



Queensgate Primary School

Newsletter January 17th 2025

I hope that all our Queensgate families were able to have a happy and restful Christmas holiday. The children have returned refreshed and ready to embark on new opportunities this term!

Invitation to share in your child's learning

We are pleased to be able to invite you into school in the coming months to share learning opportunities with your child/ren. During your child's time in school, these will include: practical sessions, musical performances, plays and workshops with the children to allow you to share in their learning. The dates are as follows:

Spring 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Monday 3rd February Nursery "Stay and Play" 9.00 – 9.30AM (beginning of the week children)● Friday 7th February Nursery "Stay and Play" 9.00 – 9.30AM (end of the week children)● Tuesday 11th February Reception 9.15 - 9.45AM Collaborative Tales Toolkit session for parents
Spring 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Wednesday 9th April: 8.45- 9.15AM- Open morning for Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 current parents/ carers. Please pop in to look at your child's books with them and let them tell you about everything they have been learning this year. As this will be a busy event and the classrooms will be extremely full, we can only allow 1 parent/ carer per family.● Wednesday 9th April: 2.30PM Year 1 Learn Together Time● Thursday 10th April: 2.30PM Class R Easter afternoon tea for parents/ carers
Summer 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Wednesday 21st May: 9.30- 10.45 AM Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day● Thursday 22nd May: 9.30- 10.45 AM Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Sports Day
Summer 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Friday 20th June: 8.45- 9.15AM- Open morning for Y1 and Y2 current parents/ carers. Please pop in to look at your child's books with them and let them tell you about everything they have been learning this year. As this will be a busy event and the classrooms will be extremely full, we can only allow 1 parent/ carer per family.● Monday 23rd June: Nursery "Stay and Play" 9.00 – 9.30AM (beginning of the week children)● Friday 27rd June: Nursery "Stay and Play" 9.00 – 9.30AM (end of the week children),● Wednesday 2nd July: 2.30PM Year 3 Elm, Ancient Civilisations workshop for parents/carers● Thursday 3rd July: 2.30PM Year 3 Oak, Ancient Civilisations workshop for parents/carers● Friday 4th July: Reception 9.45- 10.15AM Come and join COOL time for parents/ carers● Wednesday 9th July: 2.15PM Year 2 Learn Together Time for parents/carers● Friday 11th July: 10.45- 11.15AM Year 4 Ukulele performance for parents/ carers● Tuesday 15th July or Wednesday 16th July TBC: Year 5 perform at the Lowry in the evening● Wednesday 16th July: 1.45PM Year 6 Leavers' Play for Year 6 parents/ carers● Thursday 17th July: 6.00PM Year 6 Leavers' Play for Year 6 parents/ carers● Thursday 24th July: 9.10AM Year 6 Leavers' assembly for Year 6 parents/ carers

Parental Engagement Survey

Thank you to the 67 parents who completed our Parental Engagement survey before Christmas. We asked for your feedback on 4 key meetings and have summarised your responses below. Your input is much appreciated and has allowed us to make well-informed changes, based on parents/ carers views.

	You said...	We will...
Welcome Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% agreed the meeting was useful. 81% said length of the meeting was appropriate. 14% said length of the meeting was too short. "Really useful meeting to help with transition from one class to the next." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the length of the meetings next September, from 20 minutes to 30 minutes. Continue to share the slides on Seesaw after the meeting for any parents that could not attend. Continue to encourage all parents to attend this meeting in person. We believe it is essential to start the year by building strong relationships between home and school and that the best way to do this is face to face.
Reception meeting, "How to support your child's reading at home."	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% agreed the meeting was useful. 86% said length of the meeting was appropriate. 14% said the length of the meeting was too short. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide "Fred Talk" paper handouts following the meeting. Extend the length of the meeting.
Parent Partnership Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% agreed the meeting was useful. "Not sure what the meeting is exactly about and how parents can contribute." Unable to attend due to childcare issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In advance of the meetings, we will provide a brief outline of the focus in our Newsletter. Send a reminder email the day before the meeting. Let parents know that babies/ small children are welcome to attend the meeting (under the supervision of the parent.)
Parents' Evenings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% agreed the meeting was useful or had no opinion. 70% said length of the meeting was appropriate. 30% said length of the meeting was too short. "Could there be more in person slots?" "Well organised, welcoming and informative." "The Hall was very noisy." "Really thorough and informed well of my child's progress in school." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of face to face appointments so that any parent that prefers face to face can book one. We will still offer some online slots as a number of parents do prefer this. Continue with the 10 minute time slots as this is in line with other primary schools and considerably longer than slots in secondary schools. Parents are encouraged to contact the school to arrange a meeting with the teacher at any time in the year if there is an area of their child's development that they would like to discuss. Consider relocating some of the face to face appointments to other areas of the school, close to the Hall. This should make the Hall quieter. We know from previous experience that when appointments take place in the classroom, they are far more likely to over run and this is stressful for parents and staff. Share the dates of our Open Morning later in the year, where the children share their learning/ books with parents.

Who's who is the school office

Due to Mrs Small's retirement at Christmas, we have been joined by Mrs Houlbrooke, a new member of the office team. Here is a reminder of who is on hand to help in the office.



Mrs Wakefield, School Business Manager. Works Tuesday to Friday.



Mrs Shepherd, Finance Officer. Works Monday, Thursday, Friday



Mrs Houlbrooke, Administrative Assistant. Works Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.

Price increase

Dolce, our school dinner providers, have informed us that the price of a school meal is going to increase from the 31st March 2025.

Meal price	Nursery	Year 3 - Year 6 Child
Current price	£2.27	£2.67
Price after 31.3.25	£2.46	£2.89

Dates to remember

- Tuesday 21st January
 - Thursday 23rd January
 - **Friday 14th February**
 - **Monday 24th February**
 - Monday 24th February
 - Wednesday 26th February
 - Monday 3rd March
 - Thursday 6th March
 - Thursday 6th March
 - Thursday 27th March
 - Friday 11th April
 - Monday 28th April
- 3.30PM Y5 Robinwood meeting for parents, Y5 classroom
 - 6pm Year 6 SATS meeting for parents, Hall
 - **School closes for 1 week**
 - **School re-opens**
 - Year 4 start swimming lessons
 - Year 5, 3 day residential trip to Robinwood
 - Year 3 class to Macclesfield Forest
 - World Book Day (details to follow)
 - Year 6 classes to Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool
 - 2:30pm Parent Partnership Meeting
 - **School closes for 2 weeks**
 - **School re-opens**

Have a lovely weekend everyone. If you have any queries or wish to discuss any school matters, I am available before and after school most days. Mrs Hitchcock, **Headteacher**