



Gilbertstone Primary School

welcome
— B A C K —

September 2024
Newsletter

What a lovely start to the new school year!

Wow! What a busy start we have had to our new academic year. It is lovely to welcome our new families across school and to Reception. Please take a look at your child's class half termly newsletter and your child's year group curriculum overview so you can support their learning at home. Homework is an important part of your child's learning journey, please encourage reading at home and complete our spelling and maths homework. This will give your child every chance of having a successful year.

We all know the importance of attendance and how this impacts positively on academic success and emotional well being. There have been changes from the Department of Education which have come in to force that aim to reduce unauthorised absence and leave in term time. Parent fines for unauthorised absences will be brought under a national framework, a fine to parents must be considered if a child misses 5 days of school for unauthorised absence. Alongside this, costs for fines will go up from £60 to £80 if paid within 21 days and from £120 to £160 if paid in 28 days. *Mrs O'Reilly*

Late Marks

In the morning, the gates open at 8.35am and close at 8.45am. After this time your child is considered late. Thank you so much to the vast majority of parents who always get their child/ren in to school on time. As with the changes to attendance, we are also, moving forward going to be asking parents to sign their child in and give a reason for why they are late for school. We would really appreciate your co-operation in having your child here on time, it is less disruption for them and for all of their classmates and teacher. Thank you.



Harvest Festival

As usual, we are looking to do a Harvest Festival collection in school. We will be donating our collection to Birmingham Sifa Fireside Charity who are a charity that are based in Birmingham City Centre and support the homeless. We would really appreciate any donations that we could collect for the mission.

The following items are the most useful for them -

Instant coffee, baked beans, fruit squash, instant snacks (i.e pot noodles) tinned vegetables, tinned meat or fish, tinned soup, sugar, cereal, chocolate, biscuits, crisps, soft drinks.

Please can they start being sent in to school after **Monday 7 October**

The Charity are so very grateful for your support and the help that you are giving to some of our most vulnerable Birmingham residents. Thank you so much.



It has been wonderful to welcome back your children into the arms of Gilbertstone Primary school after the summer holidays; the school now seems to have sprung back to life.

We all have our part to play in educating your children, as Governors we help set the strategic direction for the school and hold its leaders to account and as parents or carers you too play a vital role. Your example is a powerful influence on how your son or daughter grows and develops. The choices that we all make around the words that we speak and the actions that we display matter, as they linger in the hearts and minds of others. We were all young once and know how easy it is to be influenced by the behaviour of those who are older than us.

As the staff at Gilbertstone Primary school continue to give their best to ensure that your child has every opportunity to grow, develop and be happy, we hope that you are able to give your best too. As this academic year kicks into gear, the staff at Gilbertstone will do all that they can to model inquisitive learning, respectful relationships and positive behaviour. We hope that you are able to join us in offering your child along with the children of others positive role models.



Message from Rev Alex French, Chair of Governors

Dates for your diary... so far!

Please note these dates are always subject to change and it is not a definitive list. Thank you!

Date	Event
Thursday 26 September	Year 4 Samba Workshop
Monday 7 October	Walk around for prospective Reception 3.30pm
Monday 14 October	Walk around for prospective Reception 3.30pm
Tuesday 22 October	Year 2 Class Assembly 8.50am
Friday 25 October	Break up for half term
Monday 4 November	School closed for Training Day
Tuesday 5 November	Children back to school
Tuesday 5 November	Parents evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Tuesday 5 November - Friday 8 November	Book Fair in school all week
Thursday 7 November	Parents evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Monday 11 November	Walk around for prospective Reception 3.30pm
Wednesday 13 November	Year 2 African Drumming Workshop
Thursday 14 November	Rec—Y6 Flu Vaccination
Tuesday 19 November	Year 5 trip to Tamworth Castle
Tuesday 26 November	School photos
Tuesday 3 December	Year 4 to Cadbury World trip
Wednesday 11 December	Year 4 Assembly 8.50am
Tuesday 17 December	Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 19 December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 20 December	Break up for Christmas
Monday 6 January 2025	School closed for Training Day



Volcano Projects

Year 3 have produced some fabulous Volcano projects! Thank you to the parents who have supported their children with their marvellous creations. They are all on display in our foyer area for all to admire. Well done Year 3!



Marble Jar rewards

Well done to 4C and 6S who have enjoyed parachute games! And congratulations to 2 who have had a Forest School session with hot chocolate!



Proud alert!



We are so very proud of Lily in Year 1 who took part in a charity fun run to raise money for the Lily Mae Foundation. The charity supports families following the loss of a baby. Well done Lily for your amazing fundraising efforts!



Year 6 World War 2 Workshop

Year 2 had a visit from 'Past Productions' and took part in a WW2 workshop. The children had this to say about their experience -

Grace 6S - "I really enjoyed the role play and I liked the quiz. I enjoyed looking at all the artefacts including the gas mask but we weren't allowed to try this on as it is dangerous"

Ife 6S - "I really enjoyed the drama and acting. I enjoyed learning what the people would do if their area started getting bombed and I learnt lots of new facts about Hitler"

Georgia 6M - "I enjoyed looking at all the artefacts from WW2 and I enjoyed using my problem-solving skills to do the coding"

Zohaib 6M - I really liked learning about how WW2 started and why Hitler started this"