



Collective Worship Theme this half term = Peace and Advent

Attendance this week is, **Wrens 98.6%, Robins 98.7%, Owls 96.7%** (Overall: **98%** target is **96%**) 22 Dec 2023

*First the blade, then the ear,
then the full grain.*

@SchoolGillamoor

Gillamoor C of E Primary School



School News and Message from the Headteacher

The festive joy has been flowing in abundance in Gillamoor this week. From our final swimming session of 2023, with the floats on Monday, to our carols around the village on Wednesday and our Christmas Dinner and parties on Thursday, everyone has been enjoying their part of our end-of year celebrations.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to our Friends of Gillamoor School (FoGs) for arranging for Santa to join us and for providing every child with a gift. On behalf of all our staff and myself, we would all like to thank everybody who has sent us Christmas cards and nibbles for our coffee breaks too. We are all very grateful for such kindness.

This week's winning house is ELM

Last week's winning House was ASH

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas. Please take the time to rest and relax with loved ones. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year on January 10th, when we begin our exciting new Learning Means the World curriculum!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 10 Jan- **Pupils return to school**
- 11 Jan—Swimming Y2-Y6
- 15 Jan—Cultural New Year's Exhibition 2:30pm—3:30pm.
- 18 Jan-Winnie the Pooh lunch
- 19 Jan-Y5 dodgeball, Ryedale
- 26 Jan—Film Night
- 9 Feb—Careers Event
- 9 Feb-Break up
- 19 Feb-Pupils return to school
- 19 Feb-Bewerley Park deposit deadline

Mrs Elsey



Swimming—Swimming day will be moving to **Thursdays** after Christmas, and we will be using Pickering pool for our lessons. We will be taking all children from Year 2 through to Year 6 this half-term.



Christmas Lunch

A huge thank you for Mrs Thackeray for a fabulous Christmas lunch which we all thoroughly enjoyed. Also thank you to Rachel and John for donating the lovely carrots.

Knives and Forks

We noticed recently that a number of our pupils are not confident using a knife and fork. We would like to raise this issue in the lead-in to the holidays when there might be more opportunity for practicing of this important life-skill. Thank you everybody for your support.



PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT WE ARE A NUT AWARE SCHOOL. WE KINDLY REQUEST NO NUTS OR NUT DERIVATIVES ARE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL IN PACKED LUNCHES OR AS SNACKS. .



The Friends of Gillamoor School would like to thank everybody for their support this year. We have managed to provide the transport for the panto trip and two new electronic whiteboards for the classrooms.

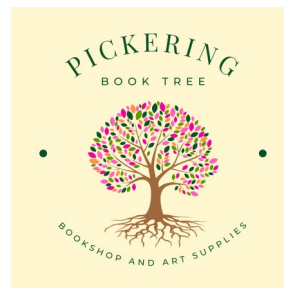
We hope you all have a very Happy Christmas and New Year and we will be back in the New Year with some more exciting things.

Don't forget to enter the design a poster for Kirkby 10k over the Christmas period as well.

See you in 2024

Marbles for books donation

Pickering Book Tree's festive jars have returned, which means we'll donate more books to local school and classroom libraries this Christmas. For every £10 spent on books, art supplies and gifts until the end of Saturday 16th December we are giving customers a marble to drop into the jars. Each marble represents £1 in books which we will deliver in the New Year. Last year we gifted more than £750 in books to Pickering schools, and this year we hope to deliver as many books as possible to schools in our neighbouring villages, including Gillamoor C.E. Primary School.



Jewellery

Jewellery is not allowed to be worn for Health and Safety. Small stud earrings may be worn on a daily basis but must be removed for PE and swimming

School Uniform

Please can all pupils wear full school uniform every day. Trainers should only be worn for PE lessons and **black sensible school shoes** for every day.

Uniform is:-

Gillamoor School sweatshirt or cardigan or navy equivalent.

Grey or black long school trousers, skirt or pinafore dress (**no leggings, jeans or cargo trousers**)

Yellow polo shirt with school logo or plain yellow.

Black sensible school shoes (no trainers)

PE—Plain red polo shirt or t-shirt, plain black shorts, plain dark coloured jogging bottoms, black plimsolls or trainers.

All of these are available from large supermarkets and for logo items from SchoolShop.



Staff Training/meetings

Safeguarding Visit

School Lunches

Week beginning
8th Jan is Week 1
of our menu





Women and Girls Cricket Training - Ryedale

There is a fantastic opportunity for girls to access 10 weeks of ****FREE**** cricket coaching at either Ryedale school or Malton Sports Centre. Starting in Spring, the sessions will be led by ECB qualified coaches including Kirkby's very own Anna Aspery! Please see the link below for more information:

<https://srcdg-world-cup-legacy.myshopify.com/collections/women-and-girls-cricket-training-ryedale>

Online Safety is a serious subject and as teachers, we are keen to help parents understand ways they can act to keep their children safe online. Each week, I will share a link to materials from the National Online Safety organisation. This week's topic is about iPads.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about iPADS

Apple debuted the first iPad in 2010, kickstarting the tablet market, and it remains the best-selling tablet to this day. Although Apple doesn't offer a child-specific version, iPads are hugely popular with youngsters due to their ease of use and endless choice of apps. There's a selection of models, with different-sized screens and distinct features – including the standard iPad; the iPad Air; the iPad Pro; and the iPad mini. Thankfully, they all offer parental controls so you can regulate how your child uses the device – and how long they spend on it.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PHYSICAL DAMAGE

While some tablets (such as the Amazon Fire Kids editions) come with rugged shock-proof cases, iPads aren't built for rough and tumble. They're also more expensive than most other tablets, and any damage your child's iPad suffers could be costly to repair. Buying a child-friendly case and screen protector for the device could be a wise move, especially if it's being used by younger ones.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Like most digital devices, tablets have the potential to become quite addictive. You might find your child spending too long staring at their iPad, which could lead to irritability, mood swings and a loss of interest in more important tasks. If this happens, be sure to visit the built-in screen time settings and ensure you limit how long they're able to spend on the device each day.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Even if it would never occur to your child to go searching online for age-inappropriate sites, apps or information, there's always a possibility that something unexpected – perhaps a video that auto-plays or content incorrectly suggested by an algorithm – could appear on their tablet and upset them. You can help prevent this by adjusting the content settings (see our 'top tips' section below).

SIRI SUGGESTIONS

The parental controls built into iOS (the fundamental operating system of Apple devices) enable you to block access to most age-inappropriate content – but your child could potentially still bypass these restrictions (either accidentally or deliberately) by using Siri, Apple's voice-activated digital assistant. To avoid this, toggle the 'Ask Siri' functions to 'off' in the iPad's settings menu.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Before letting little ones loose on an iPad, it's a good idea to use Family Sharing, as this lets you utilise the parental controls to manage exactly how your child is able to use the device. You can do this fairly easily by going into the iPad's settings; once there, you'll be able to add an existing Apple account (if your child already has one) or set one up from scratch.

APPLY SOME LIMITS

The 'Downtime' function allows you to tell the iPad to lock itself at certain periods (at mealtimes or before bed, for instance), while 'App Limits' removes access to certain apps once they've been used for a specified length of time each day. The iPad can display a reminder when these limits have nearly been reached, letting your child mentally prepare for the end of their gaming or viewing time.

STOP ACCIDENTAL SPENDING

To empower your child with an increased sense of freedom on their device (without giving yourself something else to worry about in the process) you could enable the iPad's 'Ask to Buy' feature. Whenever your child tries to download or buy an app, game or product, the iPad sends you a request to approve (or deny) it. This option only becomes available if you've set up Family Sharing.

SET CONTENT AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS

The parental controls can stop the iPad from displaying explicit or age-inappropriate content (in apps like iTunes and Safari, for instance) when your child is signed into their account. You'll also be able to restrict the capacity to download and install apps, and you can specify permissions which prevent children from changing the iPad's privacy settings once you've selected them.

TRACK IT DOWN

Just like the iPhone, Apple's iPads have 'Find My' software to help you locate your child's iPad – or indeed, any linked Apple devices that have gone AWOL, including phones, watches and AirPods. If you enable 'Find My' in the settings menu, it will display the last known location of an iPad that's been mislaid, as well as giving you the option to lock a missing iPad that you suspect has been stolen.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.