

Gnosall St Lawrence C.E. Primary Academy

Newsletter

Week ending: 9 February 2018
Issue No: 427



Dear Parents/Carers,
My warmest thanks to all those who helped out at the school disco last night - staff and parent volunteers. It was a huge success and great fun was had by all (Miss Birch enjoyed the conga immensely!)

And my gratitude goes to all those parents who were able to attend the e-safety presentation last night. There was no doubt that the message given was very stark about the perils of the internet and social networking. We asked for feedback at the end and many parents indicated that it's a shame that the presentation couldn't be made obligatory for all parents to attend.....

One parent did ask that we put regular tips about e-safety onto our weekly newsletter which I think is an excellent and worthwhile idea - so please do watch out for this becoming a regular feature on our newsletters.

Finally my gratitude - personally and professionally goes to Mrs Claire Jones who has stepped down from being our Chair of Governors in order to become the Chair of the West Stafford MAT board. This has been a necessary requirement in order to comply with the Academy regulations and we wish Claire all the best in her new role.

So whilst everyone was enjoying the disco last night, I was upstairs at a Full Governing Body meeting where all the Governors voted for our new Chair. I am thrilled to inform you that Mrs Gail Gregory is our new Chair of Governors and Mrs Alison Price remains as our Vice-Chair. Mrs Gregory is well-known to you all as one of our Parish Councillors. She is a former Headteacher and so is well acquainted with how the education world works. What is clear from Gail is that she has nothing but the best interests of our children and staff at heart - demonstrated in many ways but including by her weekly visits to the school to hear children read and to run a Y6 reading club after school. With both her and Alison in the lead role of the Governors, I am confident that we can continue the great work of our volunteer Governing Body and do everything to implement our vision for the children of our school - to equip them with the skills and prepare them for life beyond the primary sector, ensuring that they always fulfil their potential.

Off to the Stoke game tomorrow - it's so great that so many are going from Gnosall.... Come on you Potters!

Mrs Edwards—Headteacher

Dear Lord,
As Mrs Jones steps down from being a Governor, we celebrate her commitment to our school during the past seven years. In asking for your blessing we also ask for your continued inspiration in the work of the remaining Governors.
AMEN



eSafety



As you will see from Mrs Edwards' note, the suggestion was made at last night's meeting that we should include some information about e- safety every week.

For the first occasion, we would like to refer you to a website that has a number of links. It is:

<https://squareone.education/>

Click on the safety button and loads of links will appear. Please do have a browse.

The main thing to have come out of last night's presentation was the realisation of just how great the dangers are, and how there is no room for complacency—even with very young children.

The NSPCC's **TEAM** approach is based on:

- T**alk about staying safe on line
 - E**xplore their on-line world together
 - A**gree rules about what's ok and what isn't
 - M**anage your family's settings and controls
- and then do it all again until it becomes part of everyday life.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Key Steps Competition—Tuesday 13 February



Please note:

Coach departs promptly at 7.30!

Mrs Thomas is adamant about this—so don't be late or she insists she will have left!

They don't expect to get back to school until at least 4.30pm, so Mrs Thomas has arranged for Mrs Farmer to take Art Club. Consequently,
Art Club will run as normal on Tuesday 13 February

House Points:



259

281



261

269

Grapes choking hazard

Fresh grapes are a lovely thing to find in a lunchbox or snack pack—but we need to inform you of the choking hazard they present, especially for our younger children. In Britain, two children have died in the past year as a result of choking on grapes, so this is a very real issue.



Thankfully, it is easily overcome—just cut the grapes in half! If you could do this when sending grapes into school as part of a lunch or snack it would be much appreciated.

Thank you!

Next Week:

Tuesday—Key Steps Gym Competition (depart 7.30am prompt!)

Tuesday—Shrove Tuesday (pancakes!)

Wednesday—Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent)

Wednesday—Height & Weight measurements—YR & Y6

Friday—Chinese New Year—Year of the Dog

Friday—YR Open Session from 2.30pm

HEAD LICE: Once a week—take a peek. Those pesky nits have still been about this week so please do keep vigilant and ensure that we can eradicate them from our school. Thank you!



Please remember treatment needs to be repeated after 7 days!

Thank you to everyone who is keeping their ParentPay account up to date—it is much appreciated.



There are few trips/visits requiring payments at the moment—perhaps the most notable is the final Laches Wood payment which is due on 9 March. Otherwise, just the usual Kids Club, Pre-School fees and lunches.

Thank you!

ABSENCE/LATE ARRIVAL



1. Please remember to call in to school or leave a message on the gate if your child is absent. Our safeguarding rules require us to be sure where they are; we cannot just “assume” they are at home, so please do call in. We will follow this up if we do not receive a message from you—and Mrs Edwards is writing to you further on this next week about the necessary safeguarding measures that we will take when a child is absent from school.

2. If you arrive late (i.e. after the black gates are closed), please come round to the office to sign your child/ren in. Because of the new unauthorised absence rules, please provide as much explanation of the circumstances surrounding the lateness; otherwise we will have to regard it as unauthorised. 10 late arrivals in 12 weeks (not counting holidays) must now be reported to the Local Authority.



KIDS CLUB

Next week is almost as busy as last week—again, Monday & Tuesday next week are full. If you do want your child to have an ‘ad-hoc’ place, please let Mrs Carn know as soon as possible. Please be aware that you may now be turned away due to us being full. Thank you!



Menus

Next week is Week 3, starting with Chicken Wraps or Pizza on Monday.



CONTACT DETAILS:

If they change, PLEASE update them at the school office—an email is great. Further, please ensure there is someone we can actually get hold of—all too often we cannot get a response from any of the contacts listed, which is not helpful when we have a sick and distressed child who needs to go home. Thank you!

Assemblies—Reminder

We will get the Hall ready for Assemblies as quickly as possible but please remember there is a P.E. lesson in the Hall until 2.10pm. This doesn’t leave us much time, so if you have to wait a few minutes please bear with us.

Also a reminder about punctuality—no-one will be allowed admission once Assembly has started.

REMAINING TERM DATES FOR 2017-2018 (PUPILS)

Spring Term:	Summer Term:	Half term: 28
Wed 3 Jan—	Mon 16 Apr—Fri	May—4 June
Thurs 29 Mar	20 July	
Half term: 19—	May Day: Mon 7	
23 Feb	May	

(NB 12 & 13 April and 4 June are INSET days)

TERM DATES 2018-19

Monday 3 September 2018—INSET
 Tuesday 4 September 2018—start of term
 Thursday 20 December 2018—end of term
 Friday 21 December 2018—INSET
 (Half term: 29/10/18—2/11/18)
 Monday 7 January 2019—start of term
 Friday 12 April 2019—end of term
 (Half term: 18/2/19—22/2/19)
 Monday 29 April 2019—start of term
 Friday 19 July 2019—end of term
 Monday 22 July—INSET
 (Half term: 27/5/19—4/6/19)
 Monday & Tuesday 3 & 4 June 2019—INSET
 Monday 6 May—May Day Bank Holiday

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 16.2.18 2.30pm	YR Open Session
Friday 16.2.18 3.30pm	Break up for half term
Monday 26.2.18	Return to school
Friday 2.3.18 2.30pm	Celebration Assembly

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

w/c Monday 5.3.18	Parent Consultation Evenings
Thursday 8.3.18 (a.m.)	Big Brew—details to follow
Friday 9.3.18 2.30pm	Golden Assembly
Monday 12.3.18	Academy Photographers—Classes, leavers, teams and groups