

gothamprimary.co.uk

@SchoolGotham

janetteallen1@gotham.notts.sch.uk

office@gotham.notts.sch.uk

New Starts



And so it begins...

September is an exciting and nerve wracking time for staff and children in school and none more so than for me this year. After the gates opened on Tuesday last week, the excitement bubbled to the top for me. As the new Oak class children were going into class with parents wiping away tears, the anticipation of the year ahead felt amazing. The year 1s to 6s were smiling as they came into school, surging down the path to meet up with their friends. The first week of settling in is now done, routines have started and now the learning and fun will begin. What an amazing year we will all have!

Janette Allen

Milk Bottles



Milk is now being delivered in 1 pint bottles. We have reusable beakers in classes with a line showing where they need to be filled to. Children are still having their milk but we are creating less waste. Mrs. Burton is washing the beakers in the school dishwasher each day. Younger children are supported with the milk pouring.



As well as having 21 new children in school, we also have some new members of staff.

- Mrs. Kenny is teaching Sycamore class.
- Mrs. Mason is a new teaching assistant in Chestnut class.
- Mr. Bourne is teaching P.E. on Tuesday afternoons in Sycamore and Chestnut classes. He will also run an after school club on Tuesdays.
- Miss Burrell works on Thursdays in Maple and Cedar class.
- Mrs. Sutton teaches French in Maple and Willow on Thursday afternoons.
- Mrs. Willars teaches French in Sycamore and Cedar on Monday afternoons

Please introduce yourself if you see a new face, it's good to match children to parents.

Is your child entitled to Free school meals, trips and additional school funding? Find out if you're entitled

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Full Diary Dates Coming Soon



Upcoming Events

Tuesday 17th September

Individual and Sibling photos.
Younger siblings can come along before school from 8.30am

Wednesday 18th September

INSET day – Curriculum Leadership, school closed for children

Friday 27th September

Macmillan coffee afternoon

Important Announcement



The Macmillan coffee afternoon

Friday 27th September 2pm

Year 6 will run this event but we will need

- Cakes galore
- Tea and Coffee servers
- Help with setting up
- Help with tidying away

Please sign up on my list to help or donate cakes. Thank you.

Janette

Holiday Homework

Characters in a Jar

Wow! We have had so many amazing jars returned. They are displayed outside the offices in school. Come and have a look – what creative pupils we have! I have discovered some new books and authors too – thank you. I'm not sure how Miss Danylevych, our English lead, will be able to choose the winners!

Number Challenge

Again, this has been extremely successful. I have loved seeing the range of places that numbers have been discovered. The sheets have been collected into a folder so that Mrs. Swinfield, our maths lead, can do her judging.

Winners of both these activities to be announced soon. However, everyone who has taken part is a winner because learning and fun has been had.



Allotment Project



You will have noticed the sad looking chicken area. The chickens are now living in a new home with other winged friends. This area is to become an allotment but help is needed. Mrs. Bailey and Mrs. Roberts, two teaching assistants in school, will eventually be running a gardening club. Before that we need to transform the area, in my mind I'm imagining a DIY SOS or Ground force moment. If you think you could spare some time and help my dream come true, let me know in person or by email. I have one helper so far, it would be a lot of work for just the two of us!



Our INSET day on September 18th is being led by Phil Drabble from the local authority and is about curriculum leadership. One of our action points from last year's inspection was to 'Improve the quality of leadership and management on raising standards by developing the role of subject leaders, so they can improve the quality of teaching and outcomes in their areas of responsibility.' This INSET also links in well with the new OFSTED framework which places much more importance on the breadth of the curriculum. After this event and the following planning within school, I will update you on the developments you will see.

As you will realise, a major driving force behind our school going into the 'Requires Improvement' category was to do with results and progress scores. The results from last academic year were much more positive and need to be celebrated because they demonstrate the hard work that has been put in by staff, children and parents. As always, there is still room for improvement but we are going in the right direction. Still to improve, are our progress scores from KS1 to KS2. This is going to be the key focus of our 'School Improvement Priorities' and I will discuss this more at an OFSTED parents update meeting on Tuesday 26th November.

One of my aims this year is to print out less letters. If you do need a printed letter, please tell the office. I will put newsletters in the display boards outside classrooms. Please help us to save money within school and look after the environment.

In the Community Super Kitchen, Clifton

Every Friday. Park Gate Community Centre, Chamberlain Close

12noon - 4.30pm



A social eating space where everyone can get a nutritional, cheap meal. Adults £2.50, Children £1.50. Click on the link for more information. [Super Kitchen](#)

Gotham Village Litter Pick



Saturday 14th September.
Meet at the Pump 10.30am
Bags will be provided.



Thank you for your consultation responses from July. Please feel free to continue to hand them in.

As a result of the replies, we will be having a new, improved Sports Day in 2020. I will be asking for your ideas at parents evening in November. Come and have a cup of tea with me and help to develop an amazing event that is worthy of taking time off work to watch and inspires the children.