

Little Gonerby Church of England Primary Academy



Newsletter



Friday 27th September 2024

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Message from Mr Hawkins

Dear families,

We have been very busy in school since term started, with fantastic learning happening in all of our classes. Our new Reception children are settling in well and learning the routines of school.

Today, we were delighted to have our Year 2 families in school to watch our **Year 2 Harvest Worship**. The children performed brilliantly and the school sang some fantastic harvest songs. A huge thank you goes to all of our families for the harvest donations – these will be donated to a local food bank to help those in need in our community.



Thank you also to our Reception and Year 1 families who were able to join Miss Steele in our **phonics workshop** on Tuesday. If you missed this but would still like the information, please get in touch.



Our **Asda Cashpot for Schools** funds are already at £140 – thank you to our families who have linked their app to our school to help raise these funds so far. There are 63 days left to continue fundraising!

Mr Joe Hawkins
Headteacher

Attendance

Good attendance is one of our school's key priorities. Our attendance has steadily improved over the last few years due to the hard work of our children, families and staff.

Each school is required to have an Attendance Team who are responsible for ensuring good attendance. Little Gonerby's Attendance Team is as follows:

Mrs Gallaher – Attendance Champion
Mrs Gray – Administrator
Mr Hawkins – Headteacher

The Attendance Team meet each week to review the attendance of the children. They look at patterns in absences, lates, holiday requests and identify children & families where attendance needs improving.

Headteachers are unable to authorise any holidays. All requests for this will be unauthorised and will count towards the unauthorised absences within a set period of time.

We will very shortly share with you information regarding the new attendance guidance, which began in August 2024. On page 2 of this newsletter, you can see an overview of the changes.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, however our key **Designated Safeguarding Leads** in school are:

Mr Hawkins – Headteacher
Mrs Gallaher – Family Support Advisor
Mrs Reynolds – Assistant Headteacher
Miss Steele – Senior Teacher

Websites

www.little-gonerby.co.uk

www.infinityacademies.co.uk



Attendance

Supporting you to understand the new rules



A National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absences, including unauthorised leave of absences in Term Time, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new government regulations will come into effect from **19th August 2024**.

What are these changes?

If a pupil has **10 unauthorised sessions**, which is equal to **5 school days**, within a **10 week period**, a penalty notice may be issued.

This will come under 3 categories: First, Second, and Third offence.



First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within **28 days**, reduced to **£80** per parent, per child if paid within **21 days**.

Second Offence

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child to be paid within **28 days**. No reduced rate will be offered.



Third offence and any further offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court.

Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a Parents future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

For any further inquiries about school attendance please visit:
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-attendance