

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER

As always at this time of year, I find it hard to believe that we already find ourselves half way through the school year and very soon we will find ourselves in the final term of this academic year. It is also so hard to comprehend that nearly 4 years has passed since we closed our school gates at the start of the pandemic.

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. From all of us at Goldington Green Academy we wanted to thank you for the continued support you provide us in our strive to give your children the very best everyday.

I hope that you agree that the opportunity to have the swimming pool on site and for our pupils to experience blocks of swimming time has proved successful. I will be meeting with the company to review the whole experience and will then make a decision as to whether we continue in the future with the pool on site. We really appreciate all the positive feedback and support you give us verbally and in writing, please continue to provide this feedback in order to allow us to continue to improve.

Finally, I hope that you all have a lovely half-term holiday.

Mrs C Skingsley
Headteacher

Diary Dates for February/March

February

5th-9th Mental Health Awareness Week
7th 9am Coconut Class Assembly
9th Shine Bright, Wear Bright Mufti
Day in support of CHUMS

19th-23rd Half Term

26th-1st Sponsored Spell Test Week
27th Yr. R pm Parent Consultations
27th Acorns pm Parent Consultations
29th 8.30am SEND Coffee Morning
29th Yr.6 pm Parent Consultations

March

4th Yr.1 pm Parent Consultations
5th 9am Walnut Class Assembly
5th 2-3pm Preschool/Acorns Mother's
Day Stay and Play session
5th Yr.3 pm Parent Consultations
6th Scholastic Book Fair at School
6th Yr.4 pm Parent Consultations
6th Yr.5 3.30pm Parent Consultations
6th 6-8pm All Year Group Evening
Parent Consultations
7th World Book Day
7th Yr.2 pm Parent Consultations
8th Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
12th 9am Apple Class Assembly
15th Red Nose Day (Comic Relief)
15th Yr.6 Ancient Greek Day
18th-22nd Safety Week
19th 9am Willow Class Assembly

March (contd.)

26th Year R Mead Open Farm Trip
26th 9am Maple Class Assembly
28th End of Spring Term

Summer Term starts Tuesday
16th April

Online Safety

How old is your child online? Has your child signed up to a social media or game online but have said they are older than they are so they can have an account? If TikTok thinks your child is 13 when they join when they are in fact only 8, then



by the time they reach 13, the app will think they are 18. This puts your child at risk of viewing content that is not appropriate. Here are tips to help: <http://www.ofcom.org.uk/news-centre/2022/risks-of-children-usingfalse-ages-on-social-media>

Family Reading is coming to Reception

We are delighted to be able to announce that our widely-attended Family Reading sessions on Friday mornings will be extended to our Reception Year after the Easter holidays. All Reception parents will be welcome to come into classrooms from 8:30-9:00am on Friday mornings.

These sessions are very well attended and hugely enjoyed in other year groups and we are sure Reception will love them also.



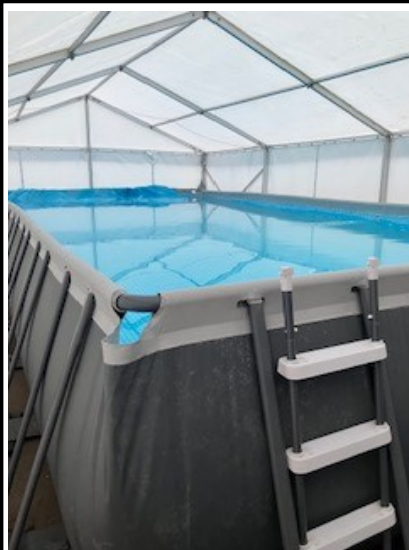
Staff News

We are extremely privileged to have a strong team of teaching and support staff at GGA. Many of our teachers have been with the school since qualifying and have grown into talented teachers and leaders. As you know in just the past year alone three of our teachers have moved on to be successfully appointed to their first Headship role, demonstrating the excellent professional development they have received whilst at GGA.

Currently we have another leader, **Mrs Liz Turner** who is moving on to her first Headship having been with us since she was an NQT too. Mrs Turner will be leaving us at Easter and we wish her the very best in her new venture.

We are also very fortunate to also have **Mrs Tammy Nurse**. Mrs Nurse is currently teaching in Year 3. She is also our Maths Lead at Goldington Green Academy. For the last six years, she has been working for our local Maths Hub, Enigma, led by the NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics). For one day a week she works under the role of a Primary Mastery Specialist. This role entails developing teachers' expertise to develop the mastery approach to teaching maths. The teaching for mastery approach describes the elements of classroom practice and school organisation that combine to give pupils the best chances of mastering maths. Achieving mastery means acquiring a solid enough understanding of the maths that's been taught to enable pupils to move on to more advanced material. Under her role, she supports schools in their journey to adopt and adapt this approach through their school, which at Goldington Green Academy we have been doing since 2017. She is passionate about maths and enjoys sharing teaching expertise at Goldington Green Academy with other local teachers.

We would also like to say congratulations to **Mrs Emma Woodford**, Pre-school Practitioner and her husband on the arrival of their baby boy on 9th January, Charlie James Woodford, weighing 9lbs.



Swimming at GGA!

A report by Ezra and Katilaya, Year 5

The pool at our school is 30 degrees Celsius. It is in a tent. The pool is 20m long. There is a ladder, swimming caps and there are heaters in the changing rooms. The height of the pool is 1.3m. We get into groups there can be Group 1 and Group 2. If you are in Group 1 in Monkey Puzzle you go at 11:20. The second group that is in Monkey Puzzle goes at 11:45. Each session gets 25 minutes.

"My best trick is swimming on my back. I like swimming on my back because it used to be the only trick I could do." Ezra

"My best trick I can do is swimming on my back and swimming underwater. The reason they are my best tricks I can do is because the swimming teacher explained it really well and it's really easy!" Katilaya

Recipe of the Month

Easy Macaroni Cheese with extra veggies

This easy homemade macaroni cheese recipe with peas and sweetcorn is a yummy twist on a family classic! It has extra vegetables hidden inside for a healthier family meal that kids will love! Follow the link below to get the recipe.

<https://www.eatsamazing.co.uk/family-friendly-recipes/family-friendly-meals/kid-friendly-macaroni-cheese-recipe-with-extra-veggies>



Values Education

During the month of February the school is focussing on the value of **Thoughtfulness**

If your child has demonstrated the value of Thoughtfulness 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.