

# GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY



# NEWSLETTER

This term has certainly passed so quickly, I can't believe we are rapidly approaching Christmas!

There are lots of wonderful things happening here before we break up and the school is starting to be filled with Christmas cheer. The trees and decorations are going up on 1st December along with my tradition of festive songs playing all day long outside my office for all to enjoy.

I just wanted to remind all our families that I no longer work on a Friday and on this day each week the school is run by my wonderful team of Assistant Heads along with the 2 Deputy Heads who act up on the Friday.



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! 2024!

*Skingsley* Mrs C Skingsley  
Headteacher

Diary Dates for December/January	
<b>December</b>	
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
11th	9am Yr.4 Christmas Production
12th	9am Beech Class Assembly
12th	2pm Yr.6 Christmas Production at Priory Methodist Church
12th & 13th	2-3pm Preschool Christmas Stay and Play
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
<b>Children return to school on 4th January 2024</b>	
<b>January</b>	
3rd	Staff Training Day
4th	Start of the Spring Term



January (contd)	
16th	M&M Productions in school 'Jack and the Beanstalk'
23rd	Whole School Class Photographs
23rd	9am Monkey Puzzle Class Assembly
30th	9am Holly Class Assembly



**Lateness**

We are concerned at the ever growing numbers of children who are arriving late for school. It is important for children to arrive on time so they can take part fully in all activities.

Tips for getting your child to school on time:

- **Prepare the night before** - organise bags, PE kits, clothes etc. This can lead to a stress free morning.
- **Get the children to bed on time** - this may be easier said than done but a child who's had enough sleep will be likely to be enthusiastic about getting ready in the morning.
- **Invest in an alarm clock** - they could have their own or you could use a family alarm clock. This gives a very clear sign that it's time for everyone to get up.
- **Listen to your child** - by spending a bit of time talking about their day you may find out there is something bothering them in school, for example problems with friendships. If it's something that is causing an issue, please talk to us at school.

If your child arrives 30 minutes after their designated start time then the lateness is unauthorised.



## **Last Reminder\*\*\*\* Admissions to Reception Year September 2024 \*\*\*\*Last 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](http://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](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/startingschool)

### **Remember**

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

### **Conifer /Hornbeam News**

We created road safety posters for road safety week. Freddie worked very hard creating this masterpiece.



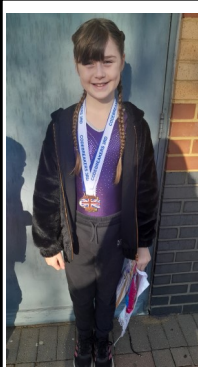
### **Christmas Post Box**

Our Christmas post box is up and ready to receive your children's Christmas cards to friends and class mates within school. **Please can you ensure that the envelope is properly addressed with the recipients full name and class written clearly,** otherwise we cannot guarantee the card will be delivered.



### **Congratulations to Esme in Coconut Class**

who took part in her first big Gymnastics competition last month. She had an early start to her day, registration at 8am in Kingston Gymnastics centre for a Code Breaker competition against 10 other gymnastic clubs. She took part in bars, vault, tumble, beam and trampette. She came away with a 4th, 3rd and a 1st. She is extremely proud after being so nervous once she warmed up she was all smiles and confidence.



### **Recipe of the Month Root Vegetable Soup**

Our Year 6 children have been making Root Vegetable Soup in lessons to link into their learning about WW2 and the seasons. They would like to share the link to the recipe with you all. It looks delicious! Follow the link below to get the recipe.

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/root\\_vegetable\\_soup\\_14910](https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/root_vegetable_soup_14910)



## **Values Education**

During the month of December the school is focussing on the value of **Caring**

If your child has demonstrated the value of Caring 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.

### School Closure due to Severe Weather

As the cold winter months are upon us, it is important that you know the processes Bedford Borough Council use if the decision is made to close the school due to severe weather conditions. During periods of potential weather disruption we ask parents to:

- Check our school website [www.goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk](http://www.goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk) where it will clearly state either 'school closed' or 'school open' and a link will be available to our Severe Weather policy.
- Check the following website for information on school closures [www.bedford.gov.uk/school-closures](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/school-closures) and for school transport cancellations [www.bedford.gov.uk/winterupdates](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/winterupdates)
- If you do not have access to the internet, please listen to one of the following radio stations **Heart 96.9FM** or **Three Counties Radio 95.5FM**.

Please note that if the school is open it does not automatically mean that it is safe for the contracted school transport to run. In the event of worsening weather conditions during the school day it may become necessary to close school early. In this very rare event school will contact parents to advise them of the situation.



### Year 2 Trip to Warwick Castle

Year 2 enjoyed an enriching trip to Warwick Castle, enhancing their understanding of medieval history and castles. The visit provided an opportunity to explore the castle, allowing them to consolidate classroom learning. This educational visit provided a memorable and engaging way for year 2 to deepen their knowledge of castles.



### Recent Monies Raised

The following recent events raised:- PTFA Fireworks - **£107.00** and Children In Need - **£829.00**. Thank you to all of you who supported these two events.



**Congratulations to Ellis in Willow Class** on passing his Karate Grading Exam last month. He will now move up to the next colour belt. Well done!

### Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, Year 3 travelled back in time to the Stone Age! We took a trip to Celtic Harmony where the children had the opportunity to live like people from prehistoric Britain. They went hunting and gathering for food, learned how to make fire, used stone tools to make a soup and built dens. We decided living in the Stone Age would have been very difficult! Despite it being a soggy day, the children had a fantastic time.



### 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 received from vehicle owners.**

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.

