

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER

It is with much sadness and anger that I am writing this today having arrived at school this morning to see our wonderful 'Many Hearts' destroyed! This had become such a lovely learning and nurturing environment but please rest assured we will work hard to restore it and will be grateful of any offers of support. On a brighter note it is so lovely to see the first signs of spring. Thank you to our governor, Mrs Litchfield, who spent last week with groups of children across the school digging and weeding and improving our outdoor environment. Mrs Litchfield and the children will be continuing this over the coming weeks. Any further offers of help with gardening please let me know. This week we will be celebrating READING with World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. We have our author visiting and the Book Fair in school too. I cannot stress enough how important reading to, and with, your child(ren) is. It is such a wonderful opportunity to spend time enjoying books and has a massive impact on the children's learning across all subjects—please take the time to do this.

Skingsley Mrs C Skingsley
Headteacher

Diary Dates for March/April

March

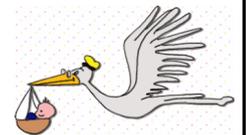
- 2nd (pm) Yr. 2 Parent Consultations
 - 3rd 9am Yr.1&2 Parent reading session
 - 3rd (pm) Yr. 5 Parent Consultations
 - 4th-10th Book Fair in School
 - 4th 9am Yr.3&4 Parent reading session
 - 4th 2.15pm Yr. R Parent reading session
 - 4th 7pm PTFA Meeting
 - 5th World Book Day 'Dress up as your favourite book character'
 - 5th (pm) visiting Author in school
 - 5th 2.45pm Drop Everything & Read with Parents
 - 6th 2.15pm Yr.5&6 Parent reading session
 - 7th-14th Beds Festival fortnight
 - 7th School choir performing at the Corn Exchange—meeting at 1.10pm
 - 9th-12th Yr.5 Isle of Wight Residential
 - 9th-13th Mother's Day Shop week
 - 12th Yrs. 3 & 4 Multi Sports
 - 13th 9am Aspen Class Assembly
 - 13th Sports Relief - 50p donation to wear your sports attire
 - 16th-20th Yr.6 Mock SATs week
 - 16th-19th Yr.5&6 Bikeability
 - 20th 9am Walnut Class Assembly
 - 20th Mother's Day Afternoon Teas in classes
 - 23rd Bikeability Level 2
 - 25th Yr.3 Trip to Wrest Park
 - 26th (am) KS1 Multi Sports
 - 27th 9am Chestnut Class Assembly
 - 27th 6pm PTFA Pamper Evening
 - 31st Yr.4 Trip to the British Museum
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- ### April
- 2nd Yr.2 Fundraiser (Easter Biscuits)
 - 3rd 9am Oak Class Assembly

April (contd)

- 3rd PTFA Easter Egg Hunt
- 3rd 2.30pm Afternoon Tea with Headteacher
- 3rd **End of Term**
- ** Easter Holidays ****
- 21st **Start of the Summer Term**
- 22nd-24th Yr4 Residential to Caythorpe
- 24th 9am Willow Class Assembly
- 28th Yr.1 Woburn Safari Park Trip
- 29th Pre School—Zoo Labs visiting school
- 29th Yrs. 3/4 Quad Bikes

Staff News

We will be saying goodbye to **Miss Poppy Buckland**, Midday Supervisor this month, and would like to wish her good luck in her next venture. On a brighter note, **Miss Mique Moriuchi** will be joining us as our new Librarian. She is due to start on 23rd March and we hope she will be very happy here at Goldington Green Academy. Also at the end of term **Mrs Harkirt Sira**, Early Years Practitioner in Preschool, will be starting her Maternity Leave. We wish her all the best and look forward to hearing news of her new baby which is due in April.



Shine Bright, Wear Bright for CHUMS

Thank you to all of you who sent their children to school on Friday 7th February wearing something bright with their school uniform. The donations sent in amounted to **£303**, which has been very gratefully received by CHUMS.

Available in Alternative Format

Celebrating Cultural Diversity

Before half term we celebrated our annual Multicultural Week. During the festivities we participated in a variety of cultural workshops across the whole school. On Wednesday we had a whole school focus on Ghanaian culture and customs to celebrate our partnership with Gyetesia Primary School in Ghana. This included workshops depicting Ghanaian culture, history and tradition. We were particularly enthralled by the African Dance Workshop, storytelling of Anansi and the Clay Workshop sculpturing the Ashanti King's and Queen Mother's heads, which will be displayed in school for you to see shortly. We also learnt about the importance of the Djembe drum and the role it plays in passing down the tradition of the different clans and tribes.

Over the rest of the week we were thrilled by The Mighty Zulu Nation, who delivered an interactive dance workshop which was enjoyed by all. We also had Salsa Dancing, Bollywood Dancing, Chinese Ribbon Dancing, African Caribbean Dancing, and British Street Dancing. We enjoyed an Art Workshop depicting Hamas Hand



patterns. Aga and Lisa delivered an inspirational Singling Workshop exploring the Caribbean and the Americas. Staff and parents supported the week by sharing aspects of their culture. This included talks about Mexican and Tanzanian culture. We ended the week with our traditional dressing up day with 'Costumes from around the World'. We were inspired by the imagination and the creativity of the costumes and we thank you all for the effort extended in ensuring your children took part with such enthusiasm. We would also like to thank you for your generosity in supporting our fundraiser. We raised a massive **£500** for our twinned school Gyetesia Primary School, which included **£189** from the Year 3 fundraiser on that day.

Pupil Absence Line

Please can we remind parents that when leaving a message on the Pupil Absence answer phone service that they give their child's **full name** (not just their first name), **class** and the **reason for the absence**. We have 676 pupils at Goldington Green Academy and unless we have full name and class we have to spend time investigating which pupil is absent. Thank you

Developing our Environment

Last half term we were delighted to be able to provide additional workstations along the corridor of our new building. This space has been greatly improved by this addition to what was a very bare and uninspiring area for the children. It is now a magnificent working environment which will support our children's learning while studying in small groups. We are hoping to receive some donations of high quality books in due course to fill the bookcases to promote our love for reading. In the new academic year we are hoping to extend this further to include more seating areas.



Important Reminders to Parents/Carers

- The teaching day ends at 3.20pm; therefore please do not expect your child out of class on the dot. They need time to get their things together and coats on etc.
- Please remember that when you need to speak to your child's class teacher **email is best**. All the teacher's email addresses are on our school website for your use. Mornings at the classroom door are very busy and not the best time to discuss your concerns or requests.
- Our adult toilets are for staff use primarily and are not public toilets. Please do not be offended if you are refused access at 3.20pm. Tesco is only a very short walk from school and they have public toilets for your use.
- Please remember our school car park is **staff only**. Also we have become very concerned about the speed of some drivers using Honeysuckle Way. Honeysuckle Way is a twisty residential road with many parked cars and an appropriate speed to drive down such a road is 20 miles per hour. Please bear this in mind.

Universal Free School Meals

If you have a child in Reception Year, Year 1 or 2 did you know that they are entitled to have a Free School Meal each day regardless of your financial circumstances. Please take a look at the Relish website www.relishschoolfood.co.uk to view menus and sign up for a free parent login account, its quick and gives you loads of extra information. Your child can swap between a school meal and packed lunches from home so why not give a school meal a try!!!



Please complete form below and return to class teacher

Values Education

During the month of March the school is focussing on the value of:
Honesty

If your child has demonstrated the value of Honesty at home, please complete the details below and return to their class teacher.

Names of pupils nominated for the monthly Value will appear on the School's Value Notice Board/School's Website.

Pupil's Name:

Class:

Reason for Nomination:

Honesty

Recipe of the Month

Homemade Pizza

Why not try making this easy pizza recipe at home with your children. Just follow the link below:

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/pizza-margherita-4-easy-steps>



Feedback/Suggestions

Please complete this slip, detach and return to school if you have any comments, feedback or suggestions that you would like to share with us:

Child's Name:

Class:

Comments:

Thank you for your time, we value your opinions.