



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,
Welcome Joseph 4M and your family to Goosewell.

Thank you to the PTA (parents, staff and friends of the school) who organised and helped run the Christmas Fair last Sunday. It was great to see many people pop in. Father Christmas is looking forward to telling his elves how wonderful Goosewell children are!

On Monday, we will start this year's school celebrations of Christmas. Please join us for our Christmas Tree lighting celebration at 5.00 pm on Monday. Presented by the Key Stage 1 Song Club and all Years 3 and 4, this is a chance for Goosewell to share Christmas with our community; every year, members of the public ask when the tree is being lit.

During the next three weeks, children across the school will celebrate and demonstrate the awe and wonder of the very first Christmas in song, word, dance and music. We look forward to sharing it with you.

Dates for your diaries

DECEMBER

Clubs have now finished (except Choir)

Monday 3rd

Year 3 and 4 and KS1 Song Club Christmas Tree lighting celebration at 5.00pm outside the Foundation Stage classrooms. All welcome

Tuesday 4th

Year 2 Christmas Performance for Y2 families, Foundation Stage and Y5 children at 10.00am

Wednesday 5th

Year 1 Mince Pie sing-a-long at 9.30-10.30am in the Main Hall

Year 2 Christmas Performance for Y2 families, Years 4 and 6 children at 2.00pm

Thursday 6th

Jack'n Jill's Christingle in the Main Hall with Rev Appleby for families at 9.30-10.30am

Year 2 Christmas Performance for Y2 families, Years 1 and 3 children at 2.00pm

Year 2 Christmas Performance for Y2 families at 5.00pm

Friday 7th

Jack'n Jill's Christmas party

Monday 10th

Year 5 swimming at The Life Centre 10.30am-12.30pm

Tuesday 11th

Year 5 swimming 10.30am-12.30pm

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 Christmas Party

Wednesday 12th

Year 5 swimming 10.30am-12.30pm followed by their Christmas Party

Thursday 13th

Year 5 swimming 10.30am-12.30pm

Foundation Stage Nativity for families at 9.30-10.15am in the Main Hall.

Friday 14th

Year 5 swimming

Children's Christmas Dinner

Festive Friday for St. Luke's Hospice (Christmas jumpers / festive clothes)

See all Christmas events on Page 6.



A BIG Thank You!

Thank you to Mrs Woodward and Aria in 1NH for coming to the rescue and arranging for Totus Engineering Ltd and Nationwide Platforms to provide Mr Daniels with a cherry picker to reach the top of the Christmas tree this year! We will now be able to look forward to seeing our beautiful tree in all of its Christmas twinkling finery at the Christmas Lights switch on Monday 3rd December and until January 6th 2019.

TOTUS

Nationwide Platforms
A **LOXAM** Company



Pupil Successes

Well done to Elexis O 2BH for achieving her 1st and 2nd sho in her first judo grading, taking her from a white to a yellow belt.

Well done to Megan B 2KW for achieving her Stage 4 Learn to Swim Award.



Well done to Charlotte C-G 3T who participated in a weekend of dancing with Plymouth Dance Academy, also receiving her award from the IDTA in Theatrical Ballet.

Congratulations too to Nash B 5MT who attended the 11th winter open Karate Championships at Basildon Festival Park, Essex with his club Doryoku ryu Karate. Nash won his first gold medal for his Kata routine against other competitors from as far away as Belgium, and then won his second gold medal for his Kumite which is a contact fight against contestants from other clubs and countries.



Thank you and well done too, to Mazie S 2KW, who has had 27cms of hair cut and donated it to The Little Princess Trust, who provide real hair wigs to children and young people who have sadly lost their own hair due to illness or cancer treatments. Not only did Mazie donate her hair, but she raised an impressive £350. Thank you for your kindness Mazie, and we love your new bobbed hairstyle.



USING EVERYONE'S TALENTS

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 will also find further details on the following:

- ☆ Homestart are looking for parenting support volunteers
- ☆ PIAS (Parent Information and Advisory Service) are looking for volunteers to join their Service Users Advisory Group
- ☆ Visit Plymouth's Penguins: A Lego brick trail



You can find further details by clicking here [PSA](#)



  /ageukplymouth

Get in the festive spirit and come along to our

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 1 December

12pm – 4pm

Free Entry

Crafts - Gifts - Refreshments - Games

Music – Face Painting – Stalls

Santa's Grotto – Hunt for Elvis the Elf

William Venton Centre, 8 Memory Lane, Plymstock, Plymouth, PL9 9GH,
Tel: 01752 405632
Email: enquiries@ageukplymouth.org.uk www.ageukplymouth.org.uk
Registered Charity Number: 881247

USING EVERYONE'S TALENTS

Celebration of our attendance from September to Friday 23rd November 2018. Well done to all classes who have reached 96% or over. A special well done to 4M who have achieved the highest attendance, at 98.4%. Keep up the good attendance!	FHB	96.1	4JG	97.7
	FWH	96.2	4LG	95.7
	1/2K	96.7	4M	98.4
	1B	95.1	5DH	96.1
	1NH	98.0	5L	96.5
	2BH	96.5	5MT	95.9
	2KW	97.4	6C	95.9
	3O	97.9	6R	96.1
	3T	96.5	6S	96.8
	3Y	96.6	School 96.6%	

Why is good attendance and punctuality important?

Education lays the vital foundation of a child's life. Regular attendance at school is the key to both academic and social development which in turn improves a child's life changes.

What does 90% attendance mean?

- 90% attendance = ½ school day missed every week
- One school year at 90% attendance = 4 weeks of learning missed
- Over 5 school years of school 90% attendance each year = ½ school year missed
- All children and young people nationally whose school attendance is 90% or below are considered to be persistent absentees.

Persistent Absenteeism

The threshold for persistent absenteeism is absence of 10% or more. Therefore, a child with an attendance of 90% or below will be classed as a persistent absentee. A child will be classed as persistently absent when they have missed 38 or more sessions at any point during the academic year. Each day consists of two sessions.

As a school, we monitor our attendance closely with the school's designated EWO (Education Welfare Officer), Ms Suzanne Hunter during our termly visits.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to make contact with our Attendance Administrator, Mrs Arnold, via the school office or alternatively by email: larnold@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk

As a school, we continue to focus on attendance and punctuality. We expect your child's attendance to be 100% unless they are unwell, have an unavoidable medical appointment or an agreed authorised absence. A child's attendance is deemed good if it is above 96%; as a whole school our attendance is 96.6%. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you if your child attends regularly and arrives on time.

Unfortunately, too many children arrive late. We expect all children to be ready to start their lessons in class at 9.00 am. Doors are opened at 8.50 am in readiness for the register to be taken at 9.00 am after they have settled in. If your child arrives on time with their peers no child's learning is affected by late comers. Your child's attendance will be recorded as late "L" if they arrive after 9.00 am but before 9.15 am. This will not affect the overall attendance though it is still monitored with Ms Hunter. All children who arrive after 9.15 am will be recorded as late after registration "U". This will affect their overall attendance and may be subject to further action from Ms Hunter.

Absence in term time.

If leave is required during term time, prior approval is required before any leave is taken. Please complete and return an Absence Request Form outlining the reason. The law does not say that parents have an automatic right to take their child out of school for holidays, during term time. However, in exceptional circumstances, school may authorise, in advance a period of leave.

We encourage all medical appointments to be made out of school hours; however, we understand, this is not always possible. Therefore, all medical appointments do require supporting evidence such as an appointment letter / card.

USING EVERYONE'S TALENTS

Festive Activities

Don't forget the schedule of year group activities for your diaries at this super busy time of the year!
We look forward to seeing you at one (or more!) of these events.

Mon 3 Dec	Tues 4 Dec	Wed 5 Dec	Thurs 6 Dec	Fri 7 Dec
5.00pm Year 3 & 4 Christmas Tree Lighting celebration with KS1 Song Club (all welcome)	10.00am Year 2 Christmas Performance Main Hall (for Y2 families)	9.30am-10.30am Year 1 Mince Pie Sing-a-Long Main Hall (for Y1 families and siblings in school) 2.00pm Year 2 Christmas Performance Main Hall (for Y2 families)	9.30-10.30am Jack 'n' Jill's Christingle and Carol Service Main Hall (families only - no schoolchildren due to space restrictions) 2.00pm Year 2 Christmas Performance Main Hall (for Y2 families) 5.00pm Year 2 Christmas Performance Main Hall (for Y2 families)	9.30am Jack 'n' Jill's Christmas Party Main Hall
Mon 10 Dec	Tues 11 Dec	Wed 12 Dec	Thurs 13 Dec	Fri 14 Dec
	Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 Christmas Party	Year 5 Christmas Party	9.30am-10.15am Foundation Stage Nativity Main Hall (for families) Year 6 Christmas Party	12.00pm Christmas Dinner Festive Friday Christmas jumpers/ festive clothes for St. Luke's Hospice
Mon 17 Dec	Tues 18 Dec	Wed 19 Dec		
Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party	2.00pm-3.00pm Years 5 & 6 Carol Service 1 at Plymstock Church 6.00pm-7.00pm Years 5 & 6 Carol Service 2 at Plymstock Church	End of Term 2 at 1.45pm		