



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome you all back to school after the Easter holiday, I do hope you had a relaxing break and are ready for the summer term. I have now been at Goosewell Academy for one term and it has been a pleasure getting to know the children and watching them learn. Having worked in a number of schools I can confidently say that the behaviour of the children around Goosewell is excellent and nothing makes me smile more than when children come and knock on my door for no other reason than to say hello.

Over the past term there has been a lot of activity around the school with adults and children working hard. In the Foundation Stage, they have been busy sorting their classrooms, clearing out the old and unpacking the new; as Miss Hanlon said, the team would give Pickfords a run for their money! A huge thank you to the Gosling Trust for helping fund these changes.

Around the school you can often see groups of children gathered around the new display boards. There is a huge sense of pride as children point out their work to their friends, as well as the passing staff! The display boards are vibrant, colourful and full of work from a range of children; a huge thanks to the Teaching Assistants for their creative flare in how the work is displayed. These boards will be changed termly to reflect the changing topics of the year groups.

As raising standards in reading and writing is a focus for the school it is a thrill to see the new library up and running. We have now uploaded the majority of our school books onto the new Accelerated Reader system and children are quickly getting used to choosing their books (at their level) and then completing the associated quizzes. Another huge thanks to the Gosling Trust in helping support this initiative.

You may have noticed the new fence going up around the school, I'm hoping this doesn't cause too much disruption. I am aware that a new fence will, initially, change the aesthetics, however, from a security and safeguarding perspective the fence is essential and in keeping with current safeguarding expectations.

Over the next few weeks the school is going to be used as a polling station. I am pleased to let you know that through negotiations with the Local Authority, we are in a position to keep the school open during this time. The polling booths will be located in the Drama Hall and access will be via the deliveries entrance next to KS1 playground. On these polling days, please be aware of extra traffic around the school.

Also happening over the next few weeks will be the launch of the new House system (Kingfishers, Pelicans, Puffins, Shearwaters). The children participated in a series of votes to finalise their category of House and then the names of the Houses. Children will soon find out which Houses they are in and how they can earn points towards their Houses; not to mention the rewards! All this information will be presented to the children and parents in the next few weeks.

Next week, we will be saying thank you and goodbye to Mrs Cann, who has worked at Goosewell for over 12 years. Mrs Cann, who has worked with so many of our children, will be retiring, however, I am pleased to let you know that Mrs Cann will continue to use her expertise and knowledge as a volunteer in the school.

To keep up to date with what is going on at Goosewell, please do 'Like' our Facebook page as well as follow us on Instagram and Twitter. As an alternative, please come and say hello to me in the playground and tell me your thoughts about the school; what we are doing right and what we could do to improve.

With very best wishes

James Gentile  
Headteacher

## May Day Dance Celebrations - Friday 3rd May 1.45-3.00pm

Come and join us **next Friday** for an afternoon of May Day Dance celebrations where all of our children will share the dances they have been learning in their classes with families and the rest of the school. The PTA will be providing refreshments (teas, coffees, soft drinks and ice creams).

*Please check the website or social media next week for the running order of dances.* We look forward to seeing you there...bring your dancing shoes as you may even be invited to join in!



## Year Group News

### Foundation Stage

Next week in Foundation, we will be continuing to explore and enjoy playing with all of our lovely new equipment. We are learning where it all belongs and how to look after it and put it away safely. We are also learning to share and work as part of a team with all sorts of exciting new challenges. Keep an eye on TAPESTRY to see what we have been up to. Also please remember to bring a waterproof coat everyday - we are enjoying playing outdoors in all weathers.

### Year 1

Next week in Year 1 we will be reading, acting out and writing about Little Red Riding Hood. Children will be exploring the characters and using super adjectives to write about them. In Maths, we will be starting our learning on multiplication, building on the children's knowledge of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. The children will be putting their final touches to our May Day Dance in preparation for Friday. Please remember to send in a costume for your child.

### Year 2

Next week in Year 2 we will be continuing our learning about traditional tales. We will be re-writing the tale of the Billy Goats Gruff. In our maths sessions we will be learning about how to answer questions that are read to us and reasoning questions. In our afternoons, we will be exploring the art work of a local artist called Yvonne Coomber linked to our plants learning. We are excited to be creating an 'air garden', planting beans for us to observe and record growth.

### Year 3

Next week, as part of our Science learning, Year 3 will continue investigating the different types of rock that make up our Earth. In literacy we will continue reading our new class text 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. We will be finding out about each character and will then create our own 6th Golden Ticket Winner. In maths we are still investigating 'Fractions' and will be comparing and ordering them.

Next week's virtue is.....

### **Determination**

A quality that makes you continue trying to do or achieve something that is difficult.

### Year 4

It has been a busy start to Term 5 with 4LG's assembly and our Mayday dance rehearsals. Next week we will continue to practice for this performance and look forward to seeing many of you on Friday afternoon. In maths we are continuing to work on representing decimals in a variety of ways and in literacy we will be starting our Jacqueline Wilson unit, beginning with The Suitcase Kid. Homework from now on will be due in on Tuesdays and will be a mixture of SPaG and maths as well as continuing with reading and spelling. Thank you for your support with this!

### Year 5

Next week in Year 5 we will be adding and subtracting decimals to include decimals with either the same number or different numbers of decimal places. In Literacy we will be writing formal letters to Mr Gove, the Environmental Secretary, expressing our concerns over plastic pollution. (On that note, please can you send in any bottle tops to add to our display.) We will be practising our dance routine ready for the May Day Dance next Friday - we look forward to seeing you there!

### Year 6

In Literacy, we will be developing our narrative writing using a story called 'Alma' in which a girl discovers a very unusual shop and its strange contents! We will be focusing on using effective description to develop character and setting and discussing the techniques used to create atmosphere. We will also be reading and analysing texts and continuing to revise key grammar terms in preparation for SATs week. In maths, we will be revising key areas identified in the recent assessments. We would encourage your child to discuss with you and revise any areas that may cause them concern.

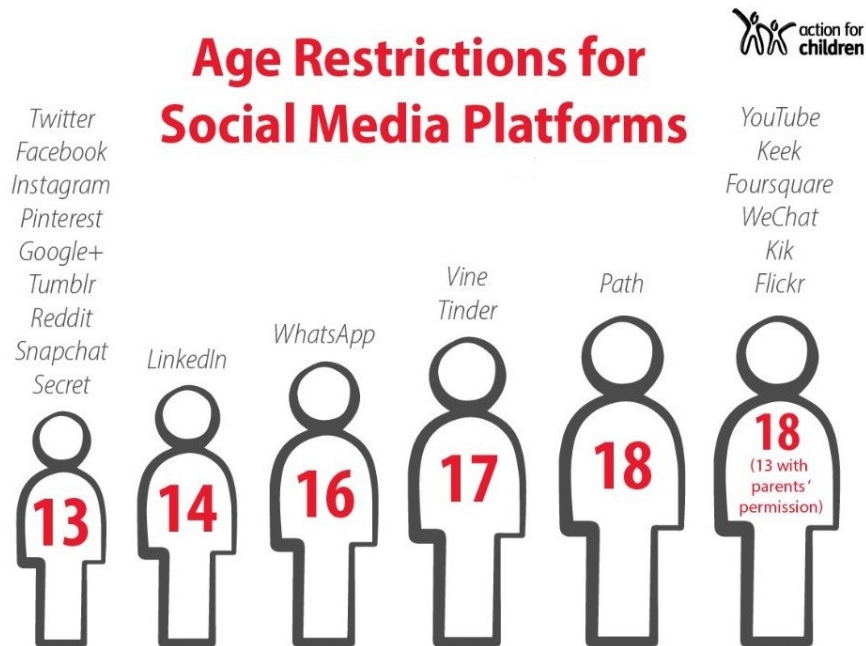
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## Keeping Your Children Safe Online

Devon and Cornwall Police are still seeing an increase in the number of calls to police reporting issues such as children being bullied or exploited online and have asked us to pass on this important information to you as parents and carers.

On dealing with these reports, they often find that the children involved have access to accounts despite them being under the age to do so. This would require false dates of birth to be input at the time of the account being set up and are therefore trying to reduce the risk to these vulnerable people by ensuring parents and carers are aware of the strict age limits required for specific types of social media account.

Please see the age limits below and help your children to stay safe online.



## Parent Support Adviser News from Jo Penk

Don't forget to look at the PSA section of the Goosewell Academy website, for information on clubs, support and activities for families throughout the year. You can find further details by clicking here [PSA](#)



The Plymouth SEND Conference, run by Plymouth Parent Carer Voice (PPCV) will be taking place on **Wednesday 8th May 2019** at Plymouth Guildhall from 9.30am to 2.30pm. There will be a wide range of stalls focusing on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities offering families general information and help on a variety of subjects. For more information please [click here](#)

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## Pupil Successes



Well done to Ashton in 2BH for his attendance at the BBBA South West Open Championship Kickboxing competition in Newquay over the Easter break, coming home with 3 trophies, a second place and two first place positions. What a great achievement Ashton. Congratulations too to Aria in 1NH for achieving her Stage 3 and 100m Rainbow



swimming awards. Well done Aria. Congratulations too to Seth in FHB for achieving his Stage 2 Rainbow swimming award - well done Seth.

## Dates for your diaries

### APRIL

#### Friday 26th

4LG Family Assembly in the Main Hall 2.30pm-3.00pm

#### Monday 29th

2KW Family School Lunch at 12.15pm

#### Tuesday 30th

1/2K Family School Lunch at 12.15pm

### MAY

#### Wednesday 1st

2BH Family School Lunch at 12.15pm

#### Thursday 2nd

Welcome to Foundation Stage meetings for new parents whose children start in Foundation in September - Main Hall at 2.00pm and 6.00pm

#### Friday 3rd

May Day Dance Celebration 1.45pm-3.00pm, all welcome

#### Monday 6th

#### May Bank Holiday

#### Tuesday 7th

Clubs start this week

#### Wednesday 8th

Hub Parents Coffee and Chat Drop-in

#### Friday 10th

4JG Family Assembly in the Main Hall 2.30pm-3.00pm

#### Monday 13th May - Thursday 16th May

Year 6 SATs week

#### Tuesday 14th

FHB Family School Lunch at 12.15pm

#### Wednesday 15th

Year 5 Family School Lunch at 12.30pm

#### Thursday 16th

FWH Family School Lunch at 12.15pm

#### Friday 17th

5MT Family Assembly in the Main Hall 2.30pm-3.00pm

#### Sunday 19th

Plymouth Schools' Half Marathon Challenge

## Future dates:

#### Thursday 23rd May

#### Friday 24th May

#### Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

#### Monday 3rd June

#### Wednesday 24th July

Last Day of Term 5 for children

Non Pupil Day for staff training

Whitsun break

First day of Term 6

Last Day of Term 6 for children

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