

**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022**



October 2022

Term Dates	
<b>SCHOOL TERMS &amp; HOLIDAY DATES</b>	
	<u><b>2022/2023</b></u>
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 - Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022
<b>Half Term</b>	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
<b>Spring Term</b>	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023 - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023
<b>Half Term</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 - Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
<b>Summer Term</b>	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 - Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2023
<b>Half Term</b>	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 - Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2023 <b>May Bank Holiday: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023</b>
<b>INSET DAYS</b>	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022, Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022, Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022, Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023 and Friday 26 May 2023.

Dates for Diary 2022-2023
---------------------------

**2022**

Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Secondary 2023 closing date
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Parents Evening (Face to Face)
Thu 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Parents Evening (Remote)
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> November	National School Meals Week
Tue 8 <sup>th</sup> November	SEND Parent Consultations
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Day Assembly
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> November 12.30pm	EYFS Open Afternoon
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-bullying Week
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-bullying Week - "Odd Sock Day"
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Year 6 visit to Coventry Cathedral
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Tempest Photography - individual photos
Thu 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Nursery September 2023 closing date
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4 Cheerleading Competition tbc
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch, Jumper & Hat
Thu 8 <sup>th</sup> December 6pm	KS2 Church Christmas Carol Concert - Evening Performance
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Church Christmas Carol Concert - Afternoon Performance
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> December am	EYFS & KS1 "Nativity" Dress Rehearsal
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm	KS1 "Nativity" Evening Performance
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS & KS1 "Nativity" Morning Performance
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Church Service tbc

**2023**

Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Reception September 2023 closing date
Tue 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 2 Infant Agility tbc
Tue 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Nursery 2023 Offer Day

## GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022

Tue 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5 & 6 Netball Skills after school competition
Thu 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 My Personal Best Festival
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Secondary Offer Day
Thu 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Year 1 Gymnastics
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> March	KS2 Archery after school competition
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception 2023 Offer Day
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 Bikeability
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Reception "Get Pedalling"
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Tempest Photography - class photos
Thu 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Year 6 Borough Athletics Competition

### Admission Consultation 2024-2025

Please be aware, George Fentham Endowed School is consulting on its admission arrangements for 2024-25 from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 to 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022. You can find a copy of the proposed admission arrangements on our website. If you have any comments or views you should send them for the attention of Mrs Sue Kavanagh, Chair of Governors, by 5pm on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Contact details:

[office@george-fentham.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@george-fentham.solihull.sch.uk)

George Fentham Endowed School, Fentham Road, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 0AY

### Staffing Update



Congratulations to Mrs Barratt and her family on the safe arrival of Baby Sophie over the summer holiday. We were delighted when Mrs Barratt and Sophie came into school earlier this week. Mrs Barratt looked fabulous and Baby Sophie is just beautiful!!

This term we have welcomed a number of new staff:

- Mrs Bailey - Deputy Headteacher
- Mrs Gibbons - Year 4 Teacher
- Mrs Mandell - Year 1 Teacher
- Mrs Porter - Nursery Teaching Assistant
- Miss Doyle - KS1 Teaching Assistant
- Mrs Amer - KS1 Teaching Assistant
- Mrs John - Lunchtime Supervisor

All of our new staff have settled in brilliantly and are really enjoying working with our children and staff team.

### Safeguarding - Staff ID Badges and Visitor Passes

At George Fentham we take our duty to safeguard our children extremely seriously. You will notice that all members of staff wear ID badges whilst on-site, but now we have introduced 2 new ribbons for our visitor passes.

**GREEN RIBBON:** Those visitors with green ribbons have gone through all of the required safeguarding checks and are able to be in school unsupervised. They tend to be visitors that work

**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022**

regularly on-site and often work directly with children. For example, this may include Governors, Sports Coaches, Speech Therapists, people working on behalf of the Local Authority etc.

**RED RIBBON:** Those visitors with red ribbons are not required to go through all of the checks as they will not be working in an unsupervised role with children and are only likely to visit school once. These visitors will be escorted, at all times when they are on-site, by a member of school staff.

We have already shared this information with our children and explained it is just one of many things that we do to keep everyone safe at all times.

**Class Events**

**Nursery**

This term we have been exploring 'Autumn all around us' and we have thought about where our food comes from as well as observing the changes that occur outside at this time of year. We have investigated and sampled fruit of different kinds and, after each child stated their preference, we discovered that apples are the class favourite! We also had a visit from Reverend Stuart (and his cheeky monkey friend!) from Hampton Church to help us to say 'thank you' for our food at Harvest.

It was fabulous that parents could attend our 'Welcome to Nursery Workshop' at the end of September in person. We discussed what we mean by 'learning through play' as well as some of the practical aspects of how we organise the Nursery session and how parents can support their children at home.

**Mrs Durkin**

**Reception**

This half term we have welcomed our new class of children into Reception. We have focussed on the children settling well into new routines, developing independence and ensuring they are happy and ready to learn. Our theme 'Marvellous Me' really inspired us all to get to know each other. After sharing the 'Chatterboxes' that the children put together over the summer, we have talked about ourselves, our family, our favourite toy and delved a bit deeper into our body and found out about our skeleton. We have even had a skeleton in our classroom!

We have observed the changes in the weather and the seasons too. We have collected Autumn treasures to use in the classroom.

We had fantastic attendance for our Inspire afternoon. We hope our parents and visitors gained a good insight into our Phonics and Reading scheme and can help their child to fly with their phonics!

The children have worked so hard they definitely deserve a week off! Happy Half Term Everyone!

**Mrs Brown**

**Year 1**

The children in Year 1 have been amazing and settled well into the new school year. We have been very busy this half term and have produced some super work in all areas of the curriculum.

We have especially enjoyed our Art lessons. We have been learning all about Andy Goldsworthy and looking at all the fantastic sculptures he has created using natural objects from outside. We have been inspired by his work and have been busy creating many different types of artwork. We have created leaf collages, digital artwork and sculptures using a range of 'Nature's Treasure' that we collected from home. We thought carefully about the colours and shapes we used and were so pleased with our final creations.

In English we have been reading all about Percy the Park Keeper by Nick Butterworth. We have loved learning all about the different park animals and how Percy helps them and listens to what

**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022**

they have to say. We think Percy is a great role model and so we are trying to follow in his footsteps with being kind to everyone and listening to what our friends have to say.

**Mrs Salmon and Mrs Mandell**

**Year 2**

We have had a FAB-U-LOUS start to Year 2, with plenty of fun and laughter and lots of learning too! Asking the children what they have enjoyed so far, they said:

- "Investigating materials in Science was cool. We got to see what happened if we tried to bend or squash plasticine and a rock."
- "I have enjoyed doing Art with Mrs Mallin. We have learnt about William Morris and produced our own print and design."
- "In History we have been looking at the lives of Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria. They were both amazing women and I didn't know they did so much for our country."

This was even more relevant with the sad passing of Queen Elizabeth II. We've done lots of other interesting things as well - Finding out about the Festival of Sukkot in RE, gymnastics in PE and discovering how to be a better learner in PSHE. Now we can't wait for the next half term (and Christmas!!!!!!)

**Mr Bass**

**Year 3**

Year 3 have had a thoroughly enjoyable start to the year. We have stepped back in time and immersed ourselves into Ancient Egyptian life which we have been fascinated by. We have perfected our clay skills; moulding, pinching, rolling and shaping to create our Canopic jar masterpieces! It was incredibly messy but so much fun and the end results are absolutely brilliant. Year 3 have started swimming this term and have impressed us all with their amazing conduct outside of school. They are challenging themselves in the swimming pool to increase their stamina and swim greater distances, alongside perfecting a range of different strokes. Well done all of you.

Finally, we have been working incredibly hard on our times tables and have made so much improvement in such a short space of time, thank you to everyone who has encouraged and supported their child to practice these at home. A little practice every day makes such a big difference.

**Mrs Hodge**

**Year 4**

We have had a fabulous start to Year 4, the children have settled in well and have already demonstrated the learning attitudes and BLP skills that they will need to succeed this year. The children are thoroughly enjoying their learning about Romans in History and have created beautiful mosaics using natural materials. In Science, we have been learning about electricity and the children have had plenty of opportunities to investigate making different circuits whilst expanding their knowledge. The highlight this half-term however, has been the introduction of the string instruments in our music lessons. We are at the very start of our musical journey but already the children are showing great aptitude with their chosen instrument. We are looking forward to building up our skills and knowledge in music and hopefully performing our own concert at some point in the future.

**Mrs Briggs and Mrs Gibbons**

**Year 5**

Year 5 have embraced the next step in their learning journey, showing us increased maturity, concentration and perseverance. (Especially with relative clauses!) They are enjoying learning



**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022**

about Ancient Greece and have made fantastic masks. In Science they have been investigating forces and conducting fair tests.

Year 5 are joining Year 3 for weekly swimming sessions as they previously missed swimming due to COVID. They are working extremely hard to develop these important life skills and we look forward to seeing them progress as the term goes on.

**Mrs Bradburn and Mrs Kermodé**



**Year 6**

Year 6 have made a wonderful start to the new school year! They have displayed great resilience moving into Year 6 and have amazed me with their eagerness to learn. Back in September, we launched our History topic, WW1. Through research, first-hand accounts and reading the text - War Games, the children have discovered what it was like to live during WW1 and how Hampton in Arden supported the War effort. They have further produced the most wonderful poetry titled, Remembrance.

Year 6 have also taken part in Playground Leader Training so that they can very soon, set up and run games on the playground for the younger children; a responsibility they are keen to take on! The Harvest Tea also took place this week where the children baked cakes, set up a tea party and hosted the event for their grandparents. We all had a wonderful time. I am very proud of the children - they were such wonderful hosts.

**Miss Timothy**

**Eco Council - "Greener Solihull Schools Award" Level 1 and 2**

Although we are about to embark on a new year of eco-initiatives, we are still celebrating our success from last year. Over the last couple of weeks, we have heard that we have achieved levels one and two of the 'Greener Solihull Schools Award'. A fantastic accomplishment which, after all the hard work our eco-councillors put in, was well deserved. Additionally, we have heard back from Bostik, the company we wrote to asking if they would consider making their glue sticks recyclable. Bostik were very pleased to hear from our eco-councillors and have forwarded our suggestions on to their Research and Development Team.

Shortly we will be holding a meeting for our next team of eco-councillors. It goes without saying that we will be looking to build on our successes from last year.

**Mrs Briggs**

GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022

PE and Sports Update

**PE Clubs**

It is wonderful to see so many children taking part in our sports clubs. We now have clubs running every night of the week after school and during three lunchtimes. **Our current club provision will continue after half term until Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December.** Please remind children to bring hats, gloves and warm tracksuits as the weather changes, as we will try to remain outside where possible.

George Fentham School is proud to cover the cost of these clubs, so that we can offer them **free to our children**, in return we ask you for commitment: **please encourage your child to attend every week so that coaches can build teams and develop skills consistently.**

**After School Clubs**

- Monday - Jet Dance (2 spaces remaining)
- Tuesday - KS2 Girls Football (10 spaces remaining)
- Wednesday - KS2 Boys Football (2 spaces remaining)
- Thursday - KS1 Multi Sports (4 spaces remaining)
- Friday - KS2 Netball (10 Spaces remaining)

**Lunch Time Clubs**

- Tuesday KS2 Archery (Full)
- Wednesday KS1 Core Skills (Full)
- Thursday Year 3 &4 Multi Sports (Full)

As you can see, we have a few spaces remaining. If your child is interested in joining one of the advertised clubs, please ring the office for further details.

We are in need of a few more year 5 or 6 girls for football as our first match is in November. Netball is now open to all of KS2, though a few more Year 5 or 6 boys would be brilliant, as our netball competitions also start soon.

*Please note: The SPUK football coaches kindly request children wear football socks & shin pads when participating in the football after school clubs.*

**Cross Country October 2022**

Congratulations to all the Year 5 and Year 6 children who took part in the cross-country training and especially the 16 girls and 16 boys chosen to represent the school at the Solihull Borough Cross Country Events.

Our teams were amazing, and we are so proud of the determination and perseverance they showed. (1 mile is a long way!!!!) With almost 900 pupils running across all of the events, the atmosphere was terrific and the children should be really proud of their achievements. We had some superb individual performances, with the top four scores in each group being combined to make our team score.

- Year 5 Boys team 6<sup>th</sup> place
- Year 6 Boys team 6<sup>th</sup> place
- Year 5 Girls team 5<sup>th</sup> place
- Year 6 Girls team 1<sup>st</sup> place - Congratulations!!!!



**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022**

If your child enjoyed the cross country, there are two opportunities that families can get involved in together:

Junior Park Run Sunday 9am at Brueton Park [home](#) | [Malvern Park junior parkrun](#) | [Malvern Park junior parkrun](#)

Marathon kids [Marathon Kids - Visit Solihull](#) this is fortnightly in Olton Jubilee Park Saturday 9am (or weekly in North Solihull)

Mrs Bradburn

**Music**

We are thrilled that Year 4 Whole Class Ensemble lessons are in full swing, and the children are continuing to learn the basics of holding their instruments accurately, fine-tuning their listening skills and working well together as an ensemble. The string teachers have been very impressed by the children's efforts so far. Well done!

After a brief period of hiatus with Solihull Music recruiting new staff and moving premises, we are pleased that instrumental and vocal lessons are up and running at George Fentham. We are currently offering voice, keyboard, violin, cello and percussion lessons in school. If you would still like your child to learn a musical instrument in school (and any that are not mentioned above), it is not too late! Please contact the School Office for more information.

Mrs Kermode

**Autumn 2022 Clubs & Music Lessons Timetable**

Day	During the school day	Lunchtime	After-school
Monday			Jet Dance After School Club 3.20 - 4.30 pm <a href="#">Katie Baker &amp; Lauren Mancell</a>
Tuesday	SMS Cello Lessons <a href="#">Mrs Rottenbury</a> SMS Drum Lessons noon <a href="#">Mr Elliott</a> SMS Violin & Viola Lessons pm <a href="#">Miss Gosling</a>	KS2 Lunch Club (by invitation only) <a href="#">Natalie Hardy - Adaptive Sports</a>	KS2 Tuesday Girls After School Football 3.20 - 4.20 pm <a href="#">Megan Smirles - Sports Development</a> <a href="#">Louis Andrews - Sports Development</a>
Wednesday	Wider Opportunities - Y4 Strings <a href="#">Miss Gosling</a>	KS1 Lunch Club (by invitation only) <a href="#">Chloe Ebbon - Adaptive Sports</a>	KS2 Wednesday After School Football 3.20 - 4.20 pm <a href="#">Simon Harrison - Sports Development</a> <a href="#">Ben Maxwell - Sports Development</a>
Thursday	SMS Woodwind 9.40am <a href="#">Ms Roe</a>	Years 3 & 4 Multi Sport Lunch Club 12-40 - 1.15pm <a href="#">Natalie Hardy - Adaptive Sports</a>	KS1 After School Multi Sports Club 3.20-4.20 pm <a href="#">Natalie Hardy - Adaptive Sports</a> <a href="#">Bel Chefri - Adaptive Sports</a>

**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022**

Friday	SMS Keyboard & Guitars pm <a href="#">Mr Jones</a>		Years 5 & 6 Mixed Netball Club 3.20-4.20 pm <a href="#">Natalie Hardy - Adaptive Sports</a> <a href="#">Chloe Ebbon - Adaptive Sports</a>
--------	--	--	---

**Harvest**

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, Key Stage 1 and 2 celebrated Harvest Festival at church with Reverend Stuart.

Harvest Festival celebrates the time of year when crops have been gathered from the field and people can reflect on the food that they have. It dates back to Ancient Britain when people relied on crops for food and farmers would give thanks for a good harvest.

At George Fentham, we often think of others and the children were asked to donate items of food that could be given to people in need. The donations were collected and taken to The Kingfisher Foodbank - part of the Trussell Trust - in Chelmsley Wood, which provides emergency food parcels to people going through crisis.

There was a variety of food products brought into school and we would like to thank you for your kind support and generosity.

**Mrs Bailey**

**Charities**

We held our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you to everyone who supported us by baking cakes or popping in for a cup of tea or coffee!

**PTFA**

We are keen to ensure our PTFA continues and is well supported. Thank you to some of the committee members who came into school to discuss plans for this academic year. We are keen to increase committee numbers so that we can plan events for the children (and parents/carers) to enjoy as the year progresses.

Please contact the school office or look out for messages from the PTFA for how you can get involved.

**Dogs near Playground Entrance**

***We continue to ask for support from our Parents/Carers to keep all dogs away from the path between school and the allotments at the start and end of the school day.***

Not all of our children are comfortable around dogs and some children are particularly frightened and nervous around them. We hope everyone is able to support us in keeping this area free from dogs at all times. Thank you.

**REMINDER: Attendance and Requests for Leave of Absence**

To support us to secure good attendance for all of our pupils and to address concerns regarding any child's poor school attendance and punctuality, we will be continuing to work with Central School Attendance and Welfare Service Ltd (CSAWS) in 2022-23. Each half term, attendance registers are rigorously scrutinised to identify any attendance issues. This includes children falling below 95% attendance, children who are below 90% attendance and therefore at risk of becoming persistent absentees, children with any unauthorised absence and any punctuality concerns.



**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022**

Your child may be referred to a CSAWS Attendance and Welfare Officer if their attendance and punctuality is causing concern. They will then contact you by phone, letter or home visit to discuss the school's concerns and how attendance and punctuality can be improved.

Please note, Headteachers are only allowed to grant leave of absence in very exceptional circumstances and where the application has been made two weeks in advance. This does not include family holidays. Should you require any further information, or wish to discuss a leave of absence request please contact the school office.

**Medicines in School - REMINDER**

Our Medicines in School and Administering Medicines policy are both on our school website, along with the permission forms for prescribed and over the counter medicines.

Should your child require any medicine during the school day, please complete the relevant form and speak directly to a member of the office staff.

**Medical, Dental & Optician Appointments**

Following advice from CSAWS, we would like to ask for your support in organising medical, dental and optician appointments outside of the school day. Please note if there is no alternative, you may be asked to show a copy of your appointment letter or card to the school office.

**Dietary Requirements / Food Allergies**

Please note it is the responsibility of Parents/Carers to advise the school office, in writing, of any dietary requirements or food allergies for each individual child. This is not required for food preferences but for medical conditions such as allergies or religious beliefs. This information will be stored on the child's record throughout school.

**Healthy Schools: Break time Snacks**

As part of our Health Schools approach, we ask for your support in **only sending in pure fresh or dried fruit and vegetables for morning snack. No other snacks are permitted.** Please note fresh fruit or vegetables are provided by school for all children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Key Stage 2 children should be provided with a fruit or vegetable snack from home.

Children have access to their water bottles during the day and are regularly reminded to drink. Please encourage your child to do this and **ensure that drinking bottles contain water only.** Should you wish your child to have milk at break time details are available from the school office.

**No Nuts in School**

We have a number of children in school who have a severe nut allergy. These allergies can be life threatening. **In order to keep all of our children safe, please ensure that you do not send any nuts or products containing nuts into school with your child, at any time.**

**School Meals - Outstanding Debt**

**Parents of children in KS2:**

From September 2022 School meals will be £2.30 per day.

Please ensure that you check your account regularly and credit your account with sufficient funds to pay for your child's school lunches. If a debt exceeds one week's school lunches a hot meal cannot be provided until the debt is cleared and the account is in credit.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Please contact the school office if you think your child may be eligible for free school meals.

GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 1 AUTUMN 2022

**The BASE**

The BASE provides before and after school care and Nursery wrap around care during term time. The BASE is not run by school, but by a completely separate Voluntary Management Committee. If you have any queries regarding this provision, please contact Mrs Tina Coley directly on 01675 443913.

**And finally.....**

A reminder that Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October and Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October are both INSET Days. On behalf of everyone at George Fentham Endowed School, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable half term holiday. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022.**

**Mrs J Gaughan**  
**Headteacher**