



Newsletter

We are proudly Supporting



BritishRedCross

'If we really want to love, we must learn how to forgive' - Mother Teresa

Latest News



Cool Christmas Assemblies

School Choir

What a festive and musical week we've had at GJS! As well as our Carol Assemblies, we had the GJS Choir open the fair last Friday! They performed beautifully, set a real festive mood and had some parents welling up! The Choir were also invited to perform at the Mayor's Christmas Carol service on Sunday where they sang an acapella version of Starry Night to a full church. They sang beautifully, their behaviour was spectacular and every child really did GJS proud! It's been lovely to hear praise about how happy and beautifully the children performed. So thank you so much to all those who were able to attend one or both performances!

Carol Assemblies

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Carol Assemblies this week and helped us all get into the festive spirit! The children performed superbly and were a credit to the school. We hope the message of **FORGIVENESS** was clear and that at this time of year, it is an important value to remember. We would like to wish **ALL** members of the GJS community a restful, joyous and memorable break. **HAPPY CHRISTMAS!**

Value—Spring 1—FRIENDSHIP

Next term our attention focuses on the value of **FRIENDSHIP**. PSHE lessons, Circle Times and weekly assemblies will all centre around the value, what are the ingredients of a good friend? When have friendships been tested? And how do you know if you are a good friend? - Are just some of the questions that will be discussed. Once again, we appreciate any 'home talks' on the value you can carry out with the children to give another perspective.

Reading Passports

Well done to all the children who engaged with the Reading Passport initiative this term and a special well done to all the children who read **ALL** 8 of the books and achieved their **GOLD** award! Whilst it is optional to take part, it is proven that the more children read the more successful they will be academically. It is never too late to pick up a book! We look forward to seeing the number taking part grow next term!

Attendance

This term, for the first time, we are sharing our attendance data for the term [here](#). At GJS we have been consistent high performers locally and nationally when it comes to attendance and we will be sharing the data each term. The data shows national averages, our attendance data and also information regarding how being late over time significantly affects attendance. We would like to take this time to remind you that our school registers are taken at **8.35am** and children need to be in class at this time.

Anti Bullying Break Time Award

Well done to 5SD who are the most recent recipients of the AB Break Time Award for being the 'stand out' class playing with kindness, inclusion and fairness this term—as voted by those who supervise the children daily at GJS at break and lunch times. The prestigious trophy will live in 5SD for the Spring term until our next review, they will also receive extra astro time!

Staff Vacancy—Clerk to the Governors

We are still looking for a Clerk to the Governors to work at the school. This is a flexible role for four hours per week, term time only. You will be required to attend three Governor meetings per term. For more information please click [here](#).

Godalming Library

Godalming Library have a range of events on throughout the Christmas holidays, including a 'Winter Mini Reading Challenge' which runs from December 1st to 19th February. More information can be found here <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/your-library/find-your-nearest/godalming/events-and-activities>.

Kind Request

We have noticed an alarming number of cases where parents have changed the picking up arrangements for children over the course of the term and **each day** the office staff are struggling to pass on messages to the class teachers in time before the end of the day and this has led to children not sure of the arrangements themselves and leading to potential safeguarding issues. Whilst we understand that people are leading busy lives and situations change, we do ask you that you try and prioritize the arrangement that is in place or you alert the office at the earliest possible time and **before lunchtime each day**. We also ask that you contact the office via telephone as emails may not be picked up in time. As we return in January we hope that arrangements are more settled and the number of parents contacting the office with any changes significantly reduces.



Every student. Every day.

House Points

| | |
|---------|-------|
| Saturn | 17164 |
| Mars | 16976 |
| Neptune | 16042 |
| Jupiter | 16002 |




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

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

'It's everyone's business'

PTA News

Thanks to all those who attended the Christmas Fair on Friday. We had a wonderful performance by the school choir and lots of stalls run by the volunteers; it was wonderful to see so many enjoying a school community event. We raised a very significant amount of money with a profit of £2,068, all of which goes towards enriching our children's education.

Have a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you at future PTA events in 2024.

- Wednesday 7th February—School Spring Disco
- Friday 22nd March—Parent's Quiz
- Friday 14th June—Parent's Casino Night
- Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th July—Year 6 Play
- Friday 12th July—Summer Fair

School Achievement

Pupil of the Week

- 3AR — Arianne
- 3EC — Luna
- 4JA — Frank
- 4RH — Solomon
- 5SD — Alex
- 5NM — Alfie
- 6EM — Lilian
- 6TA — Charlie



Attendance Winners: 3AR — 98%



FORGIVENESS Values Champions

- 3AR — Dylan
- 3EC — Louis
- 4JA — Evie
- 4RH — Theo
- 5SD — Beth
- 5NM — Lulu
- 6EM — William
- 6TA — Jemima



Autumn Anti Bullying Stars Champions: 5SD

Sports News

Year 4 Bench Ball @ Rodborough

Well done to both A and B Teams who represented the school this week at Rodborough for the Bench Ball Tournament and ended up winning the event overall. The teams did so well against the other 3 schools, we ended up playing each other in the final! (Awkward) Once again, our children were fantastic ambassadors for the school and a privilege to be with!

Physical Activity @ GJS—Autumn Data

We have recently gathered and analysed data at GJS concerning the extra curricular sports provision and also participation levels. The data can be found [here](#), where you will also find our actions for the spring term.

- Number of children who have represented their house: 60%
- Number of children who have represented the school: 30%



Diary Dates

Spring 2024

January

- 2nd: Spring Term Starts
- 8th: David Fuller Assembly
- 8th: Sayers Croft 2024 Meeting
- 9th: UKSA 2024 Meeting
- 15th—19th: 10R—Hero Week
- 19th: Football Festival @ Broadwater
- 26th: IH Football Tournament

February

- 7th: PTA Disco—TBC
- 8th: Basketball Tournament @ Rodborough
- 9th: **INSET DAY**
- 12th—16th: Half Term

March

- 4th—8th: 10R—Book Week
- 7th: World Book Day
- 8th: Dance Festival @ Broadwater
- 9th: Swimming Gala @ Charterhouse
- 11th—15th: 10R—Science Week
- 12th: Parent-Teacher Meetings (Late) TBC
- 13th: GLP Board Meeting
- 14th: Parent-Teacher Meetings (Early) TBC



Inset Days 2023/24
~~Friday 1st September 2023~~
~~Monday 30th October 2023~~
Friday 9th February 2024
Monday 15th April 2024
Friday 24th May 2024