



Newsletter

"Nothing can dim the light that shines from within" - Maya Angelou

Latest News



E-Safety

We are sure you are aware of the growing 'smartphone free childhood' campaign that is gathering significant traction up and down the country. We wanted to inform you that The Godalming Learning Partnership of schools, of which GJS is a founder member, are considering their position on this matter. Discussions are underway to arrange a parent talk on the subject in the coming months at one of our schools and we would welcome parental views on this important topic. We feel we want to be as transparent as possible and any decision made here needs to be as balanced as possible and give parents the most amount of time possible to consider their own position and next steps. In the coming months, we intend to engage with various stakeholders, including the children themselves on the topic. There will be an update on the GJS position before the end of term as there may be parents of upper school or Year 6 children, considering smart phones for their child as a Christmas gift. We would urge parents, at this stage, to certainly delay this decision IF the child is at GJS from September 2025.

Year 5 Trip to Tilford Mosque

On Wednesday, Year 5 had a fantastic trip to the Mubarak Mosque in Tilford. We have been learning about Islam this term and the visit supplemented that by giving us some excellent firsthand insight into life as a Muslim living and working in that local community. Henry said that he thought that, "The hosts were so clear and helpful when they were explaining what their life is like as a Muslim at the mosque." Amelia said that, "The patterns on the inside of the mosque were beautiful and unique." She admired the Arabic writing as well.

School Photographs

We have the school photographers, Imago, in school on **Tuesday 22nd October** to take individual and sibling photographs. Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed in the correct autumn/winter uniform. **Year 5** should come to school in school uniform and bring PE kit in a bag to change into afterwards.

Illness

As we enter the 'ber months and the weather gets slightly chillier, please can we remind parents that continued high attendance is a school priority. NHS guidance states that unless a child has a temperature of 38 degrees or above, they are usually ok to attend school. Please be reassured that staff will send your child home if we feel they are too poorly to be here. We appreciate your continued support in this.

Secondary School Admissions

Year 6 parents and carers can now apply for a secondary school place for their child. Applications must be submitted by **Thursday 31st October**, but as this falls within half-term we recommend applying by **Friday 25th October**. Further details have been emailed.

Our VALUE in focus is: CONFIDENCE

This term, fittingly with children moving year groups, new children joining the school and Year 6 attending their residential trip, our first 'in focus' value is **CONFIDENCE**. All staff will be on the 'look out' for children displaying confidence in lessons, on the playground and even during their residential trip away from home! The more this can be further reinforced at home, the better. Please feel free to have 'home talks' on our values and maybe even share examples when YOU have had to show confidence, face your fears and generally YOUR views on the value and the importance of being confident in life and the reality that we ALL lack confidence at some point!

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join our active and supportive Governing Body. This is a voluntary role, and you will be required to attend three committee meetings per year and three Full Governing Body Meetings. Should you be interested in applying, please contact our Clerk, Shannon Hall on clerk@godalming-junior.surrey.sch.uk.

Poetry Competition

Thank you to ALL the children who entered their **Love**, **Live** or/and **Learn** poems over the past few weeks. We are now busy judging them and will let you know the outcome in due course!

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!

And Finally...

I am sure you will join us in congratulating Mr and Mrs Avenell as they welcomed baby Arabella into the world last week. The family are doing well we are all looking forward to Arabella popping in for a visit to GJS soon!



House Points

Mars	1713
Saturn	1400
Jupiter	1316
Neptune	1202



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—SENC
Mrs Munz—Bursar
Mrs Kirby—HSLW

'It's everyone's business'

PTA News

School Disco—Wednesday 23rd October

Calling all young John Travoltas and Olivia Newton-Johns, it's time to get your dancing shoes on for the Annual Autumn School Disco. Tickets are £5 and include refreshments. Please see flyer accompanying the newsletter for full details.

We are still looking for a treasurer to help with the running of the PTA. If you are interested please reach out to Phil (philipcurtis@hotmail.com) or Rhian (Rhianhooper@hotmail.com). Without a Treasurer we can't function as a charity.

Other Key Dates:

Christmas Fair—Friday 13th December

School Achievement

Pupil of the Week

- 3AR – Freddie
- 3EC – Lase
- 4JS – Sadie
- 4NS – Theo
- 5NM – Daniel
- 5KW – Flynn
- 6EM – Alex
- 6SD – Amara



PERSEVERANCE Values Champions

- 3AR – Julia
- 3EC – Lily
- 4JA – Khushi
- 4RH – Rhys
- 5SD – Kira
- 5NM – Mia
- 6EM – Amelia
- 6TA – Ted



Attendance Winners: = 98%



Sports News

Football Tournament @ Tillingbourne

Good luck to the GJS girls who are taking part in the annual football tournament at Tillingbourne today. We are sure they will all do the school proud and we will let you know next week how they get on.

Glebelands Cross Country—Saturday 16th November—1.00—2.30pm

Those interested in the annual cross country inter school event at Glebelands next month can sign up from **Monday**, if they are interested. The 'Chippie Chase' was a great warm up event for children interested, though it is worth remembering, the 'Chippie Chase' is about half the distance of the races at Glebelands. More details will follow next week with exact timings and details.

Diary Dates

Autumn 2024

October	
22nd:	Individual Photos
23rd:	Y3 'Stone Age' Day
25th:	Inset Day
28th—1st:	Half Term
November	
4th:	Y6 Science @ Charterhouse begins
9th:	Prospective Parent Tour @ 10.00am
11th—15th:	10R—Remembrance Week
11th:	Prospective Parent Tour @ 9.00am
12th:	Prospective Parent Tour @ 10.45am
13th:	Prospective Parent Tour @ 6.00pm
16th:	Glebelands Cross Country Run
18th:	Y4 Sports Hall Athletics @ Broadwater
19th:	Parent/Teacher Meetings—Late
21st:	Parent/Teacher Meetings—Early
22nd:	Y6 'Born Free' Presentation
28th:	Y5 Viking Day
29th:	Y3 Maya Assembly
29th:	Y3 and Y5 Football Tournament @ Tillingbourne
December	
13th:	Christmas Fair—4.00—7.30pm

Inset Days 2024/25
~~Monday 2nd September 2024~~
Friday 25th October 2024
Friday 14th February 2025
Tuesday 22nd April 2025
Friday 23rd May 2025

