



(Article 14)



You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.

## Friday Letter



24<sup>th</sup> January 2025

[www.billquayprimary.org](http://www.billquayprimary.org)

### Dates for the diary:

Break up for half term - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

Return to school - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

### School Lottery

To purchase tickets please follow the link below;

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/>

All money raised from tickets purchased will help to fundraise for our school. Tickets are £1 per ticket, per week and the more tickets purchased the higher the weekly prize is. There is a winner from our school every week!

### Chinese Lunch

On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January, we will be serving a Chinese themed lunch to celebrate the Chinese year of the snake for Chinese New Year. We will be serving sweet and sour chicken bites/veggie bites, chinese curry, special fried rice, prawn crackers, mini spring rolls and mango smoothie or melon and pineapple fruit salad for dessert. Vegetarian options are available. There will be no other option for lunch on this day.

### Year 6 - Kingswood Residential

As you may be aware, Kingswood has gone into administration. We have been in contact with PGL who have their own residential sites and who have advised that they would be willing to honour payments already paid to Kingswood to avoid any financial impact to both parents and school. We are delighted to advise that we have been offered Ford Castle which is based in Berwick-Upon-Tweed for the same week but different days. The residential will now take place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June until Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Please can we request that payments by parent/carers are made as planned using the SchoolGateway app. If you have opted to pay by instalments, the next payment is due by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Mrs Messenger will invite you to a meeting regarding this in due course.

### Year 6 - SATs Meeting

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January, parents and carers of year 6 children are invited in to school for a meeting regarding the upcoming SATs tests in May. This should last approximately 30 minutes.

### School Book Fair

We are holding a school book fair on Monday 17<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February. This will be held in the school hall between 3.30-4pm. To pay for the books, there are two options: cash or cashless using a QR code (displayed at the fair). Pupils will be able to use the World Book Day tokens that will be given out in advance to help pay towards the cost of a book. Approximately 30% of titles are under £5 and proceeds will be used towards further books for our school library.

### Year 4 - Buddhist Temple

Children in year 4 will be visiting the Buddhist Temple in Hebburn on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January as part of their RE topic. The trip is free of charge but we do ask that pupils bring in a donation of food or drink for the monks. The monks live off donations so, every year, we give them something from our school. This donation must be dried food e.g., nuts, spaghetti, rice, plain biscuits or bottled water. A link to the consent form containing further details has been sent to you via email.

## Valentine's Disco

Children are invited to come along to our Valentine's disco night on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Children who are in Reception, year 1 and year 2 will attend from 3.30pm (straight after school) until 4.40pm. Children may come to school in their disco outfit and should be collected from the Year 6 door at the back of the school by the ramp. Children in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 can attend the KS2 disco from 4.50pm until 6.00pm. Children should enter via the steps in the infant yard and be collected from the KS2 door at the back of the school next to the ramp. Tickets cost £3.50 which includes a drink and a hotdog and can be purchased using the SchoolGateway app. There will also be a tuck shop available on the night and children can purchase crisps and sweets using cash. Please ensure younger children bring cash in a clearly labelled envelope. For catering purposes, please ensure tickets are purchased no later than Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

## Year 5 - Bikeability

Children in year 5 will take part in a 4 day Bikeability course beginning Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February and running until Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February. A consent form for this has been sent home with your child this week. If you wish for your child to participate, please ensure completed forms are returned to the school office no later than Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February. All children taking part are required to bring their bike and helmet into school with them on this day, more information can be found on the consent form.

## Year 3 - Bikeability

Children in year 3 who can already ride without stabilizers, will take part in a 1 day Bikeability course on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February. A consent form for this has been sent home with your child this week. If you wish for your child to participate, please ensure completed forms are returned to the school office no later than Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February. All children taking part are required to bring their bike and helmet into school with them on this day, more information can be found on the consent form.

## Year 4 - Bikeability

Children in year 4 who can already ride without stabilizers, will take part in a 1 day Bikeability course on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February. A consent form for this has been sent home with your child this week. If you wish for your child to participate, please ensure completed forms are returned to the school office no later than Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February. All children taking part are required to bring their bike and helmet into school with them on this day, more information can be found on the consent form.

## Brysons' Animal Shelter

The School Council is once again looking for donations of blankets, towels, cat food, dog food, cat litter and toys for Brysons' animal shelter in Gateshead. Any donations would be gratefully received and should be handed in at the school office no later than Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

## OPAL

We are excited to invite you to our OPAL Garden Opening on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 3.30pm-4.15pm. The event will begin with a short meeting in the school hall, followed by a chance for you to join your children in the garden to explore our new play zones. Please remember to bring your wellies, as the garden may be muddy! We look forward to seeing you all there.

## Sink

We are trying to source a large metal sink as part of our outdoor OPAL programme. This will ideally be plumbed outside and enable the children to wash their hands after muddy play in the garden area. If you are able to help and have a sink you think may be suitable, and are happy to donate this to school, please can we ask you to provide us with a photo in the first instance by emailing [billquayprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:billquayprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk).

