



"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



Carols for Commuters

On Wednesday, our upper school choir played an impromptu concert for startled commuters at Farncombe Station! Those boarding their trains were treated to 3 songs from the GJS choir and were so impressive, even local resident and Town Mayor Paul and Penny Rivers joined us! Another fine example of the children at GJS 'doing their bit' for their community!

School Attendance

Continuing our focus on maintaining high levels of attendance at GJS, next week we will be sending out 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. Well done to 3EC who are the class with the highest attendance this term since 3rd September with 98%.

10R—Human Rights Week

This week the children were immersed in all things 'Rights Respecting' as part of Human Rights Week, our 4th 10richment week of the year, and coinciding with World Human Rights Day. There has been an art focus in Year 3 on the various 'articles', year 5 and 6 workshops on smart technology, see below, and Mr Samson shared our UNICEF Rights Respecting journey on Monday in assembly. Did you know...there are over 80million children missing out on education around the world!

GJS Carols by Candlelight

We are looking forward to our carol events next week. We are asking that only 2 adults attend and we are asking that ALL seats are taken in order for all to see and enjoy. We will be asking parents to enter via the Year 3 external doors each day, ready for a prompt 9.15am start. Each event will be approximately 30 minutes and we ask that ALL parents leave via the Year 3 external doors and the Hallam Road gate only. We will be collecting for Samaritans, the GJS charity this year, at the end of each event.

Our VALUE in focus is: COMMUNITY

In the lead up to Christmas, our 'in focus' value continues to be COMMUNITY. All staff continue to be on the 'look out' for children displaying a sense of community on the playground and outside of school. On Monday, Kayla in Year 6 played the violin beautifully for our school community as they came in to assembly with her rendition of the very festive 'Last Christmas'. The value is also the theme for our 'Carols by Candlelight' next week! Please continue to reinforce this value at home. Feel free to have 'home talks' on our values and maybe even share examples of how we can all contribute positively to our COMMUNITY!

Upper School SMART Phone Workshops

On Tuesday, the Upper School took part in Smartphone workshops with Sammy from PAPAYA. They discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the internet and how companies use persuasive design to make devices more addictive for the user. They also discussed how device use affects mental health and the children were shocked to discover that the average 12-year-old spends around 3 hours and 48 minutes on devices a day, which equates to over 10 years during their lifetime! The children were all very reflective on their own behaviour around the devices they have access to and gave thoughtful contributions to discussions.

GJS Breakfast Club

We continue to provide our NEW 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...

There are the last 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. 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



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

Christmas Fair—Tonight 4.30-7.30pm

A huge thanks for all the wonderful hamper donations, bottles and sweet jars that have been dropped off the last few weeks. We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the fair tonight.

As for the event itself, the school choir will be performing in the school hall from 5.00pm. We are requesting that children attending with adults do not bring phones to the fair, please ensure children do not access any play equipment or the trim trail and entrance will only be via the Hallam Road gate.

As per previous PTA events we will be running the token scheme again for people to pay for the games and stalls. The value of each token is 50p and the stalls will cost either 50p or £1, so either 1 token or 2. If not already purchased the tokens can be paid for on the night from a dedicated stall, or cash can be used.

We look forward to seeing you there and getting into the Christmas Spirit!

School Achievement

Pupil of the Week

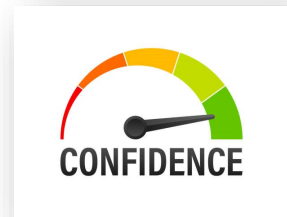
- 3AR — Sophia
- 3EC — Ray
- 4JS — Sophia
- 4NS — Georgia
- 5NM — Henry A
- 5KW — Ruby
- 6EM — Juno
- 6SD — Harley



Autumn Term—98%

CONFIDENCE Values Champions

- 3AR — William
- 3EC — Olivia
- 4JS — Oli
- 4NS — Elvey
- 5KW — Abigail
- 5NM — Henry
- 6EM — Maggie
- 6SD — Lexi



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

- 13th: Christmas Fair—4.30–7.30pm
- 16th: Y3 Carols by Candlelight @ 9.15am
- 17th: Y4 Carols by Candlelight @ 9.15am
- 18th: Y5 Carols by Candlelight @ 9.15am
- 18th: Christmas Lunch
- 19th: Y6 Carols by Candlelight @ 9.15am
- 20th: Christmas Jumper Day (for Samaritans)
- 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
- 31st: Inter House Football Tournament—Year 4

Inset Days 2024-25

- Monday 2nd September 2024
- Friday 25th October 2024
- Friday 14th February 2025
- Tuesday 22nd April 2025
- Friday 23rd May 2025