

>> >> >> SCHOOL MONEY >> >> >>

As you know, we have now started to use a cash less on-line system called 'School Money'. You should have a password by now, but if not please contact the School Office. Please bare with us if we make any mistakes over the coming weeks, it is all very new to us too and we are trying our very best to get it right! Thank you to all parents who have used the system already and we hope that you are finding this useful. *Mrs O'Donnell & her team :-)*

PHONE NUMBER CHANGES

Please remember that you need to let us know as soon as you change your telephone number as it can be very distressing for children who are unwell if we are unable to contact a parent / carer. Similarly, if we do not have your most up to date mobile number you will not receive any of the texts that we send out.

Advanced Dates for the Diary

Please see our school web site for full, up to date details!

September

Tuesday, 12th	Year 4 to the National Space Centre
Wednesday, 13th	3GA to Westport Lake
Thursday, 14th	3IR to Westport Lake
Friday, 22nd	Musicians to the Penkull Music Festival
Friday, 22nd	Y3 Roman day
Wednesday, 27th	Year 6 to Gladstone Pottery Museum
Thursday, 28th	2CB to Bunbury Watermill
Friday, 29th	Year 6 to Gladstone Pottery Museum
Friday, 29th	2CW to Bunbury Watermill

October

Monday, 2nd	Year 6 Health Screening
Tuesday, 3rd	The Societas Trust Games at Northwood Stadium
Thursday 12th	School Council to visit Civic Centre
Tuesday, 17th	Year 1 themed day
Friday, 20th	School closes for the Half term break
Monday, 30th	School re-opens after Half term
w/b Monday 30th	Year 6 pupils go to Standon Bowers Centre
Tuesday, 31st	3GA to Bearstone Farm

**School closes for pupils on Friday, 20th October.
We reopen for pupils on Monday, 30th October.**

GLADSTONE PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2017



Dear Parents / Carers,

It is finally time to celebrate Gladstone becoming an official academy as part of the Societas Trust. It was rather touch and go in August, but the paper work was finally signed off, ready for a new start on the 1st of September. As we have already changed our uniform and signage etc. I would not expect you to notice any difference with the school, as there will not be any changes to the Senior Leadership Team or Governing Body. We will continue to retain our own individual identity, and staff and children will continue to work closely with the other 5 schools in the Trust as we have now been doing for many years.

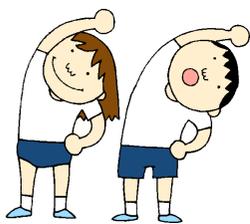
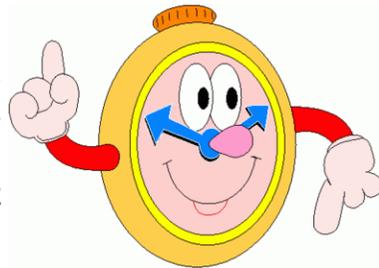
The new school year saw an excellent, calm start last week and we had 3 super days last week as children and staff settled in to their new classroom routines. I have made numerous visits to all of the classrooms and it has been lovely to chat with the children, who have been extremely well behaved and polite and who look so smart in their new school uniforms. It has been particularly pleasing to notice how well our new Nursery children have settled in to school life. It is the first time that we have had all of the children start on the same day, so it was 'all hands to the pump' as staff from all across the school went along to help them to settle. Despite some tears initially, (from the children and parents :-)) I was really pleased to note how well they had settled by Friday morning. Fingers crossed for the coming weeks!

Best wishes for a super Autumn Term,

Elaine Preston

>>>TIMETABLE CHANGES FOR SEPTEMBER >>>

You may have noticed that we have made some changes to the daily timetable in school and our assemblies now take place first thing in the morning, rather than in the afternoons. Assemblies start at 9 a.m., so once the registers have closed the classes are having to be in the Hall very quickly. Please do not be offended if staff are not able to speak to you after 9 a.m. as a result of this and remember that, if you do need to speak to someone then the best time to arrive is at 8.45 a.m. when the doors open. Alternatively, you are more than welcome to arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient time, or arrange for the teacher to contact you by telephone. Please be aware also that, if children are late (after 9 a.m.), they must go to the School Office as there will now be no one around in the classrooms to let them in. Again, please do not be offended if the blinds are down and no one answers if you knock - everyone will be in the Hall. Thank you for your understanding.

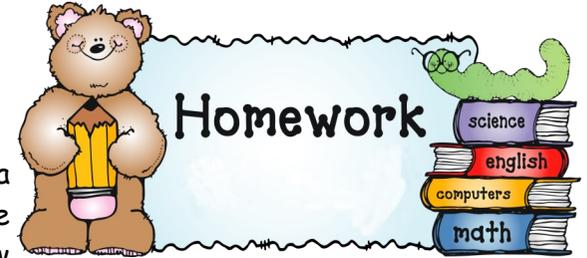


PHYSICAL EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT

Physical Education is vitally important and it was of much concern last term that a significant number of children were having to miss out on their P.E. lessons because they had not got the correct kit in school.

It is particularly important this term for the older children as they will need to have an 'outdoor' kit such as track suit bottoms and a change of shoes should they have activities on the field such as Cross Country. Many children have a small P.E. bag which is kept on their peg for half a term, so please help us by ensuring that your child has the correct kit and that it is in school ready for use. We will be contacting parents later this week if P.E. kit is not in school.

CHANGES TO OUR HOMEWORK POLICY



You will remember that a number of years ago we decided to trial a new

Maths homework program called 'MyMaths'. We have listened to your concerns regarding the effectiveness of MyMaths and, as promised, we have now evaluated the effectiveness of the program and have decided that we will no longer be using it to set homework for the children.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for all of the amazing home projects that the children have brought in to school! They are quite incredible and we have all been bowled over by the quality of the work and the time that has gone in to making such wonderful models, books, leaflets, project files and DVDs. The children all look very proud of themselves - as they should do - and the classrooms and school look amazing with them all on display. Thank you to all of you.

WELCOMING NEW STAFF

I am sure that you have noticed that we have had number of new staff at the beginning of the new academic year:

- Mr Bloor - Year 6 teacher
- Miss Sothers and Mrs Lockett - Inclusion Support Staff
- Miss Fallows, Miss Rhodes, Mrs Salisbury and Miss Day, Associate Teachers from Keele University.

I am sure that you will join us in offering them a warm welcome to Gladstone Primary Academy.

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