



## Gorse Covert Primary School

# January News

**Happy  
New  
Year!**

## Maths Open Morning

Parents are invited into school on Tuesday 21st January 9-10am to observe maths teaching. We are teaching what is known as a 'mastery' approach which has been developed in Singapore. The idea is that as many children as possible will be accessing maths at the same level, rather than differentiating work by ability. There is more repetition and more teacher direction and really ensures the children are applying their mathematical knowledge. If you are unable to make this particular date, we will run another one later on in the year.

## Holiday Dates

You should have received an email with the holiday dates for this year and next year. Please note that the May Bank Holiday has changed to Friday 8th May, to coincide with the 75th anniversary of V.E Day.

Please only use the holiday dates on our school website as there are some other websites online with incorrect information for schools.

It is also vital that children attend school as much as possible and so holidays should only be taken during these times. Holidays taken without an exceptional circumstance will not be authorised.

Y6 parents should particularly ensure they do not take holidays during SATS week as the tests cannot be taken on different date.

**Advance Notice  
of  
Parents' Evening  
2nd April**

### Uniform

Please be reminded that nail varnish is not allowed in school and hairbands should be blue, black or white. School socks should be plain black, grey or white. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Extra Clubs and Activities

#### KS2 Choir

Thursdays 3.15-4.15

#### Netball Y5/6

Wednesdays 3.15-4.15

#### Cross-Country Y3-6

Thursdays 8.15-8.50am

#### Dance Y1/2

Fridays 3.15-4.15

#### Zumba Y1-3

Tuesdays 3.15-4.15

#### Dodgeball Y3-6

Thursdays 3.15-4.15

#### Bookclub Y2

Mondays 3.15-4pm

#### Morning Yoga/Relaxation

Thursdays 8.15-8.50am

Please ensure you inform school if your child has been in school but will not be attending their chosen club one evening.

New clubs will be added later this month.

### Swimming for Y3

**Fridays**

10 weeks starting  
17th January-27th  
March

## Advance Notices

### **Maths Open Morning**

Tuesday 21st January 9am

### **YR and Y6 heights and weights**

Wednesday 15th January

### **Y3 Swimming starts**

Friday 17th January

### **Y3/4 Showcase morning**

Tuesday 28th January 9am

### **Miss Ireland's class assembly**

Wednesday 29th January 9am

### **Mrs Pennington's class assembly**

Wednesday 5th February 9am

### **Confidence House Day**

Wednesday 11th March

### **Y3/4 Easter Assembly**

Wednesday 1st April 9am

### **Parents' Evening**

Thursday 2nd April

## **Next School Break**

School Closes :

**Friday 14th Feb 3.15pm**

School Opens:

**Monday 24th Feb at 8.55am**

Please help us to keep our records up-to-date. If you have changed telephone number, please ensure our office staff have the new details. Should there be an emergency involving your child or your child is unwell, we need to be able to contact someone quickly. Thank you.

## School Choir

A special mention must go to our Choir who last term helped to raise £800 for school by singing at Birchwood Shopping Centre and for their lovely Carol Concert at the end of term.

Thank you to our fabulous choir and all the parents and family members who supported these events.

## **Parking around school**

Please park in a considerate manner around the roads leading to school.

A number of our neighbours have complained to the police about some of the dangerous parking near school in the morning and at the end of the day.

### **Help to keep our children safe**

Do not park on the kerb  
Do not park on the zigzags

If you use the pub car park please do not block delivery bays.



Please also do not drive into the staff carpark as these are very busy and dangerous areas.

Thank you for your co-operation.

# **Attendance and Punctuality**

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who ensure that their child has good attendance and punctuality.

We have noticed a considerable improvement on the number of children who are coming in late, since opening slightly earlier. Keep up the great work!

Whilst illness can obviously not be avoided, please ensure that all medical appointments are made out of the school day whenever possible. Headteachers are not allowed to authorise any term time holidays and only absences with exceptional circumstances can be authorised.