

Autumn Whole School Newsletter 9th September 2019- Issue 1

Message from Mrs Haston

Welcome back! The staff were delighted to welcome back the children who came back from the summer holidays ready to learn! They all looked as though they had grown over the summer! We are very proud of the children who are working so hard and are showing such great attitudes to learning. Thank you to the families who spent time over the holidays working on a Home Learning Project.

We already have had in some incredible pieces! Such talent!!



Follow us on Twitter @GoldfinchPrmry – Come and find out what we have been up to this term for yourselves and check out our website

www.goldfinchprimary.org.uk

NEW STAFF

We are delighted to welcome new members of staff to Goldfinch.

Mrs Vanessa De Carvalho – Admin Team supporting the front desk

Mrs Hannah Nunn – Earth Year 4 Class Teacher

Miss Ellie Roberts – Pluto Year 6 Class Teacher

Miss Danielle Banham – Moon Year 1 Class Teacher

Mrs Nasima Aktar – Star Year 2 Class Teacher

Mr Jean-Christophe Brunet Saturn Year 5 Class Teacher

MR COULTAS

Mr Coultas will be absent from school during the autumn term as he is recovering from an operation. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mr Coultas a speedy recovery.

NEW EARLY YEARS OUTDOOR AREA

It has been a very busy and exciting summer at Goldfinch. A special thanks to Mr Mireku and Mrs Erickson who worked tirelessly over the summer to have everything ready for the staff and children. We are thrilled to have developed our Early Years outdoor provision. Mrs O'Connor and the Early Year's Team planned an amazing outdoor space for the children in Reception and Nursery. This includes a huge mud kitchen, new climbing equipment, an enormous sandpit and a beautiful sensory garden. Look out for the official launch!

UNIFORM

It was wonderful to see all of the children come in to school on the first day looking smart and wearing the correct uniform.

Labelling uniform

Please can we remind and encourage you to label all of your child's uniform. Un-named items are likely to get lost and will be sent to lost property. Children can misplace their jumpers and if it is labelled we can avoid losing jumpers.

Ties

Children in KS2 (year 3/4/5/6) are expected to wear a tie with a white shirt not a polo shirt.



PE Kits

Please ensure that the children also have the correct PE kit. They must all wear the green t-shirt and black shorts. Trainers are only permitted to be worn for PE and not as school shoes. Thank you

Water bottles

Please ensure that your child brings a named bottle of water to school.

HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENTS

Your child will have come home last week with a Home School Agreement that the children will have gone through with their teachers. We ask that you read through it with your child and sign the section for parents. Your child will also be coming home with Rules for Responsible Internet Use which is part of the Acceptable Use Policy which can be found on our school website that will also need to be signed by you. Again, teachers will have gone through this with the children encouraging them to keep safe when using the internet.

SCHOOL COMMS

We have significantly reduced the amount of paper correspondence that we send out. It is essential that you sign up to Schoolcomms app (School Gateway). Currently we only have 46% of families signed up to the new system. We will also be sending out a letter with the instructions on how to upload the app on to your phone or tablet. Please speak to a member of the office if you need support in uploading this app on to your phone or tablet. From 23rd September we will be going completely paperless. Only letters that requires a signature from you will be sent home.

HOME LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

Please support your children in completing any home learning given. We expect all children to read every day with you at home. All children in KS1 and KS2 will have weekly spellings to learn and will be given a maths challenge to complete. If you would like to refer to our Home Learning Policy, it can be found on our website. Your children can also access Mathletics an online maths programme. If you have misplaced your logins, please let the class teacher know and they can reissue with a login.

OPEN MORNINGS FOR NEW FAMILIES STARTING NURSERY OR RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2020

From Tuesday 17th September at 9.15am we will be offering tours for families who are looking for a school place in September 2020 in Nursery or Reception. If you know of anyone, friends, family or neighbours who are looking for a school, do let them know about our school tours.



SCHOOL DINNERS

Universal free School Meals

School dinners for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 continue to be free. We strongly encourage you to take up this free offer.

Cost of school dinners

Children in Nursery and KS2 will need to pay. It is currently £2.20 per meal per day. We ask that you inform us each half term, your child's choice of packed lunch or school dinner and on which days. We ask that you commit to the same arrangement for the whole half term. If you think you could be entitled to free school meals, please speak to the office.

PLACE2BE COFFEE MORNINGS

Every Wednesday parents are invited to come at 9am for coffee. It is a great way to meet other families and there are often guest speakers who come along and are available to speak to parents. The nurse often attends, Citizen's Advice, charities etc.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

We have worked really hard in improving our attendance. Thank you to everyone for getting their children in to school on time every day. In 2018/19 our whole school attendance was 96% which is almost in line with national. If your child is absent, please call the school office to inform us.

MEDICAL NEEDS

If your child has any medical needs, please ensure that you inform the school office and the class teacher. If your child has medication such as an asthma pump or Epi-Pen, we must have them at school. They must be in date and a medical form must be completed giving us consent to administer the medication. We cannot give your child any medication that has not been prescribed by your child's doctor.

E PLAY

We have vacancies in both our Breakfast and After School Club. If you need childcare before or after school, please let the office know and Ulain Mireku the E Play manager will get in contact with you to organise a place for your child.

COLLECTION OF CHILDREN

Please ensure that if another member of your family or a family friend is collecting your child they must be 16 years of age or older unless we do have written permission in advance from parents. Children in Year 5 and 6 with parental consent are allowed to go home on their own however they cannot be responsible for collecting younger siblings from school.

CURRICULUM MEETINGS

Please do come along to the curriculum meetings that are taking place this week and next week to hear about what your child will be learning about and how you can support your child with their learning. These will be held in the lower hall at 9am.

Year Group	Date
Year 4	Tue 10 th Sept
Year 6	Wed 11 th Sept
Year 5	Thur 12 th Sept
Year 3	Fri 13 th Sept
Year 2	Tue 17 th Sept
Year 1	Wed 18 th Sept
Reception	Thur 19 th Sept
Nursery	Fri 20 th Sept

Dates for your Diary	
Place2Be Coffee Morning with the school Nurse	Every Wednesday 9.00-10.00
Year 3 Trip to Pizza Express	Tuesday 10 th September
Early Years (Nursery and Reception Families) Coffee Morning	Wednesday 11 th September 9.00-9.30am
Early Years Topic launch for families	Tuesday 17 th September at 9.00-9.45am
Year 6 Primary Ambitions Programme at Emanuel School(Further information to follow)	These sessions will take place on Friday afternoons at 1.00-3.00pm 27 th Sept 4 th Oct /11 th Oct/18 th Oct 15 th Nov /22 nd Nov/29 th Nov 6 th Dec
Reception Reading Workshop	Thursday 3 rd October at 9.00-9.30am
Nursery Reading Workshop	Friday 4 th October at 9.00-9.30am
Year 5 to Junior Citizens Southfields Academy	Wednesday 9 th October
HALF TERM WEEK	21 st to 25 th October
Parent's Evenings	Tuesday 5 th November 3.45-7.30pm Thursday 7 th November 3.45-6.00pm
Individual School Photos and siblings	Thursday 7 th November
INSET DAY	Friday 8 th November – School is closed all day
WellBeing Week	11 th November
Last day of term	Friday 19 th December at 1.45pm
Class assemblies and Showcasing afternoons	Please refer to your child's class newsletters for these dates.

POLITE NOTICE- WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL.

