



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



Parent-Teacher Consultations

Details were sent out earlier this week of how to book your child's Parent/Teacher meeting via Arbor. Appointments are filling up fast, so we urge you to sign up as soon as possible as this is a good opportunity to find out how your child is progressing socially, emotionally and academically.

World Book Day

Special Announcement: the theme for this year's World Book Day dress-up is FANTASY! Channel your inner 'Potters', 'Baggins' or 'Shorts' and come dressed up as one of your favourite fantasy characters from the book world. As a school, WE will be dressing up on Friday 7th March.

GJS Quiz Night-Friday 28th March

Following the half term break we will be sticking with tradition by planting Quiz Night clues, answers to questions on the night, within the weekly newsletter leading up to the quiz. This means there will be at least 5 extra points available, simply by closely examining the newsletter each week, which we are sure you all do anyway! This will be the only prompt you get so keep your eyes peeled from 28th February onwards...

Digital Parenting Workshop

St James School in Elstead is hosting an in-person and live streamed talk with the Lucy Faithfull Foundation on 'Positive Parenting in a Digital World' on Wednesday 12th March, 6-7.30pm. Please click [here](#) for more information on the Foundation.

Young Minds Young Designer Art Competition

CALLING ALL YOUNG CREATIVES. Young Minds, the youth mental health charity, which GJS supports each year, are launching their young designer competition giving the chance for children to help design pieces of the Hello Yellow kids-wear collection to be sold in M&S stores and online. To find out more, follow the link [here](#).

Our HONESTY Values Champions

Well done to all our HONESTY Values Champions, announced during Monday's assembly. Previous winners Arthur and Leo helped Mr Samson during the ceremony hand out certificates. A full list of the VC's can be found on the reverse of the newsletter. Next half term, our attention turns to the value of TOLERANCE, when the children will learn the importance of this value, what it 'looks like' at GJS, how we try and engender a culture of this value at school and the dangers of intolerance in society. Once again, any 'home talks' you can have with the children on the value is always much appreciated.

AB Break Time Award

Following an analysis of our CPOMS platform in school, identifying the frequency of behaviour incidents, 6SD were awarded the AB Break Time Award for Spring 1 this week after accumulating 0 incidents for the entire half term! Incidents are generally extremely low and infrequent at GJS anyway but for there to be 0 negative behaviour incidents by a whole class for an entire half term, is impressive. They follow 3AR who also accumulated 0 incidents last half term in the lead up to Christmas and gain additional break time privileges on Fridays. The AB Break Time Award was introduced by our Anti-Bullying St☆rs in 2022 as a way of rewarding those who uphold our school values and UNICEF Rights Respecting status each break and lunchtime.

KOOSA News

Watch this space for more information on the holiday club that KOOSA will be running at GJS, due to start in the Easter holidays. We also 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!

Samaritans Stationery

We now have some 'limited edition' Samaritans pens for sale in the school office to help us raise money for our adopted charity this year. They are available for 50p and are to be used at home not in lessons. Maybe a good present...?

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.



House Points

Saturn	1733
Mars	1693
Neptune	1640
Jupiter	1542



Our Designated Safeguard Lead, Operation Encompass Key Adult and Attendance Lead 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

Upcoming Events—more information to follow after half term
Wednesday 26th March—School Spring Disco (please note date change)
Friday 28th March—Parent’s Quiz Night

URGENT—Unfortunately our intended new Chair is no longer available, so we are now needing a new Chair and Treasurer to help with the running of the PTA. This is now becoming more urgent as without a Chair or Treasurer we can’t function as a charity. If you are interested in getting involved with the PTA or want to know more details please reach out to Phil (philipdcurtis@hotmail.com) or Rhian (Rhianhooper@hotmail.com) who can give you an overview of what is required.

School Achievement

Pupils of the Week
 3AR – Winston
 3EC – Anne-Marie
 4JS – Noah
 4NS – Dotty
 5NM – Reuben
 5KW – Henry
 6EM – Elena
 6SD – Emelia



98%

HONESTY Values Champions

3AR – Kane
 3EC – Rowan
 4JS – Wilbur
 4NS – Maria
 5KW – Ella
 5NM – Isobel
 6EM – Syd
 6SD – George



Sports News

Y4 Benchball Tournament @ Rodborough

On Wednesday Mr Samson and Mrs Williams attended the annual Year 4 Bench Ball Tournament at Rodborough School with our GJS team! After a number of drills and warm up activities it was time to take part in the competitive element of the morning against 4 other teams. After hard fought battles against Busbridge and The Chandler it was our team that accumulated the most points and won the event overall! The event was superbly run by the young leaders at Rodborough and once again, GJS played every game in a great spirit and were fantastic role models for the school.

Let’s see if the upper school can follow in their footsteps after half term!



♫ Year 4 Bench-Ball Winners - February 2025 ♪

Diary Dates

Spring 2025

February
 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

March
 3rd–7th: **10R—Book Week**
 4th: Parent–Teacher Consultations—Late
 6th: Parent–Teacher Consultations—Early
 7th: GJS Book Day ‘Fantasy’ Dress Up
 10th–14th: **10R—Science**
 17th–21st: **10R—Earth**
 26th: PTA Discos
 28th: Parent’s Quiz Night

