Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school at the start of a new academic year. Please be aware the new telephone number for the Nursery is 01924 679687.

Dates for your diary:

**Wednesday 9th September** - Academy celebration of the Queen being the longest serving monarch. Children are invited to come dressed in red, white or blue. A picnic lunch will take place for the whole Academy and Nursery. Can Nursery children please bring a packed lunch with them.

**Monday 14th September** - Free family learning “Cartoon Capers Course” to be held in the Library at 1:15pm to 3:15pm. Please find attached the leaflet ‘How to Draw a Dino’.

**Monday 21st September** - INSET day across the Academy. Children will not be in school. The INSET day that was originally planned for Monday 15th February 2016 has now been moved to Monday 21st September. Therefore children will return after February half term on Monday 15th February 2016.

**Saturday 26th September** - Scarecrow day to be held in Ossett Town Centre 10am – 4pm, part of the Building Ossett Better event.

**Wednesday 21st October** – Harvest Festival celebration starting at 9am.

**Water Bottles in Book Bags**
A number of books have been spoiled due to water bottles leaking when kept in book bags. We therefore ask that water bottles are not carried in book bags at any time.

**Learning Mentors**
We have 2 learning mentors in school, Mrs Underhill and Mrs Pyrah, who support both children and parents. Please see the attached flyer which explains support they are able to offer to you and your children.

**Staff Organisation**
As we explained to parents last term I will be Principal over 2 schools for this academic year, both Towngate and Gawthorpe. Mrs Gill, the Vice Principal, is my deputy for this work and will remain based at Gawthorpe where she will also teach Reception class. We also have a Head of School in place who is Mrs Mitchell.

Year 6 will be taught by Mrs Mitchell in the mornings and by Mrs Clark in the afternoons. Mrs Murphy will also teach in Year 6 on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

We feel we have a very strong team in place to ensure that standards at Gawthorpe remain high. If you have any concerns about your child in the first instance talk to the class teacher. If you are still concerned please speak to Mrs Gill or Mrs Mitchell.

I can also be contacted either via the school office or by e-mail. My e-mail address is principal@gawthorpeacademy.co.uk.
We very much hope our joint work with Towngate, through shared staff training and development and through additional sporting and musical activities, will enhance the provision for your child at Gawthorpe.

**Student Teachers**
This term we will have a number of student teachers working with us. They are as follows:

Reception Madia Mahmood  
Year 1 Liam Emmerson  
Year 2 Rachel Pickin  
Year 4 Rosie Ogden  
Year 6 Carlene Farmer

We are totally committed to training the next generation of teachers at Gawthorpe. The trainee teachers enhance our Academy and bring additional support across the Academy.

**School Uniform**
As we informed you before the start of the summer break we have become increasingly concerned about non-school uniform clothes and shoes a small minority of children are wearing. Footwear needs to be plain black. We are happy for children to wear trainers but these should not have coloured logos or flashing on them. For PE the children may have black pumps or trainers, which can be black or white, but again these should be plain. If children do come to school in any non-regulation footwear, they will be asked to change into a pair of black pumps which we have purchased.

Can we also remind you that, as children will sometimes be baking at school, they should not have nail polish on as they cannot cook with it on and we cannot remove it. Any temporary tattoos should also be removed before coming to school. It is advisable for hair to be tied back, if possible, to help avoid spreading any cases of head lice. We thank you in anticipation of your support with this.

**Free Cooking Courses**
The NHS Community Food & Heath Team have a new cooking hub opening soon at Standbridge Community Centre, Standbridge Lane, Kettlethorpe, Wakefield. The kitchen will open on 10th September and they are running some cook and eat courses there. Please see the attached flyer for the dates and times of courses starting there on 15th September and for contact details.

We very much look forward to working with you this next academic year.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Mrs S J Vickerman  
Principal
How to Draw a Dino?

At Gawthorpe Community Academy School on Monday 14/9/15

1.15-3.15pm

This is a Taster session for children to bring an adult to school

We need You!

Come along and have 2 hours of fun drawing Dinosaurs.

We would like to take part in How to Draw a Dino, At Gawthorpe Community Academy on 14/9/15

Adult .........................................................  Contact tel no. ..........................

Name of Child ..............................................  Class

Please return to school by 10th September 2015
Mrs Underhill and Mrs Pyrah are the Learning Mentor's in school. They are available to support parents/carers and children with any concerns they may have such as:

- Worries about your child's behaviour and parenting difficulties
- Any problems in school e.g. your child getting upset about coming to school, bullying etc.
- Bereavement
- Parental separation
- Domestic violence

You can contact Mrs Underhill or Mrs Pyrah by calling into school to see them at any time or by ringing 01924 679680.

Parents/Carers are welcome to attend Celebration Assembly in school at 8.55 am every Friday. Mrs Underhill and Mrs Pyrah serve drinks in the School Library afterwards.
Cook and eat

Interested in making a change to your eating habits? Would you like advice on shopping, budgeting, confidence in the kitchen and healthy eating? Do you want to feel better on the inside?

Contact the community food and health team! We offer free one-to-one sessions and cooking courses.

The cooking courses are a fun way to help you make small changes to help you lead a healthier lifestyle.

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| Standbridge Community Centre Standbridge Lane Kettlethorpe Wakefield WF2 7NP | Tuesdays 10 am – 12noon 1pm – 3pm 5pm – 7pm | Cook & Eat Course (5 weeks) 15th September – 13th October 2015  
Cook & Eat Course (5 weeks) 15th September – 13th October 2015  
Cook & Eat Course (5 weeks) 15th September – 13th October 2015  
Future courses:–  
27th October – 24th November 2015 (5 weeks)  
1st December – 22nd December 2015 (4 weeks) |

Booking is essential

We are able to accept bookings from community groups, please ensure you book prior to the session.

To book or to find out more about our free cooking sessions please contact the community food and health team on 01924 361212 (extension 231) or 01977 699146 or email the team foodandhealthteam@swyt.nhs.uk

Facebook

Wakefield Community Food & Health

Community food and health team

With all of us in mind