



Newsletter

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" - Martin Luther King Jr

Latest News

This year we are supporting:

SAMARITANS



GJS Carols by Candlelight

Thank you to everyone who came along to our GJS Christmas events this week and get fully into the festive spirit! It was so great to witness superb singing, splendid speaking and a true sense of **community** with Penny and Paul Rivers joining us for both the Year 3 and Year 6 carols. We were also treated to some festive cheer from our resident violinist, Kayla in Year 6 who played our entry music each day!

School Attendance

Continuing our focus on maintaining high levels of attendance at GJS, you should have received our termly reminder letter to all parents further informing our **community** on our position on attendance, offering advice and continuing to request that no holidays are taken during term time as they are all considered unauthorised and parents could incur a penalty notice. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents that school registers are taken at **8.35am**, when the gates are closed and it is imperative that children are in their class at this time.

Christmas Jumper Day

The children looked great today in all their festive attire raising valuable funds for our chosen charity this year, Samaritans!

Writing TRANSFORMERS

Today we celebrated the recipients of our first Writing Transformer awards of the year. These are children who have **TRANSFORMED** their writing since September and whose work is displayed in the school hall. Accompanying the work displayed, is a blurb explaining WHY this person has been chosen. We celebrate a child from each class each term as we continue to keep writing an 'in focus' area.

Our VALUE in focus is: COMMUNITY

Congratulations to our Community Values Champions who were recognised today at our final Celebration Assembly of 2024, for their positive role modelling, their excellent contributions and their general all-round 'good eggness' at GJS. Always a difficult decision for class teachers, the recipients can be found on the reverse of the newsletter. There have been so many examples of **community** at GJS this term, which has been wonderful to see first hand. We now turn our attention to our spring 'in focus' value, **honesty**.

SMART Phone News

Thank you to all the children of GJS who followed the request and not bring their phone to the Christmas Fair, especially as their parents were on site. Please ensure this request continues to be upheld at further events such as discos and the Summer Fair later in the school year.

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!

Break Time Snacks

If your child requires a snack at morning break please ensure you send them in with it each day. Children who do bring in a snack should not be sharing theirs with others to ensure food allergy protocols are adhered to.

And Finally...

Our final 3 remaining places for those interested in taking part in the charity football match at Broadwater on **Monday 20th January**, known as 'Blue Monday', in aid of Samaritans are still up for grabs. There is still time for parents to put themselves forward, if available between 7.00–8.00pm on the 20th January AND are willing to donate a minimum 'entrance fee' of £10 to play. Parents are also welcome to use this as a sponsored event to raise even more funds using the sponsor form, available from the school office, should they wish to. ALL proceeds are going towards supporting Samaritans. Space on the teams are limited so the sooner parents contact Mr Samson, either in person or via email, the more likely you will be to secure a space on the 'greens' or the 'whites'! Those interested can contact Mr Samson directly via: head@godalming-junior.surrey.sch.uk.



House Points	Autumn Total
Mars	19026
Jupiter	17452
Saturn	16197
Neptune	12931



SAFEGUARDING

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 £2,410, 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 2025.

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

Autumn Writing TRANSFORMERS

- 3AR — Adelyn
- 3EC — Anais
- 4JS — Chester
- 4NS — Tilly
- 5NM — Lily
- 5KW — Alfie
- 6EM — Khalia
- 6SD — Amara



Autumn Term—98%

COMMUNITY Values Champions

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



GJS Autumn Sports Summary

Well done to all the children who have embraced the sporting opportunities on offer at GJS this term, whether taking part in our autumn house event, putting themselves forward in school trials or representing the school at various tournaments.

Broadly dominated by football, GJS entered 6 teams in ALL football tournaments at Tillingbourne this term winning one, being narrowly beaten finalists in another and securing semi-final positions in 2 others.

At the Glebelands Cross Country event we had nearly 30 children represent the school securing medal positions in the Year 4 girls race, the Year 5 boys race and Year 6 girls race.

We also had our Year 4's take part in a Sports Hall Athletics event at Broadwater, introducing them to the specific races. Next term our Year 5/6 children will taking part in their event at Woolmer Hill, trials have been taking place recently to find our team!

As for our house events, we had 167 children from across the school take part in our Chippie Chase way back in September. This equated to 70% of the school! Early next term the children will be asked to sign up if they are interested in taking part in the IH Football Tournaments. More details will follow in January.

70% of the school have represented their house so far this year

AND...33% of children have represented the school so far this year

Godalming Junior School

Diary Dates

Autumn 2024

December	
20th:	End of Term @ 1.15pm
January	
6th:	Start of Term
9th:	'Chance to Shine' Cricket Assembly
16th:	Year 5 'Viking Day'
20th—24th:	10R—Hero Week
20th:	Samaritans Football Match @ Broadwater 7-8pm
23rd:	Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics @ Woolmer Hill
27th—31st:	Year 6 Mock SATs Week
31st:	Inter House Football Tournament—Year 4
February	
3rd:	Inter House Football Tournament—Year 3
4th:	Inter House Football Tournament—Year 5
5th:	Inter House Football Tournament—Year 6
12th:	Year 3/4 Benchball Tournament @ Rodborough
14th:	Inset Day—School Closed
17th—21st:	Half Term

Inset Days 2024-25

Monday 2nd September 2024

Friday 25th October 2024

Friday 14th February 2025

Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Friday 23rd May 2025