

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY

Welcome back and I hope you all had a lovely Easter break. As always at this time of year it hard to believe that we are already half way through the school year and we find ourselves in the final term of this academic year.

It is also so hard to comprehend that 2 years have passed since the first lockdown at the start of the pandemic! Despite all that has been happening, I hope you agree, with your help, we have had a busy and successful year so far and this will continue as we move into the second half of the year with, as always, the needs of the children firmly at the centre.

We are still following advice from Bedford Borough and remaining cautious with withdrawing all restrictions but we will be more 'normal' and excited as our residential trips are reinstated - Year 4 going to Caythorpe, Year 6 to France and Year 3 to Bushcraft.

From all of us at GGA I want to thank you for the continued support you provide us in our strive to give the children the very best every day. We really could not do it without you all. Thank you also for the positive feedback and support you give us verbally and in writing, it really does mean a lot to the staff!

Diary Dates for April/May/June

April

- 20th Start of the Summer Term**
20th-22nd Year 4 Residential to Caythorpe
26th Year 3 Faith Trip
27th Year 1 Faith Trip
27th (pm) Ark Farms visiting Pre-school
29th Year 6 Ancient Greek Day

May

- 2nd School Closed—May Day Bank Holiday**
w/b 9th Year 2 and Year 6 SATS tests
13th Year 6 Cinema trip
27th Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tea Party
30th-3rd June Half Term

June

- 7th Year 5 Space Centre Trip**
20th-22nd Year 3 Bushcraft Residential
20th-24th Year 6 France Residential
20th-1st July Fitness Fortnight
30th Pupil Premium Theatre Trip



Skingsley

Mrs C Skingsley
Headteacher

Modeshift Award

We are delighted to say that we have won the Modeshift Stars Local Authority of the Year award! We have been recognised and awarded for our continuous efforts over the last year to encourage children to actively travel to school. Everyone at GGA would like to thank you for your support with this and for encouraging children to walk, cycle or scoot to school.



With the every increasing fuel price hikes, it has never been a better time to break old habits. Leave your car at home and cycle, walk or scoot to school as much as you can and save some money.



Available in Alternative Format

Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech and Drama

Between March 5th and 12th 48 children participated in the Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech and Drama. All year groups were represented from our very youngest in Reception to our oldest Year 6 children. Children took part in the following classes: verse speaking; prepared reading; piano and reading from a religious text. The children's



commitment and enthusiasm shone through and though not all were successful in gaining a place their positivity shone through. All the children were a credit to the school and we are extremely proud of them all. Ten children gained 3rd, 2nd or 1st places: Mia and Connie in Year 1 for verse speaking; Alexandra and Theodora in Year 2 for prepared reading and verse speaking; James, Ava and Isabella in Year 3 for prepared reading and verse speaking; Patrick in Year 4 for prepared reading and Sofija and Charlie in Year 5 for piano solo and verse speaking. To all the children who participated 'well done'.

World Book Day Competition

At the beginning of March we asked children to guess "Who's behind the book cover?" in our fun competition for World Book Day. We were really impressed by everyone's detective skills! Congratulations to our 5 winners, who guessed the most answers correctly from each year group. They were:

- Y2 Mawiatu (Willow)
- Y3 Emily (Redwood)
- Y4 Connie (Chestnut)
- Y5 Nika (Monkey Puzzle)
- Y6 Ellie (Elm)

Thank you everyone for taking part. We hope you had fun!

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

On 27th May we are celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a Tea Party for the children on the school playground. The school will be providing the tea for the children, sandwiches, crisps, cakes, and each child will be given a flag to wave and will receive a commemorative gift to take home after the party. They will be making a party hat to wear in class.

Due to Covid we have been unable to crown our traditional May Queen as usual at our annual May Festival so we are taking this opportunity to crown the May Queen at this celebration and the choir will also be singing to the rest of the school.



National Science Week 2022

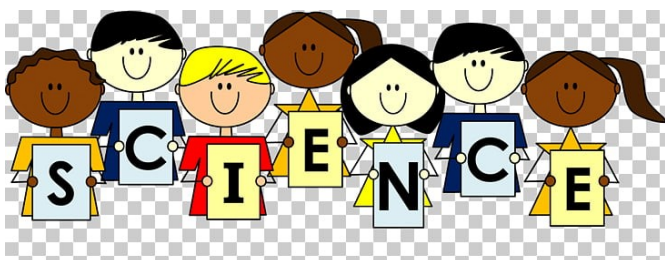
The theme for National Science week this year was 'Growth' and was the inspiration behind our Science teaching in school over that week.

Children had great fun with activities from optical illusions to 'magical' water experiments. Posters and booklets were made and there was even a 'Guess the Baby' competition, which Year 4 smashed.

We also have a group of Year 3 children who have set up their own 'Environment Club' and it's wonderful to observe their passion and determination to do their bit for our ailing planet.

We will continue to send home science activities, which can be completed at home, so do send in your pictures as we would love to see and share them. On another note, I would love to hear from you if you work in the areas of science, technology, engineering or maths and you would be prepared to come into school and talk about your work. We want to inspire our budding scientists and your input would be invaluable.

Rebecca Simister
Science Leader



National Science Week Poster Competition

Well done to the following children in Year 4, whose posters have been chosen to be entered into the National Science Week's Poster Competition. The theme is Growth. You can see their posters below:-

Connie
Phoebe
Lacey-Mae
Hafsah
Lucy



Reading Café

We are pleased to let you know that our newly refurbished Reading Café will be opening soon! It is situated in the main playground, and children will be able to use this quiet reading space during their break times.

We currently have a small but wide selection of books on the shelves, from chapter books to picture books, football books to fairy books, biographies and animal books, kindly donated in memory of Mrs Viola who many of you will remember fondly.



Hopefully there is something for everyone to enjoy during their break time. Alternatively, if you are looking for a book to borrow and take home, please visit the library.

We hope the children enjoy using this space. If you have any books that you would like to add to the Reading Café or the library, please get in touch.



Staff News

We would like to welcome back **Mrs Charlotte Reeves**, TA in Conifer Class as she returns from her Maternity Leave.

Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

Year 6, with the help of their MPs have voted on the 6 colours of this year's leavers hoodie. From a choice of 13 it has been narrowed down to Black, Fire Red, Purple, Baby Pink, Sky Blue and Sapphire Blue. These will be available to purchase from our uniform suppliers, Total Clothing from 22nd April until 6th May only.

School Dinners

Please be aware that school dinners have gone up in price from the beginning of this term. They are now **£2.35 per meal (£11.75 per week, per child)**. This applies to children in Acorns, Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 unless you are eligible to benefit related Free School Meals. If you think you may be entitled, please call the school office and they can send home an application form for you to complete.



Recent Fund Raising Events

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the following two fund raising events:

Red Nose Day (Comic Relief) raised **£774.00** for this worthy charity, and **PTFA Mother's Day Gifts** raised **£450.00** for funds which will enrich our children's school life.

Values Education

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

Friendship

And during the month of May we will be focussing on the value of:

Respect

If your child has demonstrated the value of Friendship (April) or Respect (May) 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 Sweetcorn Pancakes

These easy, store cupboard sweetcorn pancakes are great for a late weekend breakfast, or even an after school snack. Why not try making them with the children by following the link below:

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/storecupboard-corn-pancakes>

