

This week's year group news...

Reception It has been a thoroughly lovely week despite the stormy weather. The children have come back and settled into each other's company and the flow of the school day with relative ease and plenty of smiles. We are very proud of them. Can we also take this opportunity to praise your efforts at home over the past few weeks as it is clearly evident that the children have been supported so well in terms of their learning journey. After this calm and easy Spring themed week of settling back, next week will see us move on to a focus on growth and change. The story of 'Jasper's Beanstalk' by Nick Butterworth will be our motivation as we explore the needs of plants and the changes that happen as they develop and grow. The children will be recreating the story and replacing the main character with themselves. As well as having a repetitive refrain, the book takes the form of a daily diary so this will see the children consolidating their knowledge of days of the week as well as using their reading and writing skills to create their own book. Alongside further strengthening of understanding of numbers up to 9, children will explore time in terms of days of the week and how things change over time. They will be growing their own beans and tracking the progress and the needs of their plant. Creative, child initiated activities will include designing and creating seed packets and resources to set up a 'Garden centre'. Green fingers here we come !

Year 1 The children have all settled really well back into school. We have noticed some tiredness as they get used to doing a full day at school again and also some hungry tummies as some children adjust to having a 'time' for fruit and lunch again (I think I can speak for the adults as well here too!) They were clearly very excited to be back with their friends again and it was just lovely to see their happy faces. Whilst still aiming to have a flexible approach for those children that need it, we are endeavouring to do more whole class lessons from now, as opposed to the rotational group work that we were doing before. This is with the aim of preparing the children for their transition into year 2 as we move closer to the Summer term. They are naturally all that little bit older from when they first started in year 1 and are showing far more independence and concentration now. The children have so far coped very well with this and we are pleased with the work they are doing upon returning. Next week, we continue with our topic 'The Scented Garden'. In our writing, we will be learning to use the conjunction 'and' to join sentences. The children will begin to think about creating a new version of Jack and the Beanstalk. We will help them begin to plan this process by thinking about some new characters they may choose and reminding them about using adjectives to describe them. In maths, we start a new block of learning all about length. We will be comparing lengths using the language 'shorter than', 'longer than' etc and measure length using non-standard units (blocks) and then with a ruler, introducing cm. We wish you all a super weekend.

Year 2 Well done year 2 for a fantastic first week back, it has been so lovely to see your smiley faces. We are continuing to explore and create riddles in our English sessions based on minibeasts. In Maths we will be looking at the properties of 3D shapes this will include sorting and making patterns. Our art sessions will be looking at and recreating our own versions of artwork by Paul Klee. In science we will be learning about bees and pollination and identifying common British birds. Please can children come to school wearing their games kits on Thursday. Monday is the scooter day for 2K and 2NB are on Tuesday.



More year group news...

Year 3 & Year 4 Wow, what a busy week we have had! It has been great seeing you all again and you have impressed us with your work ethic. We are steadily getting back into our school routine! In our English writing next week, the children will be building the skills required to write their very own fantasy quest story! Having created their own plan based on 'Bloddon's Adventure', the children will be considering how to enhance their adventurous writing through the careful selection of language using accurate expanded noun phrases and descriptions. They will also review how to organise their narrative writing in sequenced paragraphs. And finally, a reminder on how to bring these amazing characters to life when using dialogue! Finally, the children will start making their fictional lands clear in their minds by creating some imaginative setting descriptions. By the end of the week, the children will be ready to write their very own fantasy quest! Will we have the next Harry Potter or Hobbit in amongst our wonderful writers? In Year 3 Maths the children will start a new unit of *statistics*. They will be interpreting and presenting data using bar charts, pictograms and tables. In Year 4 Maths the children will continue investigating *decimals* (tenths and hundredths). For topic, we will be finding out about *Geocaching*.

Year 5 It was so lovely to see how happily the children entered the school grounds on Monday morning. They were clearly excited to see each other and eager to get back into a routine. As we anticipated, the children have enjoyed time to simply talk to each other, and we are lucky that the weather has been reasonably nice this week for them to enjoy most of their break and lunch times together outside. You should feel really proud of how well your child has settled back into Year 5 and we are confident that you will all have had a productive week too! In English next week, we will be starting a non-fiction block of writing, which will result in the children producing a fact file about their chosen mini beast. In our Reading sessions, we will be reading a non-fiction text called 'Super Bug' which is full of fascinating facts about some unusual insects. As part of our topic learning, the children will be learning about food chains and later in the week, they will be making their own 3D model of a mini beast. **Please could we ask you to send your child in with a bag of recyclable materials (on Thursday 18th) that they could use for this task.** In Maths, we will be adding fractions within one and adding more than one fraction. Finally, we would like to remind you that My Maths homework is set on a Monday and needs to be completed by the Friday. This allows the children to consolidate their learning from the previous week.

Year 6 It is wonderful to see everyone back in school and settling in so well. In Year 6, we continue to explore the unique country of Mexico, from its towering temples and stunning geography to its pulsing rhythms and fun festivals. This week, the children have been learning about the mysterious world of the ancient Mayan civilisation. They became archaeologists and researched a range of Mayan artefacts to discover their use. Next week, we will continue to discuss the major achievements of this fascinating civilisation. In English sessions, we have been reading 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. The book centres on an unlucky teenage boy named Stanley Yelnats, who is sent to Camp Green Lake, a juvenile detention centre in a desert in Texas, after being falsely accused of theft. Next week, we will be using this to inspire our own narrative writing. In our reading sessions, the children will continue to apply their viper skills when reading and discussing the mysterious storybook 'Tuesday' by David Wiesner. Please ensure that your child has an appropriate reading book and is quizzing regularly. Our Maths learning this week has focused on calculating the area of parallelograms and investigating volume. Please make sure that all children with a pen licence, bring their own handwriting pen to school. Also, the children need their CGP and WR workbooks back in school now too. Finally, weekly spelling tests are taking place each Friday so please ensure that the spelling lists are accessed via the website or Teams assignments. Thank you for your continued support and stay safe.



Headteacher: James Gentile
Goosewell Road, Plymouth PL9 9HD
Tel: 01752 482960

Email: admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk
Website: www.goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk

This week's highlights & reminders:

Return to School

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation in adapting to the new procedures that have been put in place for the start and end of the school day.

We would like to remind you however, that as there is now a 15 minute window for children to arrive and walk straight into class without the need to wait outside, we ask that parents/carers and children arrive between these times to avoid socialising and congregating on the playgrounds. Entrances are open and staffed from 8.40am to 8.55am with registration at 9.00am. Please, where possible, could parents come on site between these times **only** if it is essential to do so. Children who walk independently to school, should **only** arrive between these times, and not any earlier.

Pick up times are 3.15pm for all children, apart from Year 3 & 4 who will finish at 3.20pm. The aim is to reduce any congestion around these peak times as pupils exit the site.

We thank you for your support in keeping all of our Goosewell Primary Academy community safe. Here are a few other reminders:

- ◆ If your child is unable to attend school due to self isolating, or awaiting test results, for any reason related to Covid, they were still expected to engage with remote learning as they did before the latest lockdown:
 - ⇒ **KS2**
Please contact the school before 8.45am to inform us if your child is self-isolating. You will be asked if your child has access to a device to participate in Live Lessons. Once you are invited to the lessons (please check the calendar tab in MS Teams for the invite and click 'join'), please ensure that your child is fully prepared.
 - ⇒ **KS1**
Please contact the school before 8.45am to inform us if your child is self-isolating. Children will be able to access the YouTube lessons as in the previous lockdowns, through the Year 1 and Year 2 playlists on Goosewell's YouTube channel.
 - ⇒ **Reception Classes**
Please contact the school before 8.45am to inform us if your child is self-isolating. A member of the Reception team will make contact with you to arrange remote learning.
- ◆ We have forwarded a link by text to all families regarding Lateral Flow Testing for all household bubbles with school age children. This can also be found on the DFE website or by clicking [here](#).
- ◆ Face coverings to be worn by all adults on the school grounds, at all times please.
- ◆ Please could your child wear their Games kit to school on the following days:
 - ⇒ **Year 1 — MONDAY** **Year 2 — THURSDAY**
 - ⇒ **Year 3 — TUESDAY** **Year 4 — WEDNESDAY**
 - ⇒ **Year 5 — FRIDAY** **Year 6 — WEDNESDAY**
- ◆ Please ensure that ALL uniform and belongings are named - it is impossible to reunite items without them being named, and we are currently unable to facilitate parents/carers attending onsite to search for lost items
- ◆ At this present time of being Covid 19 aware and to avoid cross contamination, we kindly remind you to avoid letting your children use the climbing frames and trim trails at the start and end of the school day.



Headteacher: James Gentile
Goosewell Road, Plymouth PL9 9HD
Tel: 01752 482960
Email: admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk
Website: www.goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk

This week's highlights & reminders:

Considerate parking

With the increase in the number of pupils back onsite, the volume of traffic surrounding the school at the start and end of the day has increased significantly. Please, please remember to park and drive safely and considerately around the school in the coming weeks and to avoid using the staff car park for parking or as a cut through. In particular, please ensure that the turning circle near the delivery entrance in Furzehatt Villas and Plymstock Bowling Club is kept clear for access. Where possible, please park and walk to collect your children to avoid congestion in the immediate vicinity which puts the safety of all of our families at risk. Thank you.



Parent Support Advisor - Jo Penk

Don't forget to look at the PSA section of the Goosewell Academy website, for information on ideas, support and activities for families throughout the current lockdown. Don't forget that your children can also use the [Worry Box](#) link if they have a worry that they would like some help with. By clicking on the link, Mrs Penk can talk to your child about their worry on our return to school and together they can work out how to make that worry shrink.

Click [PSA](#) to keep informed of all the most recent updates from [Plymouth Information Advice & Support for SEND](#) and [Routeways](#).

Well done Mr Ormrod!

Congratulations to Mason and Evie's dad for completing a 5k charity run this morning, raising over £150k for his Reorg Charity. Mason and Evie proudly joined in with dad's last lap as he completed his epic run in Tavistock this morning. If you would like to find out more, or how to donate, please visit [reorgcharity](#) or click on the picture below.



Headteacher: James Gentile
Goosewell Road, Plymouth PL9 9HD
Tel: 01752 482960
Email: admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk
Website: www.goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk