

The Cuckoo



Staff Updates

After many years at Gotham Primary, including as a former pupil here herself, Laura Austin has handed her notice in and will be leaving in July. Laura has accepted an exciting offer to work at The Bluecoat Academy. As a school we are deeply indebted to Laura and her contributions to delivering an exciting and very impressive curriculum in Art and DT, and for delivering RE lessons across most of our school.

Following the interviews which took place on Friday 10th May, the panel have appointed Mrs Marta Kenny to join our team in September as our new Year 4 teacher and Pupil Premium lead. Mrs Kenny is a very experienced teacher who has worked in all of the primary phase year groups. She is currently teaching Year 4 at Sutton Bonington. Mrs Kenny will come to meet her new class on our transition days.



Sue Lymn-Brewin



We are continuing to work on our Ofsted Action Plan.

As you know, attendance and punctuality were identified as requiring improvement. We have been working to improve our attendance and obviously need the full cooperation and support of every family in order for us to improve our data.



Punctuality

Initially, the introduction of the 9am bell led to a marked improvement in punctuality. Sadly, I now have to report there has been a rise in the number of late arrivals for school. This is unsettling for the children concerned and highly disruptive for teaching and learning as inputs need to be repeated. Penalty notices can be incurred for repeated lateness as well as full absences. If you need support with punctuality, please make an appointment with me at school.

Absence and time off (inc Holidays)

Gotham Primary DOES NOT authorise absences (inc holidays) in term time. Please refer to our Attendance Policy (see school website) or alternatively speak with the School Office as you will need to request an AB1 Form if you still decide to remove your child from school.

NOTE:- *Unauthorised absences may lead to a Penalty Notice Fee or even prosecution.*

Uniform Thank you for continuing to send your children to school smartly turned out in their uniform.

Big Fish will be in school at 8am on Friday 28th of June.

They are here for the Oak Class transition to school meeting for parents, but you might want to pop in and order some uniform items for September?

Please remember to apply sunscreen and send sunglasses and sunhats when the weather heat up!



Ofsted Action Plan.

The focus for our partnership work in summer term is maths. We have had training from the Maths leader from Jesse Grey and maths lessons will be observed. We are using Challenge by Choice to differentiate work for the children, whereby they are given a choice of challenges, for example: 'hard, harder, hardest'. Each group is working towards to the same lesson objective but the outcome is different. High expectations are set to encourage all children to strive, and appropriate scaffolds are put in place where support is needed.

Are you eligible for Free School Meals? Children may be eligible for FSM if their parents receive Universal Credit, Income Support, Income-based Job Seekers Allowance or Income-related Employment and Support Allowance. To apply for FSM visit www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals



SPORTS DAY

In order to avoid our children participating in races in the afternoon sun we are going to have our Sports Day in the mornings this year between 9am and noon (see dates below). House Colours and PE kits to be worn. Parents & Grandparents are welcome to watch.

Diary Dates in Summer 2nd Half Term

Fri 24th May	<p>Pink Day—Cancer Research Layer on the pink and make a £1 donation, thank you! Donations of cakes, pink & red raffle prizes please. Oak 2pm Beech 2.10pm Chestnut 2.20pm Willow 2.30pm Sycamore 2.40pm Cedar 2.50pm Maple 3.00pm Children to remain in class until the end of the afternoon</p> 
27th-31st May	HALF TERM
Monday 3rd June	<p>INSET <i>Report Writing—following the positive feedback we had last year we will be using the same new format.</i></p>
Tuesday 4th June	Back to school
Wednesday 5th June	KS1 Sports Morning—Oak, Beech & Chestnut
Wednesday 19th June	KS2 Sports Morning —Willow, Sycamore, Cedar & Maple
Friday 21st June	Circus Day—treat for whole school paid for by FOGS
1st 2nd 3rd July	Transition Days The children will spend Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in next year's classes
8th-12th July	DT Week—More details to follow
Friday 19th July	Family Ramble followed by Picnic Lunch on the school field