

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY

NEWSLETTERR

As restrictions are beginning to ease I hope that you are able to catch up with family and friends. On that note, however, it is important to state that the guidance for schools has not been updated since January. We are therefore taking a cautious approach to some of the things that would ordinarily be arranged for the summer term, such as a Year 6 leavers party and sports days. As things stand, it may be unlikely that we can run these events along the lines seen in previous years. As ever, we will do our best to adapt and mark these important occasions safely.

I hope that you all received my text message last Friday about the joy it gives to see the children coming out of school to be greeted with hugs and smiles, as we know there is so much said about the impact of the pandemic on adult and children's mental health and well being - a smile and a hug goes a long way!

As a quote from Charlie Mackesy, a favourite author of mine, goes "Why are we here?" "To love and be loved", said the mole.



Skingsley

Mrs C Skingsley
Headteacher

Diary Dates for May/June

May

3rd **School Closed - May Day Bank Holiday**

14th Year 5 - King's Arms Project
Outdoor Learning Fundraiser

w/b 17th Walk to School week

18th Coconut Class visit to St Mary's
Church

20th Zoolab coming into school for Year 4

21st Holly Class visit to St Mary's Church

24th Monkey Puzzle Class visit to St
Mary's Church

27th & 28th Yr.6 Careers Fayre

31st-4th June **Half Term**

June

11th Year 5 River Ouse Walk

15th Year 5 trip to Leicester Space
Centre

21st-23rd Yr.3&4 Bushcraft Residential

25th Year 5 Come to school in your
Pyjamas - Fundraising for Ghana

30th Whole School Cultural Day

Fundraising events

Thank you to those of you who contributed to the following fundraising events:

Comic Relief (Red Nose Day), we raised **£337** for this worthy cause, and

Year 6 Fund Raising for Ghana, raised **£69** for our continuing

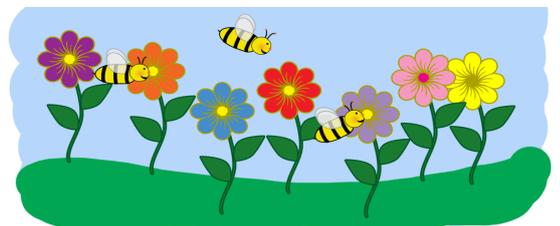
support for our twinned school Gyetesia Primary School in Ghana.



Smoking

Please can we ask, in line with our ethos of 'healthy school' that you refrain from smoking outside our school gates when dropping off and picking up your children.

Thank you for your support in this matter.



Fairtrade Fortnight

A report by Ethan, Coconut Class

During Fairtrade fortnight, we learnt how their foundation saves and helps people everyday and the true, fantastic importance of it. We made posters for the competition 'Your vision for the future', about what products they own and who they give pay rises to like smallholder farmers. Then we focused on chocolate making. We had three whole lessons on it, first we made a double-page spread with pictures about the different stages. In the second lesson we wrote down the stages of chocolate making under the sub headings with lots of factual information. In the last chocolate making lesson we brought all our ideas together to make a page full of the stages and some pictures. We now know that cacao farmers had a difficult time before Fairtrade helped them. We also made a persuasive letter to the Chocolate Tree company to make all their products Fairtrade. After Fairtrade fortnight we have to say that we learnt a lot and now we know what Fairtrade do to help others in the developing world.



Staff News

We would like to send our congratulations to **Mrs Tammy Nurse**, Redwood Class Teacher, and her husband on the birth of their baby girl, Millie Ruby Nurse born on 15th April weighing 8lb 11oz. Also, since our last Newsletter in January, **Mrs Emma Woodford**, Pre School, has had her baby, a little girl, Willow Kathleen Woodford born on 5th January weighing 8lb 14oz. Congratulations to Emma and her husband. We would also like to wish **Mrs Charlotte Reeves**, TA in Conifer Class all the very best as she starts her Maternity Leave and look forward to hearing news of her baby due this month. We would also like to welcome back **Mrs Harkirt Sira**, Pre School as she returns from her Maternity Leave. Lastly we give a very warm welcome to **Mrs Jesuneeta Marok**, who joins us this month in Conifer Class to cover Maternity Leave. We hope she will be very happy here at GGA.



School Car Park

We have been having some issues lately with unauthorised use of our car park at the back of the school off Honeysuckle Way.

As I am sure you are aware the car park is for staff and official visitor's use only and unfortunately parents are not allowed to use it unless they are a Blue Disabled Badge holder, or have special written permission from the Headteacher.

We will be keeping a list in the school office of people who fall into the above categories and therefore ask if you are a Blue Badge holder and would like to use the school car park to please send a copy of your badge by taking a photograph and emailing it to school at:

admin@goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk

Please also ensure you display your badge prominently on your dashboard.

Thank you for your support in keeping our car park a safe environment for all.

Values Based Education

On Wednesday 21st April Dr Neil Hawkes visited the school to carry out the Values Based Education audit assessment. He spent the day talking to staff and the MPs, who also took him on a tour around the school, which he thoroughly enjoyed. After spending the day observing the children and staff, he was very impressed with how the values were consistently shown by all members of the school community. At the end of the day he was pleased to announce that the school had again received the Quality Mark award for Values Based Education for a further three years. We would like to thank all of those involved in the day, including the children who once again made the school proud.



Modeshift Stars Silver Accreditation

Over the last three years Goldington Green Academy have worked hard to promote active travel to their pupils and parents and have now been awarded a silver accreditation through Modeshift Stars for their efforts. Modeshift Stars is a scheme recognising organisations that have shown excellence in promoting cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable travel. To receive a silver accreditation schools must complete at least 20 travel initiatives, 10 supporting initiatives and 7 consultations, alongside forming an in school working group focussed on sustainable travel.

Goldington Green Academy is the only school in Bedford Borough that currently has a silver accreditation and is now aiming to follow in the footsteps of Shortstown Primary School, who have received the gold accreditation.

Values Education

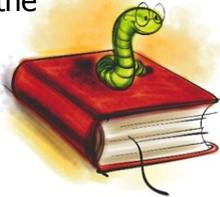
During the month of May the school is focussing on the value of:

Patience

If your child has demonstrated the value of Patience 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.

Library News

The Library has sadly been closed for class visits for most of last year, but the introduction of the Reading cloud app has meant that pupils have been able to access the library pages using iPads and choose books to take home. Of course it's not the same as an actual visit to the library, but we are doing what we can to ensure that children have access to a wide range of books, and to encourage a love of reading. It's been a pleasure meeting and talking to pupils over the past few months, finding out what kind of books they enjoy or would like to see in their Library. We will be adding new titles to our bookshelves this term, from graphic novels to spooky tales, funny stories to epic adventures. We hope there is something for everyone! If you have any requests, suggestions or book donations for the library, please get in touch.



Happy Reading!
Miss Moriuchi, School Librarian

Parking Issues

Unfortunately, once again, it has been brought to our attention that parent's parking at the start and end of the school day is causing our local residents a great deal of distress. Residents in both Chapel Close and Honeysuckle Way are experiencing parents parking across their drives/parking bays, on double yellow lines and grass verges, which in turn causes the roads to become blocked at times.



Please can we remind all parents that Tesco are very happy for our parents to use their customer car park at school pickup and drop off times and that it is only a very short walk from there to school.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Update from the MPs - Introducing our House Point Superheroes

We have been working hard so far this year. Our main project has been developing our house system. We wanted to make it a more important part of school life. Children across the school had the opportunity to design a superhero character to represent their house. We then took lots of ideas from the designs and created the Values Superheroes.

Respectful Red
Optimistic Orange
Yo Yo Yellow



Grateful Green
Brave Blue
Peaceful Purple

Children in every class have already been working hard this term collecting points for their house. The house with the most points at the end of the half term will be rewarded with a Non-Uniform day. What we think is even more exciting is that everyone is in the same house as their brothers and sisters.

Our House Point Leader Board will help you keep up to date with which team is in the lead. This will be displayed around the school and on our MPs Twitter Page @GGA_MPs

Recipe of the Month

Super Salad Wraps

Here is a super healthy wrap recipe idea for you to make for your children's lunch boxes. Just follow the link below:

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/super-salad-wraps>

