

Gayton News

Est. 1988



Frosty Morning over St Mary's – Jake Robinson

Gayton
N • E • W • S

Winter
2025

Issue 169

Publication

Gayton News is brought to you by the Gayton Information & Communications Action Team. While we may edit submissions for clarity or length, the views expressed remain those of the contributors.

We print 250 copies of each issue, which are delivered throughout the village by our wonderful team of volunteers — thank you!

The Parish Council kindly funds the printing of **Gayton News**, with additional help from local advertisers. If you would like to advertise your business, please contact the Editor.

We welcome your stories and articles. Please send them to:
gaytonnews@gayton-northants.co.uk

The deadline for submissions for the Spring Issue is: **13 February 2026**

Advertising Rates

Fundraising events held in the village and organised by residents: **FREE**

All other advertising	By Villagers	By Others
Whole Page	£16	£32
1/2 Page	£8	£16
1/4 page	£4	£8

(Increased from Jan 2026 to cover costs)

Contents:

Page	Article
2.	Editor's Welcome & Village Contacts
3.	Village Calendar
4.	Advert Village Panto
5.- 6.	Allotment News
6.	Evergreen Club
7.	Advert The Eykyn Arms Pub
8.	WNC Waste & Recycling
9.	From The Rectory
10. – 13.	Christmas Quiz
14. – 16.	Alms Charities Report
16.	St Mary's Church
17.	Advert Carols & Claus
18. – 21.	Primary School
21.	Bellringers
22.	Gumballers Spinney & Chaingang
23.	Minibus Trips
Back	Advert Ellis Tree Services

Welcome!

We recently received the disappointing news from Campion School that, following an internal review, they will no longer be providing external reprographics services. After many years of their support in printing the **Gayton News**, this is a real loss. Despite highlighting the value their service brings to local communities like ours, the decision could not be reversed, and we have therefore moved to a commercial printing provider.

This change unfortunately means we have had to increase our advertising rates by 33%. If you imagine the cost of printing 250 leaflets and having them delivered to every home in Gayton, we hope you'll agree the newsletter still offers strong value for local businesses.

On a much more positive note, we have a full calendar of wonderful events lined up for the Festive season, A panto on the 4th; Christmas Shopping Trips; a Music Pub Quiz on the 10th and Carols at the School. Hot off the press is **Santa's Visit to Gayton** on 20th December, with an exact time yet to be finalised, (apparently he's yet to be cleared by air traffic control!) On New Years' Eve we have Mr Vegas (direct from Memphis?) at The Eykyn!

And.... Of course, in the centre of this mag we have the wonderful, traditional, mind-boggling quiz set by Wendy Steer!

Regards,

Colin Simmonds, Editor, Gayton News

gaytonnews@gayton-northants.co.uk

01604 858933

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10 Dec, Wed 10:00 – 11:30 Evergreens meet @Eykyn for drinks & chat	16 Jan, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms
10 Dec, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Music Quiz @ Eykyn Arms	21 Jan, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Pub Quiz @ Eykyn Arms
12 Dec, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms	23 Jan, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms
13 Dec, Sat 20:30 – 23:00 De Ja Vu @ Eykyn Arms	25 Jan, Sun 11:00 – 12:00 CW Family Communion St Mary's Church
14 Dec, Sun 10:00 – 13:00 Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk	27 Jan, Tue 17:30 – 20:30 Pizzas by The Wood Oven @Eykyn Arms 18:30 – 21:30 Jazz & Blues Night @ The Eykyn Arms
19 Dec, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms	30 Jan, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms
18 th Dec, Thu 14:00-15:30 Carols & Claus at Gayton School	4 Feb, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Pub Quiz @ Eykyn Arms
20 Dec, Sat (time tba) Santa's Visit to Gayton	6 Feb, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms
23 Dec, Tue 20:30 – 23:00 Xmas Jazz & Blues @ Eykyn Arms	8 Feb, Sun 10:00 – 13:00 Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk
24 Dec, Wed 20:30 – 23:00 Karaoke @ Eykyn Arms	11 Feb, Wed 10:00 – 11:30 Evergreens meet @Eykyn for drinks & chat
26 Dec, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms	13 Feb, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms
28 Dec, Sun 11:00 – 12:00 CW Family Communion St Mary's Church	18 Feb, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Pub Quiz @ Eykyn Arms
31 Dec, Wed 20:30 – 00:00 Mr Vegas @ Eykyn Arms	20 Feb, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms
1 Jan Thursday 11:00 New Year's Day Walk	22 Feb, Sun 11:00 – 12:00 CW Family Communion, St Mary's Church,
2 Jan, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms	24 Feb, Tue 17:30 – 20:30 Pizzas by The Wood Oven @Eykyn Arms 18:30 – 21:30 Jazz & Blues Night @ The Eykyn Arms
7 Jan, Wed 20:00 – 22:00 Pub Quiz @ Eykyn Arms	
9 Jan, Fri 20:30 – 21:30 Bingo @ The Eykyn Arms	
11 Jan, Sun 10:00 – 13:00 Gayton Walkers Monthly Walk	
14 Jan, Wed 10:00 – 11:30 Evergreens meet @Eykyn for drinks & chat	

Get your event in the Village calendar:
events@gayton-northants.co.uk

**GAYTON VILLAGE
HALL**

**ARRIVAL FROM 1PM
FOR A 1:30PM PERFORMANCE**



JOIN US FOR

RED RIDING HOOD

**TICKETS £5 PER PERSON
EMAIL US ON**

**GAYTONFROGS@OUTLOOK.COM
TO SECURE YOUR SHOW TICKET**

**REFRESHMENTS
AND CHISTMAS RAFFLE
TICKETS WILL BE
AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE**

THURSDAY

4

DECEMBER



Why Should I have an Allotment?

Gayton is fortunate to have a flourishing allotment with great soil and ample supplies of water, all at a very affordable annual rent. It costs £25 to join our Society and annual rents range from about £15 to £50. For £50 you get a huge plot, big enough to feed an army (well a large family) and still have lots left over. Most people find a smaller, easy to cultivate plot, more than enough though, and we have vacancies now!

But why should anyone bother to have an allotment? Supermarket shelves are packed with lovely looking vegetables, so is it worth the effort? The answer is a resounding yes.

The stuff in the supermarket looks great, but is it fresh? Especially things in bags! University of Leicester scientists reckon that the moist environment, combined with nutrients leaching out of chopped salad leaves, creates the perfect breeding ground for bacteria. They were shocked at the way bacteria thrived, even in the fridge and recommended that people eat bagged salad on the day they buy it. So, a daily trip to the supermarket is the safest way to eat salad leaves, okay if you're within walking distance. How much better to walk to the allotment, pick your own, wash chop and eat it, all in a few minutes, tastier and guaranteed fresh.

It's also debatable whether the vegetables that look so good on the shelf are truly fresh. No matter how efficient the supply chain is, it takes time to get from field to market. And

vegetables lose some of their nutritional benefits every hour after being picked.

In short, fresh home-grown vegetables, taste better and are more nutritious. They are also free of any of the chemicals used to grow and preserve things commercially – even organic labelled items may not be entirely chemical free. There is also processing and packaging involved in most supermarket vegetables, not to mention air miles.

If you study the labels on your neatly packaged winter veg, lots of it comes from Africa or South America. That can't be great for the environment. There is a downside to home-grown of course, in winter, you won't be able to grow many of the crops that we see all year round in the stores. If you really can't live without strawberries on Christmas Day, then allotment gardening probably isn't for you, but if you are prepared to eat more seasonally, even some of the time, you might well like to give it a go. I'm not saying I'm evangelical about this, I pop into the supermarket and buy blueberries from Peru and tomatoes from Spain, but I try to keep my visits to a minimum.

There is also a social side to the allotment. This year we held our annual BBQ; beer, burgers and cake, organised a trip to Waterperry Gardens in Oxfordshire (we try to visit local gardens at least once every year) and finished the season off with a vegetable and produce show in the village hall. >>>



We always welcome new entrants to the show, and for those who have yet to attend, as well as vegetables, you can enter artwork, bread, jam, cakes, and flowers. For the less competitive among you, there is cake on sale (there is always cake), tea and a raffle.



So, if you fancy a new challenge, why not join us. Or, if you have a big garden at home and don't need the extra growing space, you could become a gardening member (only £5 a year) and join us on BBQs and trips – maybe even enter next year's Show! You can reach me at: carlhamiltonat5@gmail.com

Evergreen Club

Make a New Year Resolution!

Why not join us on the second Wednesday in the month for a coffee and a chat?

Karen and John offer great hospitality at the Eykyn Arms.

No need to book, no subscription to pay, just come along and enjoy the company!

The dates of future Coffee and Chat Mornings for 2026 are:

Wednesday 7th January
Wednesday 11th February
Wednesday 11th March
Wednesday 8th April
Wednesday 13th May
Wednesday 10th June

All at the Eykyn Arms starting at 10.00am.

Further information from:

Carol Coppock 01604 859645

carol.coppock14@gmail.com

Manja Ronne 01604 859253

ManjaRonne@btinternet.com

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at the Eykyn Arms Pub.

Thank you for your continued support and just a reminder that tickets are available behind the bar for Mr Vegas on New Year's Eve.

Many thanks, **Karen and John**

Wednesday 10th Dec 8pm Pop Music Quiz

Test your musical memory!

Teams of up to 6, or turn up and join in! £1p/h

Saturday 12th Dec 8:30pm Dee Ja Vue



Rock, pop & disco classics across the decades.

Last Tuesday of Every Month 7:00pm 23rd Dec, 27th Jan, 24th Feb Jazz & Blues Night



Cliff Brown & Friends –monthly jazz, blues etc.

Wednesday 24th Dec 8pm Xmas Eve Karaoke Party!

Come and give us your best Song!

Wednesday 31st Dec 8pm New Year's Eve Party Paul Robinson aka Mr Vegas "Ticket Only Event"



A night of Rat Pack and Elvis with the King of Swing! Always a great night & a great crowd!

7th Jan, then every alternate Wednesday 8pm Pub Quiz

General knowledge quiz, teams of up to 6, or just turn up and join in! £1 per head.

Waste and recycling arrangements this Christmas

West Northamptonshire Council is advising residents of the arrangements for waste and recycling collections over the Christmas and New Year period.

Collection changes

The public holidays will **ONLY** affect households on a Thursday or Friday bin collection this year

Garden waste

Subscribers are advised there will be a short break in the [garden waste collection service](#), which will be suspended from Monday 22 December through to Sunday 4 January.

It will resume its usual schedule from the week beginning Monday 5 January.

Household Waste Recycling Centres

Recycling centres will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Year's Day, and will close early on Christmas Eve, at 2pm.

With those exceptions, they will be open from 10am to 4pm as usual, offering a great way to dispose of excess household waste, recycling and larger items that can't be collected as part of your kerbside collection service.

Please remember if you are visiting any of our sites on or after 3 November 2025, you must book a slot in advance.

Additional recycling

If you have more than your bin can handle, put it in clear plastic bags or boxes and present it alongside your recycling bins or take this to [your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre](#)

Real tree collections

Crews will collect real Christmas trees from Monday 5 January through to Friday 16 January.

You do not need a garden waste subscription to take advantage of this.

Residents in the South Northants areas should put real Christmas trees out on the day garden waste is due to be collected in their area.

Please ensure trees over 6ft tall are cut in half so they fit in the lorries safely. They can also be taken to [your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre](#)

Food waste

Food waste bins will continue to be collected on their usual weekly schedule.

Please remember you can recycle leftover raw and cooked foods, including veg peelings, egg shells, out-of-date food, plate scrapings, solid fats, meat and fish bones.

Do not put in any liquids and when it comes to lining your caddy - any bag will do!

From the Rectory

Remembrance Sunday was such a special day this year as so many folk joined us in the church for the Remembrance Sunday service. It felt so good to hold all those whose lives were cut short or changed forever in our hearts and prayers and to earnestly pray for the peace of our very fragile world; a world that God gave us out of His love for us but which we do so often seem more inclined to destroy than to cherish.

Talking about God's love for us, it was because we humans were messing up so much that God decided to send His Son into our world, to be our "Blueprint" for how we should live in harmony with each other and with creation in general.

And so we get to Christmas, the annual celebration of Jesus' birth, a time of Joy! That is the theme the Church of England has chosen this year. – JOY! As the hymn starts "Joy to the world the Lord has come; let earth receive her king. Let every heart prepare him room and heaven and angels sing." We will certainly be singing as we celebrate again the Christmas season. Look out for the date of a carol service near you, the crib service at Holy Cross on Christmas Eve (particularly for the young and young at heart!) and Christmas Day Holy Communion at Holy Cross.

Before we get to the Christmas celebrations, the church celebrates Advent, literally meaning, "Coming," one of the two penitential seasons in the church's year (the

other one being Lent). We especially think about just how far short of being the people God wants us to be and look forward to the time when God fully brings in His kingdom. During Advent, again following the theme of Joy, we will be looking at the advent carol "*O come O come Emmanuel.*" A talk followed by a bread and soup lunch on the Fridays in December – 5th and 19th in Cold Higham Parish Hall and 12th in Tiffield Parish Room. Do come along and join us, no need to book,

May the peace of Christ be with you all this Christmas.

The Revd Marion Reynolds



**Dear
Friends in
Gayton**

We wish you
a

**Merry Christmas
and a
Happy and Healthy New Year.**

As per tradition, instead of delivering Christmas cards to you, we shall be making a donation to Gayton Church Heritage Trust.

Jens & Manja, 6 Baker Street

Christmas Quiz

Here it is again! Just the thing for the long, dark days around Christmas.

The Quiz this year is based around retailing and is all about the names of well-known shops, companies and brands (not all still around), and includes sound-alikes and the odd bit of related general knowledge.

So come on! Have a go! Get the family to help! And as an added incentive, this year the prize money will be increased to a massive:

1st £15; 2nd £10; 3rd £5!

Return entries on paper, either by removing & using this page, or on a separate sheet, in an envelope marked **"Gayton News Christmas Quiz,"** to **12 St Marys Court** & be with me, Wendy Steer, by **Monday January 5th**. Don't forget your contact details!

Don't worry if you can't complete all the answers - no-one ever does! Send it in anyway!

Name:

.....
Address:

.....
Phone/email:

.....
Return to:

Wendy Steer, 12 St Marys Court

1. Food of the Gods
2. Spicy Indian foods.
3. Simple to fly.
4. We're lost – help
5. Nocturnal prowler.
6. 31st American President.
7. BIDALDRY (anag.)
8. Purebred Pal.
9. Favourite Christmas carol.
10. Tiny branches..
11. Because you're worth it.
12. Suffers when cold.
13. 57!
14. Nelumbo Nucifera.
15. They played Gentlemen.

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 16. | GOTACLE (Anag.) | 31. | Red planet. |
| 17. | Brazilian river. | 32. | Intrepid |
| 18. | Warmer. | 33. | These are made for walking! |
| 19. | Polish for classy houses | 34. | '- - - -' calling. |
| 20. | Flightless antipodean bird. | 35. | MOPEVILLA (anag.). |
| 21. | Small and cute. | 36. | Every little helps! |
| 22. | MOSSOTED (Anag.) | 37. | REBILE (anag.). |
| 23. | French parsley. | 38. | Floral delivery |
| 24. | Add 'n' for a hurricane. | 39. | Skill . |
| 25. | SHRODAR (anag.). | 40. | Have a break. |
| 26. | of lightning (5) | 41. | In a broken coffee cup. |
| 27. | Snap Crackle Pop. | 42. | Nestbuilders. |
| 28. | Port in Uruguay | 43. | Better known with Hastings. |
| 29. | Always available. | 44. | Valuable cutlery. |
| 30. | Keeps the doctor away. | 45. | Secures the boat. |

46. Gorge and cheese
47. It's good for you.
48. Mother could possibly.
49. Tagetes or gloves.
50. Exceedingly good cakes.
51. Village in Ayrshire.
52. Soprano, tenor etc.
53. Low range vocalist.
54. At the match.
55. Holy shoes.
56. Arctic island without 'i'
57. Post graduate hints.
58. Stream crossing.
59. MUNDLE (Anag).
60. Classy road.
61. Sir Walter - - - - - .
62. Plunder.
63. On the seashore.
64. Made from dill.
65. Certain.
66. Clever dicks.
67. Brings the baby.
68. Boat and bacon.
69. Cuddle.
70. Don't forget it Doreen.
71. PLASETOLE (Anag).
72. Melodies.
73. Victory.
74. Union from Essex.
75. The last one was in Paris.

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|------|--|
| 76. | No 42' see with it. | 91. | Bring on the -----. |
| 77. | A sign of | 92. | Hiker. |
| 78. | Sum. | 93. | GOTACLE (Anag.) |
| 79. | It's the real thing. | 94. | The best a man can get. |
| 80. | Pedestrians. | 95. | How to cook bacon and eggs |
| 81. | Kings of the jungle. | 96. | Flower container with phone connection. |
| 82. | Dial the answer. | 97. | Houses, rooms, gardens and fields have them. |
| 83. | Royal paint. | 98. | A cuppa from oop' north. |
| 84. | Finger-lickin' good. | 99. | Site of M&S first business. |
| 85. | Supernatural powers. | 100. | Local Danish lager. |
| 86. | Attractive parrot. | | |
| 87. | Hieronymus, painter. | | |
| 88. | DIALYEAR | | <u>END</u> |
| 89. | Roman Goddess of flowers. | | |
| 90. | The one after this. | | |

Gayton Alms Charities can help!

Gayton Relief in Need Charity

Can help if you are finding it difficult to cope with ever-increasing cost of living.

Gayton Educational Foundation

Can provide funding to support your education such as in the purchase of books or IT equipment.

Grants are also available to help with the costs of educational visits/field trips.

For information contact David Coppock, Chair of Trustees, on 01604 859545

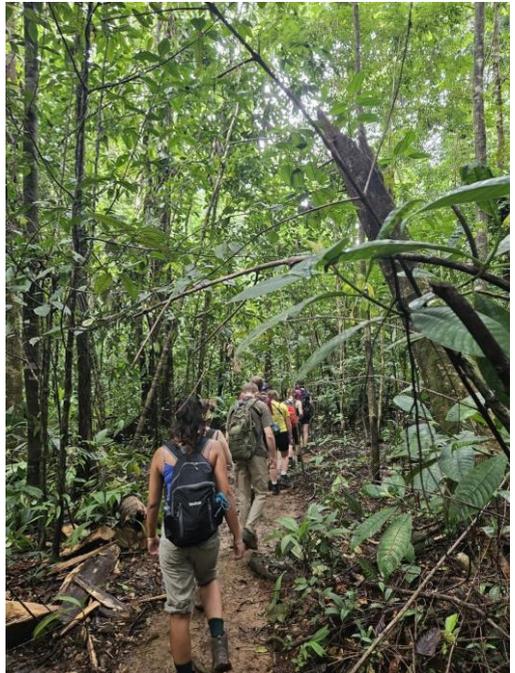
All calls and any subsequent applications will be dealt with in strictest confidence.

Please note: Anyone applying for assistance must be resident in the Parish of Gayton.

Thanks to the **Gayton Educational Foundation**, I (Lara Auld) had the incredible opportunity to travel to Costa Rica for 2 weeks in September to attend a university final year field course. The trip was focused on tropical biodiversity and conservation, which goes alongside my bachelor's degree in Conservation Biology and Ecology at the University of Exeter.

We started off in the capital, San Jose, for a couple of days devoted to getting over jet lag and becoming acclimatized to the humidity!

Then we travelled by coach to Monteverde rainforest which was like nowhere I've ever been before. What really struck me the most was the variety of species we saw on the first day there. Especially in Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve, everywhere I looked, there would be some unique animal or plant, a couple of these being hummingbirds and capuchin monkeys.





During the day, the lecturers took us on walks around the rainforest and in the evenings, we attended discussion sessions centred on what we had done and seen that day.

Next stop was La Selva Biological Station, which was right on the Puerto Viejo River so a stunning location, however this meant mosquitos galore!

We were lucky enough to be taken on a guided tour of the rainforest and saw a huge array of animals, including poison dart frogs, two-toed sloths, spider monkeys and bullet ants. The rainforest was alive with birdsong also and

one of my highlights of the trip was discovering the incredible diversity of bird species in Costa Rica including the yellow-throated toucan and scarlet macaw! I took part in a biodiversity survey alongside my peers as an exercise to get us thinking about good scientific survey methods, which are vital for final year dissertation projects.

Another long coach journey took us to the Osa Peninsula where I stayed completely off the grid at Campanario Research Station for a few days. The only way to get there was by navigating the mangroves and then open ocean by boat, so we took the opportunity to

swim from the boats into the stunning bay - it was like something out of a movie!

The station was very basic living, but I loved being immersed in nature and able to go for a swim whenever I pleased. I had the chance to go snorkelling at Isla Del Cano where I saw turtles, fish and even a whitetip reef shark! Back on the mainland, we saw tapirs, which are an incredibly rare and endangered mammal so that was definitely a highlight for me.

The final stop before heading home was Cerro Vueltas, which was almost 4,000 meters above sea level! It was nice to end the trip in a cooler climate and of course, even more stunning views. We stayed in an eco-lodge and did hikes around the nearby forests, but the air was so much thinner up there, so we had to take it easy.

The field course ended on giving presentations on a research project we came up with in groups throughout the 2 weeks. This was a great way to round off the course and say goodbyes to lecturers and peers.

I feel incredibly lucky to have been given this once in a lifetime opportunity to further enrich my studies and life experiences in general. It was made possible down to the generosity of the **Gayton Educational Foundation** and I could not thank them enough for facilitating my ability to attend this field trip.

Lara Auld

St Mary Church Child-friendly Area

St Mary PCC decided to create a child-friendly area in the church to help families who want to attend church and bring their children. The idea was to establish a place in the pews at the back of the church where the children can play safely and comfortably whilst their parents join in with the service.

A rearrangement of the pews opened-up the area with pews repositioned into in a "U" shape. **Gayton Alms Charities** funded this development and we have now put a rug down and started collecting toys, reading & colouring books for the children. A small but sturdy table and chair set was also purchased and the whole area now looks like this:-



We hope this will help children become more familiar with the inside of the church by creating a supportive play and worship environment for them. Families attending will also hopefully be able to better focus on the service and show their children what a special thing it is to attend and worship at Gayton St Mary.

David Burrows



CAROLS & CLAUS



AT GAYTON SCHOOL

 Thursday 18th December

 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

 Gayton School

✦ **Everyone Welcome!** ✦

Get into the festive spirit with us!



Enjoy tasty treats and hot drinks from our fabulous FrOGS team



Browse beautiful handmade decorations created by our wonderful children



Join in with cheerful Christmas carols



Festive raffle with great prizes



Rumour has it... the Big Man in Red might make a special visit!



A lovely afternoon of fun, community, and Christmas cheer – we can't wait to see you there!

School Allotment Project

As part of our vision for the school's future, we are delighted to share that the Gayton Alms charity has given a generous contribution towards our school allotment project. We are deeply grateful to the trustees for recognising the many benefits this will bring to our children and school community.

A school allotment provides fantastic opportunities for pupils to learn about growing food, healthy eating, and caring for the environment. It also encourages teamwork, resilience, and pride in seeing the results of their hard work. We are very excited to begin this project and watch it grow.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the parents who have already donated resources and given their time to support us - we couldn't do this without you.

If anyone in the village would like to gift items that may be useful, volunteer time to help maintain the allotment, or support children in their gardening work, please contact Mr McLoughlin via the school office, either by popping in, telephone or email.

Telephone: 01604 858749

Email:

bursar@gayton-ce.northants-ecl.gov.uk

We look forward to updating you in due course as the project begins in Spring 2026!

Christmas Pantomime

Thanks to our wonderful FrOGS, the Gayton Alms Charity and the Gayton Gumballers, Chaplins Panto Company will be performing

Red Riding Hood in the village hall on Thursday 4th December at 1.30pm (1pm arrival).

We are opening this up to the villagers of Gayton also. If you would like to purchase a ticket for the pantomime, please email gaytonfrogs@outlook.com tickets are £5 per person.

Autumnal Walks

Our Class 1 and 2 children went for a lovely Autumnal walk through the village and up to the Spinney. They really enjoyed looking at all the different colours of the leaves and spotting the local wildlife.

We are so lucky to have a fantastic space close by for the children to explore!



Class 3 enjoyed a lovely village walk, spotting all the beautiful signs of autumn. We had so much fun seeing how many different types and colours of leaves we could find, from golden yellows to deep reds and everything in between! 🌳🍂

We're so lucky to go to school in such a wonderful village, surrounded by so much natural beauty. 🍷

Harvest Festival

For our Harvest Festival, we joined with Stoke Bruerne for the day.

We had an amazing day filled with fun and Autumn Crafts. In the afternoon, we all walked up to St. Mary the Virgin Church and sang together for our Harvest Festival celebration.



Remembrance Day

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 an armistice was signed bringing a ceasefire across Europe and a formal end to the First World War. Here at Gayton Primary School our children have been learning all about those those who gave up their tomorrow so we could have our today. The children decorated their own poppies to place around the school and the village and we all came together to pause and remember the fallen.

Thank you to all our families for your donations, the federation donated lots of food items to The McCarthy Dixon Foundation along with £170 via our JustGiving page.

>>> Continued...



Christmas Events

We have a number of Christmas events on and would love to see you there!

Starting with our Wreath making workshop 27th November 7.15-10.15pm taking place in the village hall, followed by Chaplins Pantomime performance of Red Riding Hood taking place 4th December in the village hall from 1pm and finishing with our Carols and Claus in the school on 18th December 2-3.30pm.

Wishing you all a lovely festive period from all of us at Gayton Primary.

If you would like any further details about any of our events please do not hesitate to contact me;

Bev Tyler-Bedford either via email bursar@gayton-ce.northants-ecl.gov.uk or call 01604 858749.

Have you been hearing Bells Ringing?

Charles and Anna Fox thought it was lovely to hear the bells of Gayton Church ringing one afternoon last Summer.....

The Bedford Tailenders visited Gayton on July 10th. The group started about 30 years ago and is made up of mostly retired people from all walks of life who also ring bells. We meet once a month to ring together and to enjoy a pub lunch together.

Bells and beer are old friends, (in the past, many ringing chambers boasted a barrel of beer in the corner!) Hence ringers are connoisseurs of pubs and we were delighted to find a traditional pub in the Eykyn Arms, friendly, welcoming and with a dartboard! We were impressed with the fresh cooked lunches that they served to 21 of us on a hot day.

We then enjoyed ringing the bells. Their weight was a bit of a challenge but we had enough muscle to ring them. We acquitted ourselves well, ringing rounds, call changes and a variety of methods.

One of the plus points of bell ringing is that you get to visit a wide variety of churches. We were particularly fascinated by the tomb of Francis Tanfield having never seen one quite like that before.

Best wishes, Barbara

Gumballers

Well, it turns out that the Lemon that Les was tasked to bring the Editor back from Amalfi—as my £50 challenge—didn't quite make it through Customs! Oh well, he made a valiant effort, so I was good for the funds. <SMILE>

It seems I was the only one to set the Lads a sponsored challenge, so they were understandably a little disappointed. Nevertheless, they pressed on with their (entirely self-funded) trip and have once again raised an impressive sum for good works in our little village. Plans for next year are already taking shape, so please don't be shy about offering a bit of financial support to help them along.

Their accommodation was a nunnery! I wonder what the Nuns made of them!



As for how the funds will be used: a contribution of £200 has ensured that the School Panto will go ahead and will be open to the public for a small fee. Please do come along and support it!

The Lads are also exploring the idea of replacing—or adding to—the “Gayton” signs at the entrances to the village. They're considering some beautifully crafted wooden signs with local significance, and possibly a few wooden planters to brighten the approach to our community.

Gayton Spinney & Chaingang

Other than a few small pieces of work around the village over the autumn, the Chaingang has mainly spent it's efforts on the Spinney & with teabreaks with biscuits! <GRIN>



Once again, we were led by the dynamic Catherine from the Canal & River Trust and many people got stuck in and proudly coppiced two more Hazels, thus allowing ample sunlight through for the Wild flowers that we have planted at the far end of the Spinney. They seem to have settled in very well, with new growth showing!

Spinney Working Group
A Working Group of Gayton Parish Council

GAYTON AND TIFFIELD COMMUNITY TRANSPORT



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TRIPS TO OXFORD, CAMBRIDGE AND MILTON KEYNES

Once again we are proposing to run three minibus trips to:

OXFORD – CHRISTMAS AND INDOOR MARKETS AND SHOPS - £10

On Wednesday 26th November 2025

Leaving 9:30 Gayton/9:40 Tiffield/9:50 am Pattishall/10:00 am Ascote

Arriving about 11:00 am, Leaving at 2:30 pm

Returning by about 3:30 pm

CAMBRIDGE – CHRISTMAS MARKET AND SHOPS - £12



On Wednesday 3rd December 2025

Leaving 9:00 Gayton/9:10 Tiffield/ 9:20 Pattishall/9:30 am Ascote

Arriving about 11:00 am, Leaving at 3:00 pm

Returning by about 4:30 pm

MILTON KEYNES – CHRISTMAS MARKET AND SHOPPING CENTRE - £5

On Wednesday 10th December 2025

Leaving 9:30 Gayton/9:40 Tiffield/ 9:50 Pattishall/10:00 am Ascote

Arriving about 10:30 am, Leaving at 3:00 pm

Returning by about 3:30 pm

Cost of trips will be as shown (bus passes not valid) and a minimum of five passengers are required – sixteen maximum. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

If interested please contact Steve Jowers on 07890 764 633 or on stevejowers@gmail.com or ask the driver to contact him.



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