



Newsletter
Date: 26.04.24

Welcome to our new Gig Mill Newsletter. Here you will find all the information you need, regular reminders of up-coming events, achievements and information about special events in school. Please look out for our next newsletter on 10.05.24

Message from the school

Thank you to all of the parents who completed the parental survey. We have collated the results and used this to reflect on the practice in the school. All findings will be used to improve the school further. Below are the **main** findings from the survey.

Main findings: what we are doing well

- 100% of parents agreed their child is happy in school
- 95% of parents agreed that their child felt safe in school
- 92% of parents agreed that the school makes sure its pupils are well behaved
- 95% of parents agreed that their child does well at this school

Main findings: what you would like the school to improve on

- Communication with parents
- Making you aware of what your child will learn during the year
- Range of clubs and after school activities
- Ways the school supports wider personal development

Diary dates

Date	Event
13-16 May	KS2 SATS Week (Y6)
27- 31 May	May half term
03 June	INSET DAY – school closed to children
04-14 June	Y4 Multiplication Check
10-14 June	Y1 Phonics Check including any children who have not passed their phonic screening check in Y1
12 June	PGL Y6
14 June	HSA KS1 Magic Show after school day – more details to follow
19 June	YN Sports Day (10.30am)
21 June	Y3 Wroxeter trip
24 June	09:00 Transition Meeting from EYFS to Y1 (Parents) – meet the teachers
	09:45 EYFS Sports day
	13:15 Y5/6 Sports Day
26 June	14:45 Transition Meeting from Y5 to Y6 (Parents) - meet the teachers
	Class photos
27 June	09:00 Transition Meeting from Y1 to Y2 (Parents)- meet the teachers
	09:45 Y1/2 Sports Day
	13:15 Transition Meeting from Y3 to Y4 (Parents) - meet the teachers
	13:45 Y3/4 Sports Day
28 June	09:00 Transition Meeting from Y2 to Y3 (Parents) - meet the teachers
28 June	14:45 Transition meeting from Y4 to Y5 (Parents) - meet the teachers
01 July	Mini market (children only)- more details to follow
04 July	Meet the new teacher day – children will spend the day with their new teacher. **Y6 have their transition day to secondary. Secondary schools will contact parents directly with further details. Any children not visiting their secondary school, will be expected to be in school and will be taught by a teacher.
06 July	HSA event- Circus
09 July	JASS Celebration assembly for Yr5/ Yr6 parents and children
12 July	Reports out to all parents
16 July	Y6 Leavers Disco 15.20- 16.45
18 July	09:15 Y6 Leavers' assembly for Y6 parents
19 July	End of term 2pm collection for all children

Attendance

Week beginning 15.4.24

Class	%	Class	%	Class	%
RP	97.14	2B	94.0	5H	97.33
RDS	98.97	3F	96.0	5K	95.52
1J	93.85	3B	90.67	5A	94.83
1W	96.25	3FG	91.61	6DS	93.0
1D	95.83	4R	96.0	6W	97.59
2N	96.80	4P	97.20	6GW	97.78
2H	96.40	4JP	95.77	BASE	98.75

Attendance

Week beginning 22.4.24

Class	%	Class	%	Class	%
RP	97.86	2B	95.20	5H	99.33
RDS	96.55	3F	94.0	5K	96.55
1J	87.69	3B	91.33	5A	99.31
1W	97.60	3FG	97.74	6DS	95.0
1D	95.83	4R	96.80	6W	93.79
2N	91.60	4P	97.60	6GW	97.04
2H	90.80	4JP	96.15	BASE	98.75

TTRockstars

Part of the maths curriculum is for children to learn their times tables up to 12x12, and to be able to recall these rapidly from memory. TTRS supports children with learning and revising the tables in a fun, game-style way.

You can access this app through the internet at <https://play.ttrockstars.com> or by downloading the Times Tables Rock Stars app from your app store. Your child will have a personal login and password that they will bring home with them.

3 minutes 3 to 4 times a week will really help support your child with learning their times tables. We can't wait to see who will become a Times Table Rock Star!

Music lessons

Children can learn a range of instruments at school by enrolling for lessons with Dudley Performing Arts. For more information follow the following link <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/things-to-do/dudley-performing-arts/information-for-parents-andyoung-people/music-lessons-in-schools/>

Dates for next year

2024-2025 School holiday dates including INSET days

Autumn term dates including INSET days

INSET days: Monday 02 September and Tuesday 03 September 2024

Autumn 1 term starts: Wednesday 04 September 2024

Half term: Monday 28 October to Monday 04 November

INSET day: Monday 04 November

Autumn 2 term starts: Tuesday 05 November

Autumn term end: Friday 20 December at 2pm for all pupils

Spring term dates including INSET days

Spring 1 term starts: Monday 6 January 2025

INSET day: Friday 14 February 2025

Half term: Friday 14 February to Friday 21 February 2025

Spring 2 term starts: Monday 24 February 2025

Term end: Friday 11 April 2025

Summer term dates including INSET days

Summer 1 term start: Monday 28 April 2025

Half term: Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025

Summer 2 term starts: Monday 02 June 2025

Term end: Friday 18 July 2025 at 2pm for all pupils

INSET day: Monday 21st July 2025

**Additional dates for next academic year will be sent out in July.

Values Award Winner CREATIVITY

Week ending: 19.04.24

Class		Class		Class	
1D	Quinn	3B	Evan	5A	Bodhi
1J	Layla	3F	Dolly	5H	Jacob
1W	Lillie	3FG	Scarlett	5K	Molly
2B	Daisy	4JP	Jonah	6DS	Esmee
2H	Isaach	4P	Ellie	6GW	Danny
2N	Wynter	4R	Lyla	6W	Ava
				BASE	Toby

Gig Mill Advocates

A group of representatives from the school community are Gig Mill Advocates, and their role is to gather the views of the school community and feedback to the Trust Board of Directors.

Over the next half term, they will be gathering the views on Caterlink – the school catering providers. More details on how to share your views will follow.

School Lunches

Reminder that all lunches need to be booked via the Parentmail app the day before the meal is required.

PE Uniform

- Plain black shorts or joggers
- Coloured house t-shirts or their school white polo shirt
- School jumper/cardigan
- Appropriate footwear (trainers/pumps)
- NO jewellery should be worn in PE

PE days	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Summer term					
Outdoor	Year 5	Year 1 and Year 4	Year 3		Year 2 Year 6
Indoor	Year 3	Year 2	4JP Year 6	4P, 4R Year 5	Reception
Swimming		Reception	1J 1W	1D	

Values Award Winner CREATIVITY

Week ending: 26.04.24

Class		Class		Class	
1D	lyla	3B	David	5A	George
1J	Tia	3F	Nevaeh	5H	Reggie
1W	Minnie-Mae	3FG	Dougie	5K	J-Lee
2B	Charlie	4JP	William	6DS	James
2H	Jack	4P	Oscar	6GW	Ian
2N	Jackson & Zac	4R	Seth	6W	Albert
				BASE	Arran

Y4 River Study visit to Diglis Island

At the beginning of term, Year 4 had a fantastic time visiting Diglis Island in Worcester as part of our 'River Deep, Mountain High' topic. Whilst we were there, we learnt about the weir and locks that were added to the River Severn to support trade and transport, and the negative impact this had on the shad fish populations. We travelled to the fish pass that was built to help shad travel past the weir to their natural spawning grounds, and looked for evidence of flooding on our journey. Once we arrived at the underwater fish pass viewing gallery, we learnt about how university scientists use cameras to track the fish usage of the pass. To help us understand more about the engineering of the fish pass, we had a go at slowing the flow of the river down with a marble run activity.



Policy review- Parent consultation opening....

As part of our policy review process, we have recently reviewed our 'Relationships, Sex and Health Education policy'

As part of our statutory process, we are opening a consultation with parents on this policy. If you would like to read the policy please go to the [policies and guidance page](#) on our website and if you would like to submit any comments then please do so using the [link here](#). The form will remain open until 3pm on Tuesday 7th May.

Our first swimming lessons- Reception classes RP and RDS

'This week we went swimming for the first time in school. Our lesson was fantastic. At first some of us were a little bit scared and worried but we loved swimming with our friends, and we can't wait to go again next week! Our swimming teachers told us that we were brilliant!'

Policies

We are currently in the process of reviewing our school policies – we will be uploading various updated policies throughout the next few weeks to the Policies and Guidance page on our website.

Each newsletter we will share a handy parent guide on a range of online safety topics. Keep your children safe by staying up to date!

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for Adopting SAFE & HEALTHY ONLINE HABITS

Everyone has so much going on in their lives, and that includes children: from exams and deadlines to anxiety and mental health struggles. It's quite easy to send memes, make jokes and vent online about the things that irritate us, but when was the last time you – or your child – took a moment to share something kind or positive instead? In fact, when did you last stop and think about your family's online activities? To help keep them safe and teach them healthy online habits, we need to develop our children's digital resilience. There are lots of ways that children can become more digitally resilient, and we've pulled together some popular strategies here ...

WHAT IS DIGITAL RESILIENCE?



Resilience doesn't mean being so tough that nothing gets to you, and it's not about "putting up with things" either. Instead, it's the ability to recover from setbacks. Everyone feels sad, worried, scared or upset at times; it's how we respond and adapt to those situations which is important. Digital resilience is about making choices that keep us safe and happy online, even when we're exposed to something negative or upsetting. Building your child's digital resilience will help reduce the impact of potential risks as they engage with and navigate around the online world.

MAKE POSITIVE LIFESTYLE CHOICES



- Make time for the people and things that make you happy.
- Monitor your screen time and stick to your limits.
- On social media, follow people that make you feel good about yourself – and unfollow the ones who don't.
- Spread some positivity: post good reviews, leave encouraging comments and share good news.

KEEP YOUR HEALTH IN MIND

- Try to factor in regular breaks offline and away from your screen – ideally, outdoors for some revitalising fresh air.
- Exercise is a brilliant stress-buster: even a walk around the block, a bike ride or a stroll to your local shop can really work wonders.
- Be strict with yourself about putting devices away in plenty of time before bed: they can interfere with a good night's sleep, which is essential for staying healthy.

REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT

- If you have a problem online, don't be afraid reach out to specialist people or organisations that could help.
- Follow people on socials who have the same values and morals as you.
- You could always talk to a friend, or a trusted adult like a teacher or family member for some advice.

PUT SAFETY FIRST



- If you see something online that upsets or worries you, tell a trusted adult about it as soon as possible.
- You could also report the content that's making you feel uncomfortable to the site or app that you saw it on, so they can look into it.
- Another option is to block the person or the account that's causing you a problem – or you could go one step further by totally deleting the app you were using.

GET THINGS CLEAR IN YOUR HEAD



- Ask yourself what kindness online actually looks like. Can you remember the last time someone was kind or supportive towards you online? What did they do?
- Think about how it makes you feel when someone sends you a positive or funny message online.
- What about the opposite: has someone ever been deliberately unkind to you online? What did they do and how did it make you feel?
- If someone's behaviour online is causing you stress, try to remind yourself of all the steps you can take if a person's being unkind online.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a registered counsellor with the Health Professions Council of South Africa working in private practice to offer counselling to children, teenagers and young adults. She is the founder of Engage Support, a mobile app focusing on mental health awareness with the goal of providing resources and solutions to schools worldwide.



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#WakeUpWednesday