school website. News Items will be updated by the Sunday of each week. You will be able to read about your child's class week under the following headings: Looking Back, Pupils' Highlights, Family Discussion Questions, Looking Forward and Homework.

Reminder that the **Year 4 Cake Sale** is next Friday.

Some of our pupils have returned after the Christmas break with brand **new smart watches**—these can access the internet, make and receive calls and texts, take images (through the APP) etc. On page 2 is an extract from our school policy informing families about our rules regarding smart devices in school. The policy states that no smart devices, including watches, phones and tablets etc are allowed during the school day. The full policy can be found on the school website. We do, however, recognise the importance of exercise and as pupils get older they may wish to monitor their own fitness levels. Therefore we do allow personal pedometers and tracker watches (that are not smart devices) and do not disrupt lessons by making noises.

Miss Atkins—a head teacher who is very proud of Goostrey School and everyone associated with it.

Dates for your diary—up to February half term....

February

WB 5th Book Fair

Wednesday 13th Young Voices Y,4,5 & 6 Choir Manchester

Please keep checking class pages on the website for specific information / dates for each class. Many events / activities eg class visits, extra curricular and sporting events will have separate information sent out detailing dates and times etc.

Holiday dates for 18/19 and 19/20 are on the website under **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

Useful information

Before school club: booking form available on school website http://www.goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/48433

Superkids after school club: enrolment - 0161 474 7743 / contact during club - 07746 559400

School uniform: www.myschoolstyle.com/school/goostrey

SENCo: mr.campion@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk

If you need any help, support or advice regarding children's special educational needs, please feel free to drop-in and see Mr Campion. He is available every Wednesday afternoon in the Year 5 classroom (3.30-4.15pm).

Extract from Goostrey School Personal Technology Policy.

1. Our general advice to all parents is to discourage students from bringing smart devices (phones, watches, tablets etc) to School, on the grounds that they are valuable and may be lost, damaged or stolen. The School takes no responsibility for, or any time to looking for lost/stolen/missing equipment. The school will not accept responsibility for loss or damage. Students, with permission from an adult can use the School phone should they need to contact parents during the day or vice versa. Children do have access to school smart devices as part of the teaching and learning.
2. Where a student does bring a device to School, this must remain switched off and in the student's bag during the school day and may not be used, for any purpose on School premises, grounds or during off-site school activities (such as school swimming, after-school clubs, visits out or residential activities).
3. It is the student's responsibility to make sure the device is left in their bag and switched off.
4. Where a student is found by to be using a personal smart device, for any purpose, in school time it will be confiscated and returned *only* to the parent, guardian or carer.
5. The School operates this policy in conjunction with the Behaviour Policy and will treat breaches as they would treat any other breach of School rules.

'Well done to **Freddy Broughton** in Year 1 for passing his Stage 3 in Swimming'



Well done to **Emily Ball** for passing your Piano Prep Test before Christmas.



Please let me have the details of anything your child has done that we can all celebrate. Send me the details on an email and I will cut and paste them into the newsletter as well as celebrating it in assembly.

I always like to know what our pupils are achieving outside school.

Thank you, Miss Atkins

head@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk

CAKE SALES

The PTA would like to thank everyone who supported the cake sales last year. We raised a fantastic £1,021 from this event for the PTA funds. We will be organising the cake sales again this year. Each class will take it in turns to bring in their home baking to sell to the rest of the school. These take place after school in the Junior Hall and Infant side. Further information will be sent to each class nearer their time. Please make a note of the dates below:

Year 4 Friday 25th January
Year 3 Friday 1st March
Year 2 Friday 29th March
Year 1 Friday 26th April
Rec Friday 17th May

Year 4 Cake Sale



FRIDAY 25th January

Infant Side 3.15pm

Junior Hall 3.20pm

In order to help reduce the use of plastic bags, could you please bring your own container to take your cakes home.

Thank you

Year 6 assessments will be ongoing throughout both the spring and summer term until the end of June 2019. 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

Penalties for unauthorised absence		
Timeline	One child	Two children
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 28th day and payments **cannot** be paid in part or by instalments

Each school has a designated Education Welfare Officer
educationwelfareservice@cheshireeast.gov.uk or you can also telephone the main office.

Tel: 01270 375277

Website: 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.

DATES FOR THE YEAR 2018 19

Please keep checking this list because dates may be added as the term progresses. The dates on this list are ones that affect (in the main) the whole school or large numbers of families / pupils. Therefore smaller events like after school clubs, sporting fixtures, class visits, which have separate letters / information detailing times and dates etc, are not shown here. Please keep checking class pages on the website for specific information on each class.

If you do not understand any of the information here please email me and I will be able to help you.
head@goostrey.cheshire.sch.uk

Dates for your diary—up to February half term....

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If you require a paper copy please let us know.

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.

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 school.

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

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

SUPERKIDS

If you want to enrol your child into SUPERKIDS, our after school club, then please ring the Superkids office on 0161 474 7743 or you can come to the Junior hall, between 3.30 and 6pm. This number can be used for registration details, bookings adding people to Vizilogger etc.

Superkids also have a mobile phone number you can contact to advise about your child's attendance at the club or if you are running late to collect your child. The mobile phone number is 07746 559400

Costs are very reasonable at £11.50 for one child per session and £11.00 for a brother or sister at the same session.

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.

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 or collect from the reception desk. The cost is £3.00 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 web address for ordering school uniform is:
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. Name:.....

Please use this slip if you wish to give school general feedback about any aspect of school life. It is not essential to provide your name but will be necessary if you want a response. Please return to Mrs Williams or the class teacher.

Alternatively you are always welcome to e mail staff or pop in to see them—school operates an open door policy.