



### TOGETHER WE CARE, TOGETHER WE SUCCEED... September 2023

We have had a wonderful first month back at school. The children are all settled in their new classes and are enjoying their new topics. Our Y5 pupils will soon be going to RAF Cosford as part of their World War II topic and they are looking forward to their visit. Look out for a section in our October newsletter all about it.

#### New Blue Peter Book Badge!

We love reading at Gig Mill, so this challenge is perfect! Blue Peter have launched a brand new book-badge, designed by Quentin Blake (who illustrated all the Roald Dahl books.) To apply, you need to fill in the online form or download it and send it in the post. This is such a great way to be motivated to read books from home, school or the library - they all count! And remember a Blue Peter badge gives your child free-entry into over 200 attractions across the UK including Twycross Zoo, Black Country Museum and Harvington Hall. Happy reading! Website: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge>

#### BBC 500 words story writing competition

500 words is a story writing competition with 2 categories for children aged 5-7 years and 8-11 years. This year's competition has launched and the closing date is Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. If your child is interested in entering a story please see <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words> for all the information you need.

#### Reminder- Hello Yellow Day- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Hello Yellow Mental Health Day is going to be celebrated with a special assembly on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October. All the children and staff are invited to take part in wearing Mufti (non-uniform) and to wear something yellow as part of their outfit. We are not collecting money for a charity on this occasion, instead the children will be taking part in different activities focusing on health and well-being; and in particular- mental health.

#### Reminder- School Census Day- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Our School Census Day is **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October** and we would be grateful if as many children as possible would choose to have a School Meal on this day. This is because a large part of the school's funding is set by the data we submit to the Government on this day. **The menu will be Cheese & Tomato Pizza or Fish, Chips, Beans or Peas; or Jacket Potato & filling. There will be a selection of puddings to choose from.** The menu on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October will be BBQ chicken wrap / cheese & onion lattice/ Fish bites with potato wedges, beans, sweetcorn; or a jacket potato & filling. Again there will be a selection of puddings to choose from. Thank you for your continued support.

#### Free School Meals – Reception to Year 6

If you think your child might be eligible for Free School Meals, please apply using this QR code to access the online form. This not only helps school access additional funding but also entitles families to food vouchers during school holidays. Currently the food vouchers issued are for £10 per week, per child.



#### Reminder- Dates for your diary

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October-** Hello Yellow Mental Health Mufti Day- wear something YELLOW to school. This can be just one item like a T shirt or pair of socks or a full outfit- it is up to you!

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 3.30-5.30 and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 5-7pm** – Parents' Consultation Evenings for Nursery, Reception and Y1-Y6 – letters will go out next week.

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October-** school photographs

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – Half Term week

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November** – INSET day- school closed to pupils

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1.30pm** Whole School Carol concert- KS2 playground (weather permitting) All parents invited to join us for some festive singing.

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January-** Christmas holiday

Spring term:

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January-** INSET day- school closed to pupils.