



Newsletter

"Being honest may not get you a lot of friends, but it will always get you the right ones" - John Lennon

Latest News

This year we are supporting:

SAMARITANS



Year 5—Viking Day

On Thursday, the Year 5 children were visited by the Viking blacksmith, Eric Erickson. The children enjoyed exploring Viking weapons and armour, which built up to a class vs class battle with shields! They also learnt about the infamous Norse Gods and monsters, and scrutinised artefacts to determine their use. Finally, the children enjoyed writing their names and hidden messages in Runes. The children looked amazing in their Viking costumes and participated with excitement and curiosity throughout the day! Year 5 would like to thank our wonderful PTA for funding this fantastic enrichment day!

Maths Enrichment Day

On Wednesday, a group of six Year 5 children went to The Chandler school for the Aim High Maths day, led across a number of local schools by a nationally-recognised expert and author in maths. Throughout the day, the children were given a series of maths problems to solve and difficult questions for which they had to find patterns and explain themselves using technical vocabulary and reasoning. Our children excelled in this environment and, whilst it was not a competition, they certainly showed fine maths skills that were more than a match for the others attending. Naturally their behaviour was superb; it did not go unnoticed that our children were the only ones to each thank the expert for the day. Well done to Izzy, Lotta, Niko, Daniel, Jonathan and Alfie.



10R—Hero Week

Next week sees us learn about different 'heroes' across the school as part of our first 10richment week of 2025. Once again, Year 3 will learn about people to admire from the LGBTQ+ community, Year 4 focus on 'heroic' women, Year 5 study 'people of colour' and Year 6 learn about local heroes. This is also a perfect opportunity for 'home talks' to take place for parents to share with their children people they admire and why. These can be local people, family members, friends, high profile people or people from history. Mr Samson will also be sharing people he admires in Monday's assembly and launching the Hero Week 'optional' homework task of rewriting the lyrics to the song Imagine by John Lennon 'imagining' what John would write about if he was alive today, the things we could do without or less of and what the world needs more of...



Samaritans Charity Football Match Vs Farncombe United FC

On Monday 20th January, widely known as 'Blue Monday' 'Inter' GJS (green) take on Farncombe United FC (white) in aid of our adopted charity for the year. Kick off is at 7.00pm at Broadwater School as we raise awareness of the wonderful work Samaritans do every day!

House Points

Jupiter	1719
Mars	1608
Saturn	1402
Neptune	1298



Our VALUE in focus is: HONESTY

As we enter a new half term, our 'in focus' value become HONESTY. Closely aligned to TRUST and FRIENDSHIP, all members of staff will be on the look out to spot examples of HONESTY throughout the school. As always, please do you all you can to support the school in promoting the value at home and maybe discuss with your child the John Lennon quote at the top of the newsletter and what is meant by it, which Mr Samson discussed with Year 4 this week during their PSHE lessons!

GJS Breakfast Club

We continue to provide our Breakfast Club for GJS children in partnership with KOOSA. This is open from 7.45am and is run by GJS staff. A breakfast of cereal, toast and fresh fruit will be provided daily!

GLP Initial Teacher Training Course—September 2025 intake

The window for enrolling onto our successful year long teacher training programme in partnership with Winchester University, an outstanding teacher training provider, is now open. We are welcoming applicants keen to pursue a career in teaching to join our next cohort of trainees. We have a 100% pass rate and offer a genuinely holistic and innovative programme leading to teachers entering the profession with resilience, confidence and creativity. Further information about the GLP teacher training course can be found here or you are more than welcome to share with others and contact Mr Samson, as the course coordinator, to find out more via the school office.

And Finally...

As we start 2025, we want to encourage the children to not be as wasteful at lunchtimes when having their hot lunches. Those that have school dinners have more choice than ever before over a 3 week period and whilst Twelve 15 make changes based on the levels of waste they see, we would really like the children to play their part too and keep food waste to a minimum.



Our Designated Safeguard Lead, Operation Encompass Key Adult and Attendance Lead is:
Mr Samson—HT

Our Deputy Designated Safeguard Leads are:
Mr Maclver—Deputy HT
Mrs Wilkinson—SENCo
Mrs Munz—Bursar
Mrs Kirby—HSLW

'It's everyone's business'

PTA News

Wednesday 26th March—School Spring Disco (please note date change)
Friday 28th March—Parent’s Quiz Friday
Wednesday 9th & Thursday 10th July—Year 6 Play
Friday 11th July—Summer Fair

School Achievement

Pupils of the Week

3AR – Beatrix
3EC – Christian
4JS – Oli
4NS – Darcy
5NM – Toby
5KW – Maddie
6EM – Nico
6SD – Loretta



98%

COMMUNITY Values Champions

3AR – Pearl
3EC – Ella C
4JS – Amy
4NS – Josie
5KW – Frank
5NM – Benjamin
6EM – Sophia
6SD – Mimi



Sports News

As we start a new term we want to build on the wonderful opportunities the children had last term. Sign-up sheets are already with class teachers for children to put their name down if they want to take part in the Inter house Football Tournaments taking place later this month. Dates below. These tournaments will take place during their usual PE slots and the only change the children need to implement is wearing their house t-shirt rather than their PE one. House t-shirts are available all year round from the school office. Children are to wear what they normally wear for PE and shin pads are optional as there will be **no boots allowed**. 70% of the school have already represented their house this year, it would be great if that number increases further...

Good luck to the Year 5/6 team taking part in the Sports Hall Athletics event at Woolmer Hill net week on 23rd January. We will find out how they got on in next week’s newsletter.

We also have a lower school and upper school benchball event at Rodborough later this term. Trials for Year 3 and 4 children are **next Friday** afternoon (24th) with Bill Bingham and Mr Samson. Those interested are to come to school in their PE kits. Trials for Year 5 and 6 children interested will take place the **following Friday** (31st). Children in the upper school wishing to take part will also need to come in PE kits that day.

Diary Dates

Spring 2025

January	
20th–24th:	10R—Hero Week
20th:	Samaritans Football Match @ Broadwater 7-8pm
21st:	Y6 Jack Phillips Walk
22nd:	Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics @ Woolmer Hill
27th–31st:	Y6 Mock SATs Week
February	
3rd:	Inter House Football Tournament—Y3
4th:	Inter House Football Tournament—Y5
5th:	Inter House Football Tournament—Y6
5th:	James Rattue ‘Honesty’ Assembly
7th:	Inter House Football Tournament—Y4
12th:	Y3/4 Benchball Tournament @ Rodborough
14th:	Inset Day—School Closed
17th–21st:	Half Term
26th:	Y5/6 Benchball Tournament @ Rodborough
26th:	Y6 SATs Parent Talk 5.00pm
28th:	Y6 WW2 Workshop

