

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER

My goodness, October is here already. The children have all settled back into school routines really well and we are enjoying getting to know all our new Preschool, Acorns and Reception children.

When we began compiling this month's Newsletter we were concerned that we would have very little to share with you due to the current situation. As you can see we have continued to ensure our children continue to get as broad, balanced and enriched curriculum as possible. As I write this, Year 2 are experiencing Warwick Castle to enrich and embed their learning about Castles this term.

My school team and I are really very grateful for all the support you have given over the past month. Thank you for helping us to keep the school community safe by keeping children off school when unwell and telephoning 111 and booking Covid tests when advised to if children or family members are displaying symptoms. We are also very grateful for you keeping us promptly up to date with test results when you receive them.

As you can imagine, organising the logistics of staggering the start and end of the day has been an immense task. Thank you to all our parents who have followed our requests to remain socially distanced at all times while waiting to drop off or collect your child. There are however a few things that would help even more:

- Please try not to arrive early - the whole point of a staggered time is to reduce the number of people congregating at the gates as much as possible.
- Please try not to be late - the gates shut promptly and we then need to find an adult to come and collect late comers.
- Please leave your child as soon as possible - there are staff available to support any wobbles.
- Please leave as soon as you have collected your child.
- Only one family member to drop off/collect your child at one time.
- Please refer back to the emails we have sent and the website - we have sent so much information out but it is all very important to keep the children and adults in school safe. We are getting too many telephone calls asking for information that has already been sent out. We are always happy to help, but I would really appreciate it if the information sent through text and emails was read please.
- I am on the gate in the mornings if there are any emergency messages that need to get to a teacher but otherwise please use emails as the main means of communication during this difficult time.

On that note we will be ensuring our Parent Consultations take place this term and every parent will have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress. This will be held via telephone calls and details will follow. In the meantime please contact your child's class teacher if there is a specific question or concern that cannot wait but please also remember that the teaching staff are extremely busy teaching all day and marking and planning each evening so their workloads have increased considerably if they are also having to respond to numerous emails each evening too.

We have all had to make adjustments but I am sure you agree that it is a small price to pay to have all of the children safely back in school.



Skingsley

Mrs C Skingsley
Headteacher

Diary Dates for October/November

October Black History Month

1st Yr. 3 Celtic Harmony Trip
2nd Yr. 2 Warwick Castle Trip
12th Yr. 3&4 Fun Run
13th Yr. 5&6 Fun Run
14th Early Years Fun Run
14th Yr. 1&2 Fun Run



23rd School Closed—Staff Training Day

26th-30th Half Term



November

3rd Yr. 6 Lincolnsfield Trip
6th Yr. 2 Field trip to Bedford Castle Mound
w/b 16th Yr.6 Mock SATs week
24th Victorian School visiting Yr. 5



Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

On Friday 25th September we supported the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon, a national charity event held each year. Macmillan helps people with Cancer and their families. Thank you for supporting this event; we raised **£334.40** on the day.



Admissions to Reception Year September 2021

If your child's date of birth falls between **1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017** 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 2021**. **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 (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.

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

Black History Month



EMBRACING OUR SHARED HISTORY

This month we look forward to celebrating Black History Month. We will be celebrating and recognising the enormous contributions that black British people have made to our vibrant and diverse society. Black History Month is an annual event which started back in 1987 in the UK.

Here at Goldington Green we have been celebrating the achievements of inspirational black people from the past through to the present, for over a decade. We feel it is important to recognise everyone's contributions and the achievements that they have made to society.

We will enjoy exploring the important work that has taken place in the past and the impact that it has had on our world. We will pay tribute to the brave that have given their lives, and stood up for equality for all.

This year we will learn about significant and inspirational people such as Rosa Parks, Dr Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela, the WW2 West Indian service men and women who fought for Britain and many more people who have influenced and shaped our society today.

Year 3 Trip to Celtic Harmony Camp

The Year 3's had a fantastic day out to Celtic Harmony to embed the learning of their Stones and Bones Topics. Below is some of the quotes from the children in Year 3 about their day:-

"I liked the den building because I enjoyed working as a team." Arthur

"I like using real resources that you wouldn't do at home." Patrick

"The best part of our school trip was hunting animals. I really had lots of fun." Isher.

"I really liked the lights in the cave and the stone age artwork on the walls." Ivan

"My favourite bit of the trip was how to make soup from leaves and herbs." Mia

"I liked throwing the sticks when we went hunting. I managed to get a 20!" Lucy

"The best part of the trip was when we learnt how to start a fire and build a fire." Sukhjot

"I discovered the sharpest stone in the world is Obsidian." Bobby



Values Education

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

Quality

If your child has demonstrated the value of Quality 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/School's Website.

Bedford Borough

Parent Carer Forum Events

Bedford Borough are running the following virtual talks that may be of interest to you:

Thurs 8/10/20, 10am – Talk from ADHDWise

Thurs 8/10/20, 7pm – Inclusive Sport Discussion

Weds 14/10/20, 10am – SALT Special Schools Team

Weds 14/10/20, 7pm – Talk from ADHDWise

Thurs 15/10/20, 10am – Anxiety and Sleep Wellbeing Session

All of these sessions are being run virtually and are free to attend, you just need to be a member of the parent carer forum. If you would like to book a place at any of these events or join the parent carer forum please email us: communications@bbpcf.org.uk

Leaving Messages on our Pupil Absence Line

Please can we remind you that when leaving an answerphone message on our dedicated Pupil Absence Line that you speak slowly and clearly, spelling the child's name if necessary. Always state your child's class name and give a precise reason for the absence.

As you can imagine, we receive many daily messages and unless you speak slowly and clearly we are unable to understand the message and therefore action it. This will result in us thinking you have not telephoned and given us a reason for your child's absence.

Triple P Discussion Groups

Bedford Borough Council's Early Help Service will be hosting a series of one off Triple P Discussion groups on a variety of issues commonly faced by parents.

These explore common problems we face as parents and some of the reasons why they happen. They will share strategies and advice on how you may be able to manage these problems before they occur.

The informal discussion groups are being hosted via ZOOM video conferencing and are open to all parents of children aged between 3-12 years.

'Managing Fighting and Aggression', Thursday 8/10/20 10am-12pm, Weds 11/11/20 10am-12pm, Weds 2/12/20 7pm-9pm

'Dealing with Disobedience', Tues 20/10/20 7pm-9pm, Weds 4/11/20, 7pm-9pm.
Due to limited places, pre-booking required. To book a place please contact TripleP@bedford.gov.uk or call 07468 472558

Spare Clothes

We are desperate to receive any donations of boys and girls underwear (including socks/tights), for use when children have 'accidents' at school. We particularly need small size items for children in Reception/Yr.1. Please can we also ask that if your child comes home wearing 'school' underwear/uniform, that they are washed and returned to school as soon as possible to replenish our stocks. Thank you for your help.



Recipe of the Month

Carrot and Banana Muffins

Why not try making these tasty Muffins at home with your children. Just follow the link below:

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/user/7698416/recipe/banana-carrot-and-date-muffins>

