

Newsletter



"Life is about our growth, not our trophies" - Bear Grylls

Latest News

Welcome Back

Welcome back to every member of the GJS community and a special welcome to our new families to the school! We all hope you had a wonderful summer; seeing loved ones, being active, relaxing and generally 'switching off'. Every child has started back to life at school with great energy, optimism and an eagerness to learn. It is sure to be a fantastic year with so much going on across the school! Our first 10 enrichment weeks take place this term, our inter house events getting underway, our Year 3 PTA welcome BBQ taking place next week and Year 6 enjoying their residential trip to UKSA very soon. It was great to see so many of you at our Curriculum Evenings this week and we hope you found out a little more about life in your child's year group this year. As promised, below are links to the year group areas on the school website where you will find the presentations and other key information:

- [Year 3](#)
- [Year 4](#)
- [Year 5](#)
- [Year 6](#)

RESILIENCE Values Champions

This year we will continue to immerse the children during school assemblies, circle times and PSHE lessons in our school values. Each half term we learn about, promote, reflect and consider one of our 'Desirable Dozen' values and what these values 'look like' in others, in our behaviours, in society and consider ways we can develop these values in ourselves. At GJS we hold our values very dear and believe that during their time here, whilst becoming academically successful, we want EVERY child to become more socially and emotionally aware. Our unique values education plays a significant part in achieving this and helps the behaviour at GJS continue to be a true strength.

This term, fittingly with children moving year groups and new children joining the school, our first 'in focus' value is **RESILIENCE**. All staff will be on the 'look out' for children displaying resilience 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 continue 'home talks' on our values and maybe even share examples YOU have had to show resilience and generally YOUR views on the value and the importance of being resilient in life!

Medical Forms

If your child requires ongoing regular treatment within school please ensure a new medical care plan is completed and returned to the office, along with in-date medical supplies. The form can be found [here](#)

Mobile Phones and Smart Devices


If you feel it is necessary for your child to have a mobile phone or any smart device in school, a request in writing must be sent to the Headteacher and, if accepted, the phone/device must be handed into the school office when your child arrives at school in the morning and collected at the end of the school day.

Going Home Arrangements

Please call the office by 1.30pm if there is going to be a change to your normal collection arrangements on that day. Any regular alternative arrangements you have in place for your child's end of day collection should be notified by email. Should you wish your child to leave school independently please complete the permission slip available from the office.



House Points	
Mars	1440
Saturn	1064
Neptune	987
Jupiter	930



SAFEGUARDING

Our Designated Safeguard Lead is:
Mr Samson—HT

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

PTA News

Welcome back to school from the PTA, hope you've all had a great summer. As it's the start of the year we are on the look out for year 3 class reps. If interested please let the office know and we will be in contact directly. If you would like to be involved with the PTA and can help out, please reach out to Phil (chairman).

Welcome BBQ Friday 15th September. We'd like to invite all Year 3 families to the school and meet teachers, parents and members of the PTA. The event will run from 5.30pm to 7.30pm with a cash/card bar and BBQ. Would be great to see as many of you as possible (fingers crossed on the weather).

Upcoming events: PTA AGM, School Autumn Disco, Christmas Fair. Dates to be confirmed.

School Achievement

Pupil of the Week:

3AR – Pru
3EC – Kayden
4JA – Theo
4RH – Sadie
5SD – Beth
5NM – Alex
6EM – Toby W
6TA – George



Attendance Winners: 6EM – 98.9%



Summer Anti Bullying Stars Champions: 4GS

CREATIVITY Values Champions

3CM – Oliver
3EC – Eva
4JL – Bobbie
4GS – Ella
5SD – Simona
5NM – Ben
6EM – Jess
6RH – Sammy



Sports News

Sport Provision 2023-24

As we start a new year at GJS, we continue to believe in being an inclusive school which offers as many opportunities as possible to as many children as possible. We will continue to offer inclusive house events that have become a unique part of our identity. Our Cross Country Run, the 'Chippie Chase', Football Tournament and our 'G-Ashes' Kwik Cricket Tournament will continue to be open to ANY child who wishes to participate, represent their house and score points! Class teachers were today made aware of the sign up form for the first of these events taking place at Canon Bowring Recreation Ground (Chippie Park) on Friday 29th September and more information on the route of the 'Chippie Chase' has been shared during today's Celebration Assembly.

We are pleased to announce that Bill Bingham will be extending his work with GJS and will be with us all day as part of our 'Fit Fridays' from September. On these days Bill will work alongside Mr Samson in running trials, practice sessions and also lead out Activ8 sessions across the school, as shared in this week's Curriculum Evenings. If you would like more information on anything 'sporty' please contact the school office or 'catch' Mr Samson before or after school.

Diary Dates

Autumn 2023

September

15th: House Elections
15th: PTA Welcome BBQ @ 5.30pm
18th-22nd: Y6 @ UKSA
29th: Inter House 'Chippie Chase' Fun Run

October

2nd-6th: 10R – Poetry Week
4th: School Photos – Individual
9th-13th: 10R – Healthy Week
13th: 'Hello Yellow' Young Minds Mufti Day

23rd-27th: HALF TERM

30th: INSET DAY

31st: Y6 Science @ Charterhouse

November

6th-10th: 10R – Remembrance Week
7th: Y6 Science @ Charterhouse
14th: Y6 Science @ Charterhouse
14th: Parent-Teacher Meetings (late)
16th: Parent-Teacher Meetings (Early)
21st: Y6 Science @ Charterhouse



Inset Days 2023/24

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