

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to the festive half term as we race towards Christmas. I hope you had an enjoyable half term break with your loved ones.

As I write this entry I have just opened and read yet another wonderful 'thank you' from one of our visitors who joined us for Grandparents' Luncheon just before half term. I am extremely proud of this school and the children and staff here but it is so lovely to have this wonderful school recognised by our visitors too. The atmosphere over the two days was magical with nearly 200 visitors enjoying the entertainment and tour with their grandchildren. Thank you so much to all those who have taken the time to write in our "Comments Book", to write and send cards and emails of thanks—it is very much appreciated!

Yet again we have a very busy half term so please remember to ensure your contact details are up to date so that you don't miss out on any of the emails, tweets or text messages that may be coming your way.

I look forward to seeing many of you over our Parent Consultation weeks as we return to more of our face-to-face sessions.

Skingsley Mrs C Skingsley
Headteacher

Diary Dates for November/December

November

- 1st Yr.4 pm Parent Consultations
- 1st Evening Parent Consultations (all year groups)
- 2nd Yr.6 pm Parent Consultations
- 2nd PTFA Fireworks Evening
- 3rd Yr.2 pm Parent Consultations
- 6th Yr.5 pm Parent Consultations
- 7th 9am Cherry Class Assembly
- 7th Yr. R & Acorns pm Parent Consultations
- 13th-17th Anti-bullying Week
- 14th Yr.3 Celtic Harmony Trip
- 14th Reception Sept 2024 Open Afternoon
- 17th Children In Need
- 20th-24th Road Safety Week
- 20th Individual School Photographs
- 21st 9am Hazel Class Assembly
- 28th 9am Lime Class Assembly
- 30th Yr.6 Lincolnfields WW2 Trip

December

- 1st 3pm PTFA Christmas Fayre
- 5th 9am Elm Class Assembly
- 6th 9am Reception Nativity
- 6th 2pm Reception Nativity
- 7th Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
- 7th 9am Yr.1 Christmas Production
- 7th 2pm Yr.2 Christmas Production

December (contd.)

- 11th 9am Yr.4 Christmas Production
- 12th 9am Beech Class Assembly
- 12th 2pm Yr.6 Christmas Production at Priory Methodist Church
- 13th 9am Yr.3 Christmas Production
- 13th Christmas Dinner Day
- 15th 9.30am Yr.5 Christmas Production at Priory Methodist Church
- 18th Party Day
- 19th Last Day of Autumn Term



Children return to school Thursday 4th January 2024

Children In Need

On 17th November we will once again be supporting Children In Need by holding a 'Spotacular Day'. The children can come to school with anything spotty, spotty face paint, nails, hair tie, socks along with their school uniform and you can make a donation via Parent Pay to this worthy cause. There will also be Pudsey merchandise on sale at school. Look out for more details to follow.



Reminder***** Admissions to Reception Year September 2024 *****Reminder

If your child's date of birth falls between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 it is essential that you complete an application form for your child's place in the Reception Year at school before the cut off date of 15th January 2024. **ALL PARENTS must apply for a Reception place, if you do not apply you will not be allocated a school place AT ANY SCHOOL.**

These applications can be completed online at www.bedford.gov.uk/onlineadmissions (which is the preferred method). If you apply on line, please ensure you receive a confirmation email of this and keep it for future evidence should there be an issue with your application. If you do not have internet access please telephone the School Admissions Service on 01234 718120 to request a paper application form.

Please remember that your child will not automatically get a place at our school if they attend our Pre School or Acorns class, and that even though your child is wearing our school uniform and we very much see us as one school, preschool and Acorns children are not part of Goldington Green Academy until they are formally admitted into Reception through Bedford Borough procedures.

All the information on the starting school process is online at www.bedford.gov.uk/startingschool

Remember

You must apply for your September Reception place with Bedford Borough Council

Staff News

Congratulations to **Mrs Emma Woodford, Pre-school** and her husband who are delighted to announce that they are expecting their second child. We also wish **Mrs Grace Humphries, Maple Class Teacher** all the best as she starts her Maternity Leave and look forward to news of her baby's arrival. Also we would like to say 'welcome back' to **Mrs Jade Harrison who will become Maple Class Teacher** as she returns to school from her Maternity Leave.

We would like to say a huge welcome to **Miss Vanessa Hyland, TA** and **Mrs Dilruba Sharmin, Healthcare Assistant** as they join our **Early Years Team**.

On a sadder note we have said goodbye to **Miss Jo Donnelly, TA** and **Ms Laura Brady, Senior Midday Supervisor** as they move on to pastures new, and wish them well in all they do.

Listening to your child read

Please encourage your child to read every evening in order to develop their skills. Reading aloud helps children to develop greater awareness of how punctuation works in a written text. Please, please, please try to encourage reading aloud - perhaps they could read to you whilst you're cooking dinner, or read aloud to a younger sibling or auntie, uncle or grandparent.



Grandparents' Stay and Play

Saplings and Acorns children loved welcoming in their grandparents for the stay and play session on Thursday 19th October. They enjoyed showing them around their rooms and the garden and spent time doing a variety of activities. It was lovely to see so many smiley faces.

Recipe of the Month Salmon Risotto

Creamy rice and tender salmon make a comforting dinner. Stir through lemon juice and parmesan before serving this easy, delicious meal that's full of omega 3 and high in protein. Get the recipe by following the link below:

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/salmon-risotto>



Values Education

During the month of November the school is focussing on the value of **Courage**

If your child has demonstrated the value of **Courage** 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.

Model Anderson Shelter

This wonderful model of an Anderson Shelter was built by **Anna in Elm Class**. She made this for her homework and should be really proud of it.

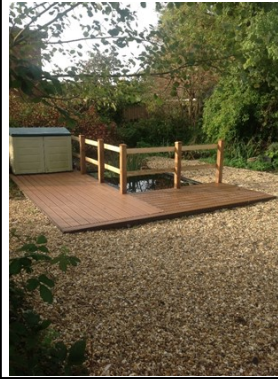


Recent Monies Raised

Thank you to everyone who donated cakes and sent in money for our Macmillan Coffee Afternoon. We raised **£472.26** for this worthy charity.

Vis Ortis - Environmental Area

We have some very exciting news, Vis Ortis our environmental area has had a makeover. We have had a new pond fitted for all the wildlife to thrive in. We have also had a widened gravel path and new decking. This will allow the children to use Vis Ortis for their outdoor learning, by exploring all the wildlife.



Black history month is a time of celebration, recognition and reflection. Black people from African and Caribbean communities have been an integral part of British history and society. The children of GGA have been exploring some of the most influential people in the history of black people. They have examined some of the struggles that they faced in order to achieve equality for all.

During the month of October all year groups focused on inspirational people such as the brave Rosa Parks, Mary Seacole, black Artist and Teacher Alma Thomas, the courageous Harriett Tubman, Composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Nelson Mandela, Dr Martin Luther King and the famous Windrush generation.

Visiting artists enhanced the children studies through the arts. The workshops brought the history alive.

Please visit our website to learn more about our celebrations.



Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone who brought in foodstuff for our Harvest Festival on 13th October. As you can see we had such a lot of donations! They were collected by the Bedford Food Bank on Monday 16th October to distribute amongst their outlets.

