

## Autumn Whole School Newsletter 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019- Issue 2

### Message from Mrs Haston

What a positive start back it has been! The children are so settled, and it is wonderful seeing what has already been achieved! Please don't forget to admire the Goldfinch Self Portraits of 2019-20 when you next go in to the lower hall. Children have read fabulous stories, have completed beautiful pieces of art work, carried out science experiments and have written in a variety of contexts! Let us know if you have seen Goldilocks. Children in Year 2 have put up 'Wanted' posters to help find her!



**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](http://www.goldfinchprimary.org.uk)

### **VOLUNTEERING AT GOLDFINCH**

Today you will receive a letter asking if you have any free time, to come and volunteer at Goldfinch. In order to build excellence, we would really appreciate additional support in a number of areas of the school. Please complete the slip at the bottom of the letter. Thank you.

### **E SAFETY**

Last week information for families went out about keeping your child safe online. So many children now are extremely confident users of the internet and with websites such as YouTube, they can find out how to hack in to other people's accounts such as Roblox. This is making it increasingly difficult to keep children safe when they are using the internet. The NSPCC have teamed up with O2 and Net Aware to produce some great guidance for families.

[www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games-helping-children-play-safe/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games-helping-children-play-safe/)

### **READING**

The children at Goldfinch are very lucky to have access to some fantastic rich texts as part of their English curriculum and as well as the books in classrooms and in our library. Please encourage your child to read as much as possible. If children can read, they can access the entire curriculum. We promote children reading for pleasure and to talk about their favourite book, authors and to recommend books to others. Please encourage your child to do the same at home. Please use the Reading Record book that goes home every day to write down what your child has read/is reading and they will be able to once again gain their bronze/silver/gold bookworm badges.

### **HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME**

We have been advised by the Educational Welfare Officer that no holiday time can be authorised or given during term time. Any holiday time taken during term time will result in a penalty charged being given to families.



## **COLLECTING CHILDREN ON TIME AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY**

We appreciate that there on a few occasions where there may be an emergency and you are unable to collect your child at 3.30pm. It is essential that you call ahead to school so that we are aware that you are going to be late and we can inform your child/ren to avoid any worry. If you are struggling to collect your child on time due to commitments or work, we do have vacancies at E Play our 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.

## **HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENTS**

If you have not yet signed and returned the Home School Agreement, please do and return it to the school office. Thank you

## **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 reminder and encourage you to label your child's uniform. Unnamed 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.

## **SCHOOL COMMS**

From today we have gone completely paperless. Only letters that requires a signature from you will be sent home. The instructions have been sent home and can also be found on our website [www.goldfinchprimary.org.uk](http://www.goldfinchprimary.org.uk)

## **OPEN MORNINGS FOR NEW FAMILIES STARTING NURSERY OR RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2020**

From Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 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, Citizens Advice, charities etc.

## 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.

Dates for your Diary	
Place2Be Coffee Morning with the school Nurse	Every Wednesday 9.00-10.00
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 Module 1: 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept to 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2019 Module 2: 15 <sup>th</sup> November to 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2020 Module 3 (17 <sup>th</sup> January to 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2020 Module 4 (28 <sup>th</sup> February to 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2020 Module 5: 1 <sup>st</sup> May to 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2020 (no session on 8 <sup>th</sup> May)
Reception Reading Workshop	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October at 9.00-9.30am
Nursery Reading Workshop	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October at 9.00-9.30am
Year 5 to Junior Citizens Southfields Academy	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October
HALF TERM WEEK	21 <sup>st</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup> October

Parent's Evenings	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 3.45-7.30pm Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 3.45-6.00pm
Individual School Photos and siblings	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November
<b>INSET DAY</b>	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November – <b>School is closed all day</b>
WellBeing Week	11 <sup>th</sup> November
Last day of term	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> 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.**