



## Welcome message

This week our Year 7 pupils enjoyed an amazing experience visiting Cambridge University for the day on Wednesday. It was a pleasure to hear their reflections about the day, and how clear many of our students are already about what is at the “top of their mountain”.

We have begun our interview process for teaching staff for September this week; there will be lots of potential candidates in and around school over the coming weeks in order to allow us to build our team. All candidates will teach a lesson as part of the process, so if children are commenting on different teachers and changes to timetables, that is why!

Many of you will have met Ms Gordon, who is working across Reception and Year 2 to support when teachers are absent or on training. A warm welcome to Ms Gordon, who brings a wealth of teaching experience and a well-worn ukulele! Miss Campbell is currently on her four week placement and will return two weeks after half-term.

### Serious parking concerns

The parking situation remains a serious concern. The council are aware (thank you again for your support with this; if you haven't already, please do feel free to call or write to the council). However, we must all take responsibility for this area of our community. Parents should park in GOALS on the cinema area only; parking on the bend is not safe or responsible with the number of children that we have in school. If you witness dangerous parking or driving in this area, please do inform the council.

### Politeness and courtesy when talking to staff

Thank you for your support with our new arrangements in the reception area this term; it seems to be working better. However, there are still a small number of occasions in which our staff are being subjected to discourteous behaviour. This will not be tolerated.

### How to buy uniform

1) Parent/Carer emails their child's name and uniform required including quantity and size to:

[uniformsales@goresbrookschool.org.uk](mailto:uniformsales@goresbrookschool.org.uk)

2) Parent/Carer visits [Parentpay.com](http://Parentpay.com) where you will find the option to pay for uniform.

3) Once payment has been received a member of staff will contact you to let you know that your order is ready for collection via the timescales below or given directly to your child in Year 7.

Emails and payment received before 12pm on Monday	Available for collection on Tuesday from 8am-8.25am or 9am onwards and after school
Emails and payment received after 12pm on Monday up to 12pm on Wednesday	Available for collection on Thursday from 8am-8.25am or 9am onwards and after school
Emails and payment received after 12pm on Wednesday	Available for collection on the following Tuesday from 8am-8.25am or 9am onwards and after school

### FROGS update

We have two exciting projects taking place over half-term to improve our learning environment in school. We are turning a small group room into a sensory room. We are also turning the inside and outside area in EYFS into a haven of real, growing garden, including greenhouse, planters etc. A few members of our very enthusiastic parent FROG group are coming in to volunteer with painting/ planting/decorating on the Friday (17th) of half-term. We need some more hands-on-deck so if you would like to be involved in either project... either designing, making, or donating items, please see Miss Darley. Or if you have any friends or contacts who might be able to help with either of these projects, please let me know.

### Reception waiting area

Please do not wait in the main reception during the morning before the gate is open. The main reception is very busy and staff are having trouble dealing with enquiries and hearing phone calls. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Term dates for 17-18—correction

Your child received term dates this week for 17-18, however there were two errors. Please note in term 2 we return to school on Monday 30th October 2017. In term 5 all children return on Monday 10th April 2018. Full term dates for next year can be found here and are also available at reception: <http://www.goresbrookschool.org.uk/Term-Dates/2017-2018> Apologies for any confusion caused.

### Next week

On Monday we are holding our Milestone Assembly for Year 7s. You will have received an invite if your child is taking part. Please arrive at 4:10pm. All other Year 7s will finish at 4:45pm as normal.

On Friday next week parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are invited in at 3pm for our Fantastic Finish. This is an opportunity to see the superb work our children have produced this half-term. Please do come along if you can!

Have a lovely weekend,  
Clare

## Attendance & Punctuality

**On return to school please bring in a hand-written note or complete the Return to School form at the front reception even if you phoned up to let us know your child is ill.** This is valid for genuine illness of two days. More than two days absence requires medical proof e.g. a prescription bottle or a copy of a prescription or even the appointment card are acceptable.

**If your child is up and about at home then they are generally well enough to be at school.** If your child is too ill to attend school please ensure you phone **0203 597 6666 and select option 1** as soon as possible that morning and every day that they are absent. **Alternatively you can contact our Attendance Officer, Mrs Rebeiro directly on 07557 083 767.**

**Please note that if you arrive at school and the gate is closed, you need to walk your child through main reception. Your child will be classed as late.**

**A reminder for collection in the afternoons (Primary):** If you collect your child more than 10 minutes late on three occasions in a half term, we are required to charge you £10.00. As per our policy, any further instances of lateness in that half term will incur a charge of £10.00 per occasion.

**The classes with the highest attendance in each year group this week are:**

**Reception: Storyteller class 96.5%**

**Year 1: Designer class 100%!**

**Year 2: Surgeon class 94.4%**

**Year 7: Ben Nevis 100%!**

### Primary Attendance Awards

Well done to those children who received a blue 100% attendance and punctuality sticker for this week.

If you didn't receive one today please try really hard to get one next week.



## Email the Governors

We now have a dedicated mailbox set up for you to email any feedback or comments directly to the Chair of our Local Governing Body : [Governors@goresbrookschoo.org.uk](mailto:Governors@goresbrookschoo.org.uk). We have a vacancy for a new parent Governor. We would like to invite any interested parents to contact [Governors@goresbrookschoo.org.uk](mailto:Governors@goresbrookschoo.org.uk) to express interest ASAP. Elections will be held in due course.

## Borrowed uniform

If your child comes to school in the incorrect uniform or missing a tie for example we will lend your child a Goresbrook item for the day. Please ensure you return the item to the reception within a week of borrowing it. **Items not returned within the week will be charged to your parent pay account.** We have had to do this due to the large amount of items that are not being returned which is costing the school a significant amount.

## Primary breakfast club

Please be reminded that the **last entry to Primary breakfast club is 8.20am** (Whether your child has eaten already or not). If you bring your child to school after 8.20am you will be required to stay with them until they start school at 8.30am.

## Lost property

Each classroom now has it's own lost property box for any uniform left in class. Please check this each day when you collect your child—it will be outside the classroom. We hope this will help you find your items easier and reduce the need to come to main reception.

## Coffee Morning with Debbie (Primary)

Please come along on Monday 20th February at 9am to meet with Debbie and our school nursing team as we discuss routines and boundaries. These coffee mornings have been a real success and are a great opportunity for you to chat to other parents/carers. We hope to see you there.

## Primary clubs schedule for this term

Day	Club	Dismissal
Mon	Cricket YR1 & YR2	Front Office
	Arts and crafts YR1 & YR2	Illustrator class
	Homework and Reading Club Yr1 only	Architect Class
	Singing YR1 & YR2	Classroom
	Reception Tennis	Front Office
Tues	Netball YR1 & YR2	Front Office
	Football Year 2 only	Front Office
	Reception dance	Front Office
	Reception Arts Club	Front Office
Wed	Drama Club YR1 & YR2	Front Office
	Music Club YR1 & YR2	Architect Class
	Study Club Yr2 Only	Year 2 Entrance
Thur	Badminton YR1 & YR2	Front Office
	Football Year 1 only	Front Office
Fri	Tennis YR1 & YR2	Secondary Double doors outside front office
	Basketball YR1 & YR2	
	Reception Football	Secondary Double doors outside front office

We cannot guarantee that all clubs will be inside every week. It may be sometimes take place in the playground.

## World Book Day 2017—Thursday 2nd March

On Thursday 2nd March all children in Primary are required to dress up as a book character as part of World Book Day. Start thinking now about what character you might like to be. We look forward to seeing what you come up with!

## Key Dates

Monday 6th Feb—Year 7 milestone assembly. You will have already received an invite if your child is taking part.

Friday 10th Feb—Fantastic Finish for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at 3pm.

**February half term—Monday 13th**

**February 2017 — Friday 17th**

**February 2017.**

Monday 20th February—first day back—breakfast club available for Primary from 8am and Secondary from 7.30am. Primary clubs resume as normal.

Monday 20th February —9am coffee morning with Debbie and school nurse. Topic: Routines and boundaries

Friday 24th February—School nurse drop-in 8:30am

Thursday 2nd March—World Book Day Dress –up

Friday 3rd March—Year 1 Assembly Designers 3pm

Friday 3rd March—Year 1 Assembly Engineers 3pm

## Email addresses

If you do not receive this newsletter by email but would like to, please see a member of staff at reception who will check the address we have on file for you and do a test send.