



It really has been a lovely start to the new school year at Gig Mill, we have been delighted that the children have responded so well to being back in school. Everyone has settled so well into their new classes, with our new Nursery and Reception children making new friends, and learning new routines really well.

As we approach the end of September this week, I am really pleased to say that the focus on building relationships, pastoral care and wellbeing has been really beneficial for the children. The children have welcomed new classmates, and have really enjoyed playing with friends in other classes at lunchtimes. This week is National Inclusion week, and in school we are focusing on two of our school values equality and respect. Part of the curriculum at Gig Mill is delivered through a series of Focus days, the first one will be one day this week for RE with the theme of belief relating to different religious stories for each year group.

As we share October plans for more swimming lessons, some after school clubs for the older pupils, and parents consultation appointments please be aware this is all dependent on sufficient staffing, and possible COVID outbreak measures.

Thank you so much for your support

Mrs Hannaway

Our new Reception children have got off to an amazing artistic start!



For parents consultations planned for the week before half term, as requested we will continue to offer telephone consultations. Information will be emailed out for you to register next week. Where staffing allows on a different day we will plan for in person appointments, if attending in person parents will be requested to wear facemasks while indoors in school. Please be aware that all appointments will be by telephone if there is another COVID outbreak in school with 'restricted mixing' as advised by Public Health.

Years 1, 2 & 3:

In person - Monday 18th October from 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Phone appointments – Wednesday 20th October from 5.00pm – 7.00pm

Years 4, 5 & 6:

In person – Wednesday 20th October from 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Phone appointments – Monday 18th October from 5.00pm – 7.00pm

School Census day is Thursday 7th October, whilst the menu is no different to advertised, we would like to encourage as many children as possible to enjoy a school lunch on this day, as this has an impact on our school funding.

What also has a real impact on our funding is when children who may be entitled to Free School Meals put in a claim - apply here <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/benefits/free-school-meals/>
Please take a look and see if you may be eligible – and thank you to all our parents who have already done this.

Lunch Menu - Thursday 7th October 2021

All Day Breakfast	Mac & Cheese with Tomato Bread
Fishcake	Hash Brown Potatoes
Baked Beans	Peas
Jacket Potato served with a variety of fillings	
Salad selection	Fresh Bread
Butterscotch and Ginger Cake and Custard	
Fresh Fruit	Yoghurt
Cheese & Biscuits	Fruit Jelly



PARKING:

When parking near school please consider access for neighbours, bus routes, parking restrictions and road and pavement users.

Across Key Stage 2 initially we are offering opportunities for subject specialist PE (Year 4 Gymnastics).

From October we are offering some after school clubs, which will change each term. Places in clubs will be offered on a first come, first serve basis, up to the group size limit. Letters will be sent out to the appropriate classes. Please be aware that clubs may be cancelled if advised for 'restricted mixing' as advised by Public Health if there is another COVID outbreak in school.

Year Group	Day	After-School Club
Year 3	Thursday	Dance – cost £3 weekly
Year 5	Friday	Hockey – cost £3 weekly
Year 6	Monday	Gymnastics – Mrs Priestley
	Tuesday	Football – Mr Withers / Mr Bottoms

Autumn Term 2021

INSET: 2nd & 3rd September
Term begins: 6th September
Half-term: 25th Oct – 29th October
INSET: 1st November
Break up for Christmas: 17th Dec

Spring Term 2022

INSET: 4th January
Term begins: 5th January
Half-term: 21st February – 25th February
Break up for Easter: 8th April

Summer Term 2022

INSET: 25th April
Term begins: 26th April
May Day: 2nd May
Half-term: 30th May – 3rd June
Break up for Summer: 21st July*

*Please note that all Dudley schools are now closing on Thursday 21st July due to additional bank holiday for the Platinum Jubilee.

E-safety- for advice and information for parents:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/> <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>
<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
<http://parentinfo.org/page/for-schools>

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