

Gilbertstone Primary School

October 2026 Newsletter



Wishing you all a wonderful half term break!

As we reach the end of a busy and successful half term, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents, carers, staff and pupils for their continued support. It has been a fantastic start to the new school year, with so much already taking place across the school and many achievements to celebrate.

A special thank you to everyone who donated items for our Harvest Festival collection. Your generosity has made a real difference, and the homeless charity will be collecting the donations soon and are so pleased!

This half term has been filled with exciting learning opportunities, including our ongoing work with Skills Builder, a range of parent workshops, reading meetings and activities to celebrate Black History Month. It has been wonderful to see so many families engaging with school life and supporting their children's learning.

We were also delighted to welcome parents and carers to Parents' Evening. Over 85% of families booked an appointment, giving parents the opportunity to hear about how their children have settled into their new classes and the progress they are making. Thank you for your excellent support and attendance.

Our Year 5 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their educational visit to the Gurdwara, where they learned more about Sikh beliefs, traditions and community life. Across the school, children have also enjoyed taking part in Diwali assemblies, helping them learn about and celebrate different faiths and cultures.

Thank you once again for being such a supportive school community. We are incredibly proud of all that has been achieved this half term and look forward to an exciting and festive run-up to Christmas when we return after the break.

We wish all of our families a happy, safe and restful half-term holiday. Enjoy the break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone on **TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER**.

Happiest of Retirements!

As Mrs Benton begins her retirement, we would like to thank her for her many years of dedicated service to our school community. Mrs Benton has been a familiar and valued member of the Gilbertstone family, first as a Dinner Supervisor and, more recently, as a Play Worker in The Hub.

We wish Di a long, happy and well-deserved retirement filled with good health, happiness and plenty of opportunities to enjoy the things she loves. Thank you for everything you have contributed to our school over the years, we will miss you!

Halloween Disco



Our Halloween disco was a fabulous event and thank you to all of the parents for sorting out the wonderful costumes! Also, a HUGE thank you to all of the staff who stayed to help and to Mrs Brameld for organising everything, it was enjoyed by all!

Reminder

It is so important that Parents return the allergy form that we sent out to you last week. Thank you to those who have already returned it. We need you to fill this form in even if your child has no identified allergies so we can log this on their records. This all ties in with the new rules that we have to follow in school relating to 'Benedict's Law' and your co-operation would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support!

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
MONDAY 26 OCTOBER – FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR HALF TERM
MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TRAINING DAY
Tuesday 3 November	Children return to school
Monday 9 November	Open visit for Reception 2027 at 4.00pm
Tuesday 10 November	Reception – Year 2 dress up as nursery rhyme character
Thursday 12 November	Year 2 African Drumming Workshop
Monday 16 November	Odd Socks day (Anti Bullying Week)
Friday 20 November	Children in Need
Thursday 26 November	Year 4 trip to Cadbury World
Tuesday 8 December	Green Reception Christmas Workshop
Thursday 10 December	Red Reception Christmas Workshop
Friday 11 December	Year 4 Class Assembly
Wednesday 16 December	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 17 December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 18 December	Break up for Christmas
MONDAY 4 JANUARY	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TRAINING DAY
Tuesday 5 January	Children return to school

Marble Jar Rewards



We know that the children have been working really hard to fill their marble jars already this half term so a HUGE well done to all of the classes who have achieved this.

The following treats were enjoyed –

Red & green group enjoyed the trim trail and a non-uniform day. 1P, 1S & 2P had fun with the games box and 3B, 1P & 4S had a non-uniform day. 3W took their treat outside and had a Forest School session and 5I enjoyed extra play time. 6S also enjoyed Forest School and 6M had the trim trail and extra play.