

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to everyone and a particularly warm welcome to all our new starters and their families and especially to all those in Preschool and Reception who start their school journeys with us this week. We are excited to see all of the children unlock their potential in this new, exciting year together. This year we are hoping to further reinstate many of our events in school where parents/carers/family members can attend as we did before the pandemic hit.

Skingsley

**Mrs C Skingsley
Headteacher**



Diary Dates for September/October

September

4th Start of the Autumn Term

4th 3pm Familiarisation Information sessions for parents

7th 5pm Yr.6 parent presentation on Secondary transition via zoom

28th 7pm PTFA AGM

29th 9am Macmillan Coffee Morning

October

Black History Month

16th and 17th Grandparents Luncheon

17th 3pm and 6pm Yr.6 SATs meeting for parents/carers

18th Afternoon Tea with Headteacher

20th School Closed—staff training day

23rd-27th Half Term

Happy Halloween

School Milk Arrangements for Years 1-6

If you wish your child to receive milk daily at school you have the option to pay directly through our company supplier, Cool Milk. Register your child directly via their website www.coolmilk.com Any queries should be raised with Cool Milk directly. If your child is entitled to benefit based free school meals, school will fund the cost of milk for your child. Contact the school office for further details if you think your child may be eligible.

Snack time Fruit or Vegetables

Just a quick reminder to all parents/carers of Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children that you are welcome to send a piece of fruit or vegetable to school each day for your child to eat at morning break.

Staff News

Since July's Newsletter we have said goodbye to another member of staff, **Mr Brendan McPhillips**, TA, we wish him every success in all he does.

On a happier note, we would like to congratulate **Mrs Lisa Martin**, Music Teacher and her husband on the birth of their second child, Barnaby Charles Martin who was born on 8th July.

We would also like to welcome our new members of staff that have started with us this September, **Mr Connor Bates**, & **Miss Rachel Newell**, Class Teachers and **Miss Kristal Allen**, TA. We would also like to congratulate **Ms Julia Basso**, who is joining our TA team, although that means that we are losing her from our Midday Supervisor team.

Supporting our Families

Remember we are a registered referral agent for **Bedford Foodbank**. You can get a Foodbank voucher from school via **Mrs Jackie Waller**, our **Family Support Worker**, which can be taken to any of the distribution centres to collect food.

Jackie is here to support parents/carers in any way she can and is available each morning, so if there is an issue that you need help with, please contact her via the school office, or by email:- jwaller@goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk

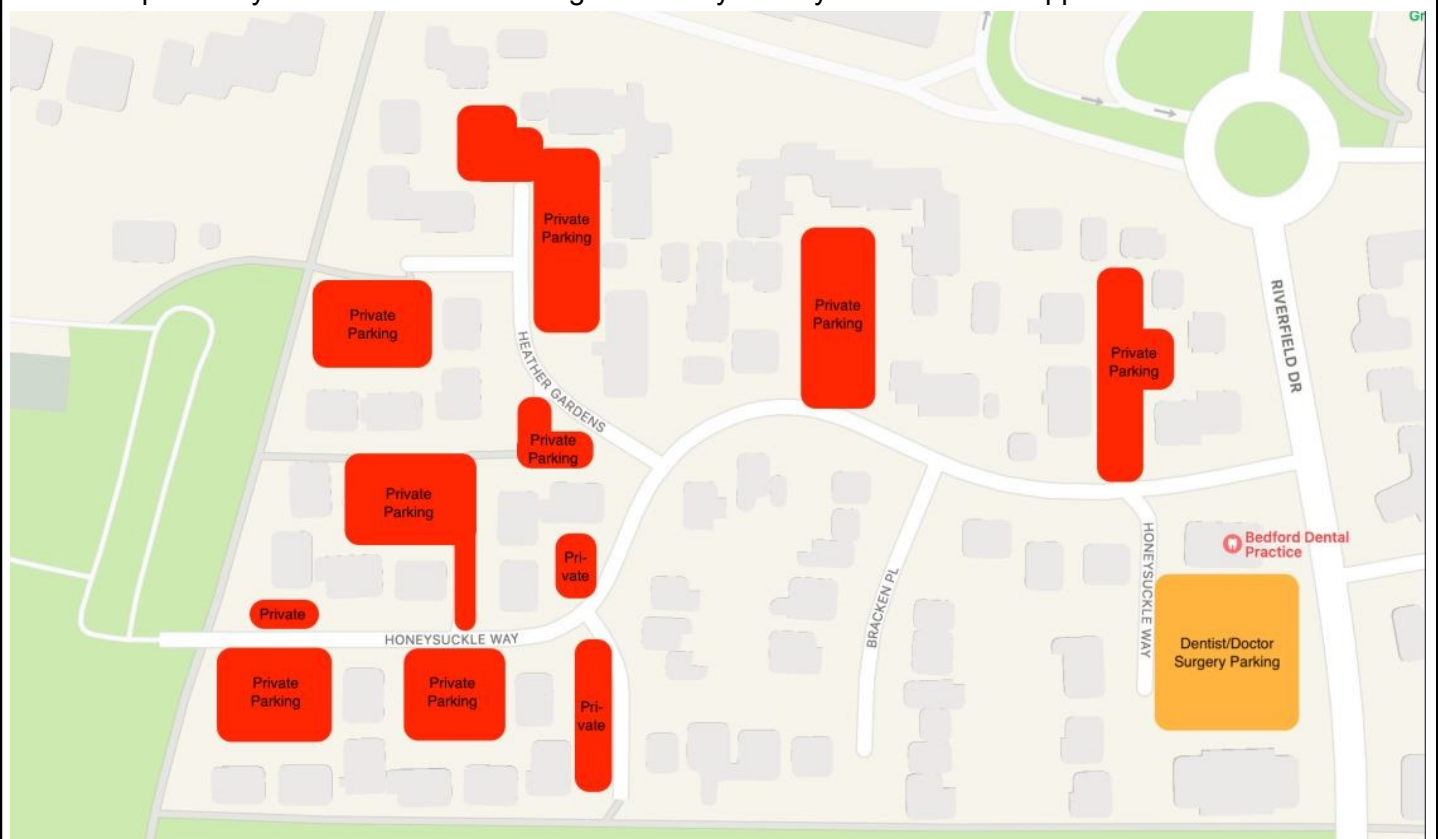
Parking Reminder

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. **(Please see diagram below of the private parking bays in the Honeysuckle Way/Heather Gardens area.) 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.



Reminders

Please can we remind Parents/Carers of a few dos and don'ts around school

- Children should always attend school in full school uniform. This includes black school shoes, trainers are **only permitted for PE**.
- Goldington Green Academy and its grounds are a non smoking area.
- Please check the expiry dates of any medication kept at school, especially inhalers. It is the parent/carer's responsibility to ensure medication is available and in date for their child.
- Please ensure that your child's school uniform (including coats) are **clearly named**. If uniform is not named we cannot return lost items to their owners.
- It is vitally important to update any changes to your child's contact details, especially mobile numbers of **ALL** your child's emergency contacts. Poorly children get very distressed when we cannot get hold of anyone to collect them.
- Please remember that when you need to speak to your child's class teacher **email is best**. All Teachers' email addresses are on our school website for your use.
- Mobile phones must not be used when you are on the school site (dropping off/picking up your children).

Thank you for your continued support.

Cultural Day at GGA summer 2023



The atmosphere created by our annual carnival day celebration could be felt and heard across Goldington Green Academy.

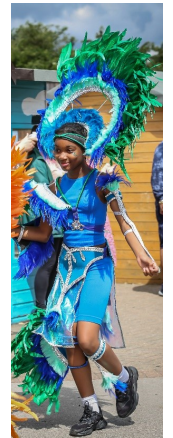
Throughout the morning, the children engaged in various art forms activities such as carnival mask making, the making of elaborate carnival headdresses and Soca dance workshops. The children had an opportunity to explore the culture of carnival and the social unity that this celebration brings. As we all know, carnival is celebrated in different art forms around the world. The workshops provided a snapshot of how some countries such as the Caribbean and South America celebrate carnival.

In the afternoon, we celebrated in style. Visiting was the international mass band Rampage visited and the Mighty Jamma family played the steel pans, providing entertainment for all.

Leading the Parade were Carnival Queens, Pat and Anne Marie from Rampage. Included in the performance was the young Rampage performers who also led carnival headdress workshops for our years 5 and 6 pupils in the morning. Our other visiting artist on the day were Toke and Pauline. They led our year 3 and 4s into the parade whilst all the other year groups followed suit.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our twinned school in Gytesia Ghana fundraising event. In total to date, we raised £304.66 on the day. This money will go towards the building of a new ICT suite for our fellow friends in Ghana.

The celebration brought fun and enjoyment for all that participated.



Recipe of the Month Super-veg Pasta

Get two of your five-a-day with this deliciously versatile pasta sauce. Get the recipe by following the link below:

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/super-veg-pasta>



Values Education

During the month of September the school is focussing on the value of **Responsibility**

If your child has demonstrated the value of Responsibility 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.

A pupils attendance is important to us at Goldington Green Academy.

The expected attendance for Goldington Green Academy is 96% or more.

Data shows that pupils that achieve well at the end of year 6 and beyond into Key Stage 4, have had lower levels of absences.

This chart shows the impact attendance can have on a pupil.

100 – 97%	96-95.9%	94.9-93%	92.9-90%	89.9-0%
365 days in a year				
190 days in a school year to support children to maintain and even exceed expected attainment levels				
175 days for other activities like holidays, appointments, etc.				
90% equals having a day off every other week. (Would you be happy to lose a day's wages or benefits every other week?)				
Excellent	Good	Fairly Good	Poor	Extremely Poor
In a better position to understand what is being taught	More effort needed to catch upon lost sessions	Starting to struggle to stay in line with peers	Feeling a bit lost in lessons. Support needed	Totally lost. Struggling and feeling despondent
Can be supported at the right level	Light support required to bring back to expected level	Starts falling behind peers	With extra support may still struggle to keep on target	Even with intense support may miss targets

Even though it is not statutory for a child to attend school before five, children are taught early number and phonics in Early Years and If they miss school, this significantly affects their reading and maths.

For more information and advice, please visit:



<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/09/02/back-to-school-week-everything-you-need-to-know-about-school-attendance/>