



Gaywood Primary School

Newsletter - December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy autumn term, I would like to thank you for your continued support.

It has been wonderful to welcome so many families into school to watch our Christmas performances over the last couple of weeks. Thank you also to those who were able to join us in celebrating the children's homework challenges this week — the children were proud to share their efforts.

This term has been a long one, filled with a wide range of enrichment opportunities, from trips to Ely and Flag Fen to Rudolph Runs in support of Tapping House. I would also like to thank you for your positive comments and feedback in the recent parent survey; your support is greatly appreciated.

As we approach the holiday break, may I wish those families observing Hanukkah, those celebrating Christmas, and our whole school community a restful and enjoyable break.

Festive wishes,

Mr Mindham (Executive Headteacher)

DECEMBER

**LOST MINUTES =
LOST LEARNING!**



Christmas Fayre Success!

Our recent Christmas Fayre was a huge success, with children thoroughly enjoying the wide range of games and activities on offer. Congratulations to our prize winners: Oscar (Year 4), who won the top raffle prize, and Pedro (Year 4), the delighted winner of the "Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar" competition.

Thanks to the fantastic support from our school community, we raised an impressive **£439.55** for the school. Thank you to everyone

who helped make the event such a success!



Rudolph Run

Children from Reception to Year 6 took part in the fun run, helping to raise money for Tapping House Hospice that supports those living with life-limiting illnesses, along with their carers, families, and friends. Antlers were generously provided by Tapping House, and we had had a visit from Community Fundraiser Clara Smith from the charity to explain their important work during a special assembly. She also brought along Rudolph to distribute the antlers. The total raised was an amazing **£337.93!**



Thank you to everyone who supported this wonderful event!



PTA Christmas Decoration Winners!

Our school PTA had the delightful task of reviewing all the beautiful handmade Christmas decorations created by the children.

After careful consideration, they selected winners from KS1, Lower KS2 & Upper KS2 with each winning decoration showcasing the artistic creativity and festive spirit of our students. It was wonderful to see all the effort and imagination that went into each piece, and a huge congratulations all those who took part for their fantastic work!

Winners were KS1—Sonny, KS2—Sapphire and Austin.

Well done to all who participated.



EYFS - Church Farm Trip

The children were treated to a heartwarming experience with a live nativity scene, complete with real donkeys! After enjoying the magic of the nativity, families had the opportunity to meet Father Christmas and share their holiday wishes.

The excitement continued as children explored our animal corner, where they were able to touch and feed a variety of animals including pigs, rabbits, and goats. It was a wonderful chance for everyone to get up close with some furry friends!

To top it all off we had a sprinkling of snow!!



Friday 19th December

Last Day of Term

Tuesday 6th January

Return Back to School

Wednesday 7th January

Y5 Miss King -

Swimming Lessons Begin

Attendance Matters

Why Excellent Attendance Matters

At our school, we believe that every day in school counts. Good attendance is closely linked to pupils' wellbeing, progress and long-term success. Missing even a few days of learning can make it harder for children to keep up with their classmates and feel confident in school life.

GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY DOES MATTER

DID YOU KNOW...?

| In a school year, if your child is late every day by... | Your child would have lost approximately... | or they would have missed approximately... |
|---|---|--|
| 5 minutes | 3 days from school | 12 lessons |
| 10 minutes | 6 days from school | 24 lessons |
| 15 minutes | 9 days from school | 36 lessons |
| 20 minutes | 12 days from school | 48 lessons |
| 30 minutes | 18 days from school | 72 lessons |

PLEASE ENCOURAGE PUNCTUALITY TO MAINTAIN ATTENDANCE

Our Expectations

Pupils should attend school **every day** unless they are genuinely unwell. Pupils should arrive **on time**, ready for learning. Parents and carers must contact the school before **8:45am** if their child is absent.

ABSENCE = LOST OPPORTUNITY

Support for Families

We understand that sometimes attendance can be affected by challenges at home. Please speak with us if you need support. Our pastoral and safeguarding team can help with:

- Morning routines
- Health concerns
- Anxiety about school/Family circumstances
- Access to additional services

We are here to work with you.