



Gateway Gazette

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful start for the beginning of the school year and my first half term as Head of School. It feels hard to believe there is only a week to go before we break up for our two week break. Thank you for your support and for helping the children get back into their routines. This is so important for children. It really does help when children arrive in school along with neat uniforms and on time. We have seen some real successes around the development of our Core Value of 'Pride' over the last few weeks, and being in school and on time helps the day get off to an effective start every day, ready to learn.

There are also some new developments to let you know about ready for our next half term.

Magic Breakfasts

I am really excited at being able to offer the Magic Breakfast to all children from Wednesday 6th November 2019 starting at 8.15am. We will receive children directly into the hall each morning and a separate letter will give you more details. This will be available to all children wherever possible and will have the offer of a healthy breakfast in class everyday. The reasons why we are going ahead with this are as follows:

- Every child will have access to breakfast which will give them a calm and healthy start to the day.
- It is free for every child without barrier or stigma
- Lateness should reduce as children will be keen not to miss their breakfast
- Children's wellbeing should benefit with that social time with their peers
- Pupil progress should benefit as we will not have any hungry children who can't focus on their learning and a calmer start means children are more ready to learn
- The children will have the opportunity to try new foods throughout the year
- Family time should improve as there is no rush to prepare your child's breakfast
- It should be fun to eat with your class and school adults

We are hoping it will be a great success and that the children enjoy this extra social time in school. More details to follow.

School Gate drop off and collection

We have been trying to address the children's well-being when coming into school. The KS2 teachers have been waiting at their class doors on the first floor of school as the KS1 teachers already do. This has been very effective and helped us spot any children who have wanted to share concerns or address any upset first thing. The children, once in class, go on to undertake a set, calm activity until it is time for the register and the school day can then start in the best way possible. We have been working on our Core Values of resilience and also helping children self-regulate and take responsibility and they have risen to the challenge!

In addition, you may have noticed the senior staff on the wider back gates and not the school door. This has helped with congestion and a calm flow into school whilst also allowing for parents to talk to a member of staff after saying goodbyes to their children. This allows children to walk into school independently so we will continue this and ask that you support us by encouraging your child to enter school from these gates by themselves to help prepare for the school day. This principle can be followed at the front gate where generally Mrs Riley is and any messages to class teachers can be given to the gate staff and will be passed on personally. I appreciate Nursery and Reception parents will want to and should see their children into the building. There is of course Class dojo to pass on any messages too. Especially useful if it is raining!



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Please be very mindful of safeguarding all children when dropping off children in vehicles. We have witnessed some very uncomfortable situations and a little bit of a walk versus a child having an accident is always preferable. We don't want to have a serious accident to deal with. Please drive and park responsibly at all times.

Parents' Evening

This will be held on **Wednesday 6th November** and more details to follow. Just to let you know it will take a different format this year and each meeting with the teacher will be in your child's classroom. There will be seating outside classrooms and books to look through whilst you wait as usual.

Meanwhile in the hall we hope to hold a 'Marketplace' where you can get refreshments and also have a chat with the school nurse, Senco, Family Engagement officer and local police. We will hold a prize draw for attendance at the 'Marketplace' and you will receive a raffle ticket upon entry but it will hopefully also help parents meet staff and community representatives and offer social connections too.

There will be a chance to complete a Parent Survey on the night too. Please let us know what you think so we can drive forward the standards and take your views into account

Getting Involved

We are always looking for ways of communicating ideas and shaping the future of our children here at Blackpool Gateway Academy. We can't do this in isolation to our parents and would love and welcome opportunities to work with you in a positive range of ways.

I would like to set up a **Parents Forum** in the future to discuss your ideas and share our plans to make school even better. Would you like to get involved? Can you spare a little time to come to a meeting or would you like to communicate in another way?

I also believe there is work to do to get our school noticed in the area and in the town and you can help. Perhaps you have marketing experience or in fact can just spread the word through social media. We have a twitter account and a new Facebook page for your info. Please search Blackpool Gateway Academy.

Please also let your child's teacher, Mrs Riley our Family Engagement Officer or myself know via admin@gateway.fcat.org.uk or around school and through an appointment.

We truly look forward to hearing from you and our journey ahead to make our school the best it can be.

Wishing you all a wonderful two week's break with your children and we look forward to the next half term and all our Christmas preparations.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Robinson
Acting Head of School



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DATES FOR THE DIARY

Parent's Evening – Wednesday 6th November 3.30 pm – 6.00 pm
Appointment Only

Anti-bullying week – 11th – 15th November

No Pens Wednesday – Wednesday 13th November

Children in Need Day 'wear something Spotty' – Friday 15th November

Friday 29th November – INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSED

Monday 2nd December – INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSED

Wednesday 11th December – Yr 5/6 Christmas Carol Concert

Thursday 12th December – Yr 3/4 Christmas Carol Concert

Friday 13th December – Nursery/Reception/Yr 1 & 2 'The Snowmites Magical Iceberg' performance and author visit

Friday 13th December – Reward Parties

Monday 16th December – Year 2 Christmas Crafts 2.00 pm

Tuesday 17th December – Year 1 Christmas Crafts 9.15 am

Tuesday 17th December – Nursery & Reception Christmas Event/Nativity 9.15 am

Wednesday 18th December - Nursery & Reception Christmas Event/Nativity 2.00 pm

Thursday 19th December – Nursery/ Reception Year 1 - 4 Christmas Party Day
Children can wear their Christmas Jumpers

Friday 20th December – Years 5 & 6 Christmas Party Day
Children can wear their Christmas Jumpers

Friday 20th December – 2.00 pm finish School Closes for Christmas break
School Re-opens – Monday 6th January 2019



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Blackpool Gateway Academy

Part of Fylde Coast Academy Trust

free

FOR OUR NEW RECEPTION 2020 INTAKE

FREE P.E KIT TO ALL NEW 2020
RECEPTION INTAKE will be given to every child
starting at our school in September 2020



15th October – 17th October
★ 2019 ★

We would like to invite families with children
ready to start Reception in September 2020.
Our family friendly school has lots to offer and we would like to
show you what a typical school day is like during our tour of the school.

Here at Gateway Academy
we are holding a number of tours of our school starting on
Tuesday 15th October 3.00pm–4.00pm
Wednesday 16th October 2.00pm–3.00pm
Thursday 17th October 6.00pm–7.00pm



FCAT
The best we can be

Seymour Road, Blackpool, FY1 6JH
Tel: 01253 402936
www.gateway.fcat.org.uk
Executive Principal: Mrs S Bamber
Acting Head of School: Mrs S Robinson

On Friday 18th November we would like all children to take part in Children in Need's fundraising event - **The BIG Spotacular!**

To embrace the theme children may come into school in non-uniform - the Spottier the better!

This can be a pair of socks, hair bobble, t-shirt, spots added to outfits etc.

We are asking for a £1.00 donation to participate in this event and all monies raised will go to Children in Need.



Mr Kenny took some pupils from year 2 to attend this year's FIT 2 GLOW event with Blackpool Community Trust.

All pupils represented our School well and had lots of fun taking part.

ENRICHMENT CLUBS

All enrichment clubs will finish next week (w/c 14th October).

A letter will be going out regarding new clubs next half term.

Choir will still continue as normal next term as they rehearse for Schools Alive.

** REMINDER **

Those pupils who have signed up for the Festival of Dance, there will be a rehearsal before the show in the evening on Thursday 7th November.