



Queensgate Primary School

Newsletter 23.9.22



It has been a busy and happy start to the new school year. The children have been engrossed in their new topics and you can clearly see how much they enjoy being back with their friends and teachers.

Unfortunately, COVID also seems to have returned to school. We have had a number of members of staff with COVID which has presented us with staffing difficulties. As per the Department for Education guidance, schools are no longer required to inform parents/ carers when there have been positive cases in school, but I do think it is important that you are aware that we have had a number of cases and this inevitably leads to staff absences.

Welcome meetings

Thank you to everyone who joined us in school for our Welcome Meetings. We hoped you enjoyed seeing your child's classroom and getting to know the staff who will be working with your child/ren this year. It was lovely to be able to hold these meetings in person this year. If you were not able to attend, I would urge you to read the **Welcome Meeting PowerPoint** on your child's Seesaw page as this contains key information about how you can support your child at home this year.

Communication with school

As mentioned in our Welcome Meetings, **Seesaw** is the electronic platform that we use to communicate home learning, share snippets of learning that has taken place in school and inform you about future learning. However, if you have any messages regarding pick up/ drop off arrangements, medical information etc, Seesaw should not be used as it does not relate to your child's learning. Messages such as these, need to go via the school office so that they can be logged and directed to the appropriate member of staff. Please phone the office or email admin@queensgate.stockport.go.uk if you have any messages of this nature. Thank you.

School improvement

Each year, as part of our school self-evaluation and development process, we identify school improvement priorities for the year ahead. The areas below will be the main focus of school improvement work. Parents/carers that are able to attend our Parent Partnership meetings throughout year will be asked for input on these areas and their feedback is invaluable.

School Development Plan September 2022/23

"Inspiring a love for life and learning"

1. Pupils to continue to make significant progress from their individual starting points in **reading and writing**
2. Pupils to continue to make significant progress from their individual starting points in **maths**
3. Pupils to become increasingly **reflective and independent learners**
4. Maximise opportunities in the **outdoor Early Years Foundation Stage learning environment** for child-initiated learning and independent application of early reading, writing and maths skills
5. Further develop our curriculum to ensure that it celebrates **race, diversity and inclusion** and equips children for the diverse world in which we live

***** Please remember that the school car park is only for staff, visitors and blue badge holders. It is not to be used by parents at any time. *****

Parent partnership meetings

Each half-term, we hold an informal Parent Partnership meeting on the school premises and all parents/carers are welcome to attend. The purpose of the meetings is for parents to meet members of staff, to share information about areas of the curriculum or initiatives that we are reviewing and to gain your views and suggestions. It is also a good way for parents/carers to meet other parents and be part of the Queensgate community. Our first meeting this year will be held on **Thursday 20th October at 2.30PM**. Refreshments are provided and we would love to see you there!

Author event

There will be a book signing at Simply Books in Bramhall, with bestselling children's author and former Children's Laureate, Cressida Cowell on **Wednesday 28th September 4.30PM - 6PM**.

The award-winning author of '*How to Train Your Dragon*' and '*The Wizards of Once*' will be signing copies of her brand-new book **WHICH WAY TO ANYWHERE**.

Meet Cressida, buy a book and have it signed and dedicated, snap a photo with her and receive a special commemorative badge. Pre-order a book & reserve your place at the signing now or just come along on the day! For more details please contact Simply Books on 0161 4391436 or visit www.simplybooks.info

Important dates coming up

All upcoming dates are on the school website/ Calendar on www.queensgate.stockport.sch.uk

- 26.9.22:** Start of the UK's Great Big Green Week – see email sent earlier this week
- 27.9.22:** Year 3 trip to Beeston Castle
- 28.9.22:** 9.00 – 10.00 Macmillan coffee morning in the Hall (cake donations gratefully received after school on Tuesday 27th)
- 28.9.22:** 5pm Workshop for all current Reception parents, **“How to support your child's reading, writing and maths learning journey”**
- 29.9.22:** Bramhall High School Open evening (5.00- 8.00pm)
- 6.10.22:** National poetry day
- 10.10.22:** Year 6 trip to the Imperial War Museum
- 12.10.22:** Flu vaccinations in school (details to follow)
- 19.10.22: 9.15- 10.45** Open morning for prospective Reception 2023 families
- 20.10.22:** 2.30PM Parent partnership meeting in school
- *** 21.10.22: School closes for half-term *****
- 31.10.22:** School re-opens
- 2.11.22: 9.15- 10.45** Open morning for prospective Reception 2023 families
- 18.11.22:** Children in Need (details to follow)
- 22.11.22:** 3.30 – 5.30PM Individual Progress Meetings with classteacher/s (details to follow)
- 23.11.22:** 5.00 – 7.00PM Individual Progress Meetings with classteacher/s (details to follow)
- Dates of Christmas plays/ party to follow**
- 14.12.22:** Reception Theatre visit to see “The Man who wanted to be a penguin”
- 22.12.22:** School closes for Christmas holidays

If there are any parents/ grandparents who would like to join our Parent Reader team of volunteers please contact the school office for further details. Training will be provided.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend. If you have any queries or wish to discuss any school matters, I am available before and after-school most days.

Mrs Hitchcock
Headteacher