

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY

We have now started the second half of the Spring term and the children have returned after the half term break the superstars we know they are, looking forward to everything that we have planned for this half term. Pancakes are already sizzling in the pan!

I hope that you all survived the recent storms and avoided any lasting damage to your homes and properties. Here in school we were relatively lucky, but Mr Skingsley and his chainsaw did have to come in on the Saturday supported by myself and Mrs Gilbert to clear away a fallen tree next to the pedestrian gate and pathway by the car park.

Please do look out for the Year Group tweets as they are full of all the wonderful activities taking place in school and is a great opportunity for you to find out what your child has been learning. Please also take time to look at the knowledge organisers on the school website along with the wealth of resources on our revamped section of "Helping your child". Our partnership between home and school is really important to us. If you are unsure how to support your child's learning please email their teacher, they will be more than happy to help.

Skingsley

Mrs C Skingsley
Headteacher

Diary Dates for March/April

March

- 1st Year 1 Parent Consultations
- 2nd Year 5 Parent Consultations
- 2nd-9th Book Fair in School
- 3rd World Book Day 'Dress up as your favourite book character'
- 7th Year 3 Parent Consultations
- 8th Year 2 Parent Consultations
- 9th Year R Parent Consultations
- 9th Acorns Parent Consultations
- 10th Year 6 Parent Consultations
- 14th-18th Science Week
- 16th-23rd PTFA Mother's Day Shop
- 18th Red Nose Day
- 27th 7pm PTFA Meeting

April

- 1st Last day of Spring Term
- 1st PTFA Easter Egg Hunt
- 1st Year 6 Ice Cream Van reward
- 4th-18th Easter Holidays
- 19th School Closed - Staff Training Day
- 20th Start of the Summer Term
- 20th-22nd Year 4 Residential to Caythorpe
- 29th Year 6 Ancient Greek Day

Red Nose Day - Comic Relief

On 18th March we will be taking part in Red Nose Day by asking our children to come to school in non-school uniform wearing something funny. This can be face paint, odd socks, funny hairdo, etc. Donations for this worthy charity can be made via ParentPay. Please look out for an email giving you the link to do this. We will also be selling red noses at £1.50 each from the school office from Monday 14th March. Please send in the correct money with your child.



Staff News

The following members of staff will be leaving us this month, **Mrs Tracy Litchfield, TA** and **Miss Tanya Takara, TA**. We wish them success for the future. Also **Mrs Holly Brewin, Class Teacher**, will be starting her Maternity leave towards the end of April and we will excitedly look forward of news of her new baby.



We would like to welcome 2 new members of staff starting in March, **Mrs Dilruba Sharmin**, who will be joining our Midday Supervisors Team, and **Mrs Juanita Clotworthy**, who is joining our Early Years team as a Teaching Assistant. We hope they both will be very happy working at Goldington Green Academy.

Local Offer

Please have a look at the Bedford Borough Local Offer. This has a wealth of information about extra support that families can access. Please keep looking regularly because new activities are often added. They have lots of information for families with children who have special educational needs (SEND).

<https://localoffer.bedford.gov.uk/kb5/bedford/directory/home.page>
<https://www.facebook.com/BBLocalOffer>

Kings Arms Project—Monies raised

Thank you to Year 5 parents who sent in donations for this charitable project during their Outdoor Learning Day. We raised £89.00.

Available in Alternative Format

NEWSLETTER

Year 5 Outdoor Learning Day - An extract from a report by Andria in Monkey Puzzle Class



We had so much fun on our Outdoor Learning Day. We put up tents in groups, played some games inside the tent. I also made a paper boat by gluing and folding and cutting. I peeled and cut up potatoes and carrots to make soup which we ate (it was tasty). We also sang songs around a camp fire and built bridges using different materials. My favourite thing I did was making a paper boat, although I loved all of the things I did.



World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March

It's World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March and we have lots of fun activities planned across the whole school, including virtual author visits, assemblies and lessons centred around books.

Children can come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book. There will be prizes for best costumes. They can also try to guess which member of staff is hiding behind each book in our fun competition, with a prize draw for the most correct guesses.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be visiting between 2nd-9th March, when you will have the chance to purchase books online. And if your budget is looking a little tight, don't forget we are adding new books to our school library throughout the year so please encourage your children to visit the library! Hopefully there is something for everyone.

We're looking forward to celebrating World Book Day in school, and we hope you will join in too with your child at home. For lots of fun reading ideas, resources and brilliant book recommendations for all ages, visit: <https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>

Thank you for all your support. Happy reading!



Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech & Drama

March 5th marks the beginning of The Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech and Drama at Bedford Corn Exchange. The school has, over many years, had children participating in this prestigious event and we have been proud of every single one of them. The Festival takes place over the course of a week and we have some children from every year group taking part this year. The children will be participating in the following classes: prepared reading; verse speaking; piano and reading from a religious text. We wish the children all the very best and a huge thank you goes to our families who have been working with their child/children and to all the staff who have organised it and supported the children in school.



Year 4 Forest School

We made our own clay-sculpting tools in Forest School and then used them to create our own Green Man sculptures, the spirit of the woods!



Values Education

During the month of March the school is focussing on the value of:

Honesty

If your child has demonstrated the value of Honesty at home, please let us know by emailing their class teacher, stating the reason you are nominating them. Names of pupils nominated for the monthly Value will appear on the School's Value Notice Board and School's Website.

Recipe of the Month Vegetable and Cheese Rolls

Get little hands to help grate the carrots and beetroot and mix with mature cheddar to fill these vegetarian pastry rolls. Just follow the link below:

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/veg-cheese-rolls>



Science Week 11th – 20th March 2022

Science week this year is focusing on the theme of 'Growth.'

During the week the children will be experiencing lots of exciting science learning. Including a competition where children have to guess who is featured in a number of staff baby photographs. If you are interested in getting involved at home how about trying the experiment below. I have also listed some super websites for you and your child to enjoy. You can also log on to <https://sciencelive.net/> to find out about events near to where you live.

As it's World Book Day next week how about making 'Golden Snitch Catapults' Copy and paste the link below into your browser and watch the film. <https://www.science-sparks.com/golden-snitch-catapults/>

INVESTIGATION IDEAS

Measure how far the catapult travels if you push it down as far as possible.

Does a feather or a paper golden snitch travel the furthest? Why do you think this is? – Remember when testing different snitches you should use the same catapult and release the snitch with the same force to make it a fair test.

What would happen if you made the snitch lighter or heavier?

HOW DO CATAPULTS WORK?

When you push down on the milk bottle top, the lolly stick catapult arm bends, giving it energy, when the arm is released the energy is transferred to the ping pong ball which flies through the air.

The further down the lolly stick is pushed the more force is used, which gives the lolly stick more energy to transfer to the ping pong ball, this means it should travel further.

Further Websites to explore

<https://explorify.uk/en/activities>

<https://www.science.co.uk/> https://www.britishscienceweek.org/app/uploads/2022/01/BSA_BSW_pack_community_full_1121v16.pdf

<https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

<https://www.projectnoah.org/>

<https://billnye.com/>

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/labs/>

<https://science.howstuffworks.com/>



Parking Reminder

Please can I inform all new parents and remind all others of the parking issues we have here at school. Please be aware that the car park at the rear of the school is for staff only.

Parking around our school entrances at the beginning and end of the school day is a problem to all concerned, especially local residents and unfortunately we regularly receive telephone calls from distressed residents who have had altercations with drivers who have blocked their driveway or used private parking bays while dropping off or collecting children from our school. **All our local residents have been advised by the police to report to them registration numbers of any vehicles parking inconsiderately, and any verbal abuse or threatening behaviour they receive from vehicle owners.**

I also need to remind you that the lane between the school and the Holy Cross Church on Goldington Road should not be used for parents parking. This is a private lane for residents only. Also that the Holy Cross Church car park is a private car park and must under no circumstances be used by our parents.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that Tesco are happy for parents to use their car park at these times and it is only a very short walk to school from there. Please be aware though, that parking is only permitted in the customer car park and **not** the area used by Tesco delivery lorries and only to park in disabled spaces if you have a disabled badge. Thank you for your continued support.

