



Newsletter

"Tolerance and compassion are qualities of fearless people" - Paolo Coelho

Latest News

This year we are supporting:

SAMARITANS



Parent-Teacher Consultations

There is still time 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

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**. On Friday we will be running a 'Book Swap Shop' for PARENTS under the canopy on the front playground for anyone wishing to bring a book in and swap with another or simply take a book they fancy the look of. If you have a good quality book in great condition why not bring it in to swap!

Year 5 Illustrator Visit

Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed a creative writing workshop delivered by Internationally Published Author and Illustrator, Katie Hickey. Katie's workshop was all about the 1000-year-old trees that stand at Newlands Corner. The workshop explored everything the trees have 'seen' with the changes in landscape and history over that time. The children were fascinated by the mix of writing, drawing and history that Katie explained and discussed with them. As a parting gift, she also donated 30 copies of her book "The Thousand Year Tree" which are available for the children to borrow and read.

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. For those wishing to use the live stream on Microsoft Teams, please use the Meeting ID 399 645 716 098 and Passcode Qd7sP7M5.

Y6 World War Two Day

On Friday, Year 6 stepped back in time to World War Two. They were joined by Gareth, the ARP Warden, who taught them about the role of the ARP Warden and the timeline of the war. The children then had workshops in World War Two style first aid, and the extinguishing and disposing of incendiary bombs. They also had the opportunity to explore a range of artifacts and ask questions about what they had learnt. They all looked the part in their fantastic costumes and showed off their knowledge of our Battle of Britain topic. Many thanks to the PTA for funding this event. Year 6 are very grateful!

Our 'in focus' Value: TOLERANCE

This 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.

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!

'Supporting Children with Anxiety' Workshop

On Thursday evening, school hosted a presentation on supporting children with anxiety led by Nikki Brunton-Smith from Mindworks. Thanks very much to the parents and carers who were able to join. This interesting, evidence based presentation gave details on the science behind anxiety and how we can help our children when this feeling becomes overwhelming. We hope that sharing the strategies we use in school with home creates a consistent approach, so the children feel best supported and we have a 'shared message'. We look forward to further collaboration with Mindworks in the future and recommend their website for information and support, which can be found [here](#). We will also upload a copy of Nikki's presentation to our website.

And Finally...Operation: Waste Buster

Effort to reduce school lunch waste is well underway, with data being collected each day over the coming weeks in an attempt to raise the profile of waste with the children and any subtle changes we can make as a school too. Last week the total waste of **38.8kg** was recorded and is our benchmark figure. Please do all you can to reinforce this message at home as we attempt to see a decline in the level of waste in the coming weeks.

House Points

Saturn	1920
Mars	1502
Neptune	1544
Jupiter	1358



Our Designated Safeguard Lead, Operation Encompass Key Adult and Attendance Lead is:
Mr Samson—HT

Our Deputy Designated Safeguard Leads are:
Mr Clinton—Deputy HT
Mrs Wilkinson—SENCo
Mrs Munz—Bursar
Mrs Kirby—HSLW

'It's everyone's business'

PTA News

Upcoming Events—please see attached flyers
Wednesday 26th March—School Spring Disco
Friday 28th March—Parent’s Quiz Night

URGENT—we are in urgent need of a new Chair and Treasurer to help with the running of the PTA (these roles could be shared between two or three people). 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 (philipcurtis@hotmail.com) or Rhian (Rhianhooper@hotmail.com) who can give you an overview of what is required.

School Achievement

Pupils of the Week

- 3AR – Milo
- 3EC – Megan
- 4JS – Oliver
- 4NS – Jacinta
- 5NM – Albert
- 5KW – Ethan
- 6EM – Ruby
- 6SD – Josh



98%

HONESTY Values Champions

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



Sports News

Y5 and 6 Benchball Tournament @ Rodborough

Last week saw the upper school teams try their hand at Bench Ball and follow in the successful footsteps of Year 4...And they did not disappoint! GJS came 3rd overall out of 6 with one of the teams remaining undefeated throughout the event! Once the points were collated together, GJS secured its second podium finish in the two events coming 3rd.

Once again, the children were the amazing ambassadors we come to expect of representatives of the school nowadays, and were appreciative of both the adults and Young Leaders running the event!

We would like to thank Mrs Williams and Mrs Hudson for accompanying the children and Charterhouse, once again, for the use of their minibus!



Year 5/6 Bench Ball Team - 3rd Place - February 2025



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Diary Dates

Spring 2025

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| March | |
| 3rd–7th: | 10R–Book Week |
| 4th: | Parent–Teacher Meetings–Late |
| 6th: | Parent–Teacher Meetings–Early |
| 7th: | GJS Book Day ‘Fantasy’ Dress Up |
| 10th–14th: | 10R–Science |
| 15th: | Godalming Schools Swimming Gala @ Charterhouse |
| 17th–21st: | 10R–Earth |
| 24th–28th: | Scholastic Book Fair |
| 26th: | PTA Discos |
| 27th: | Y5 & Y6 Netball Tournament |
| 28th: | GJS Maths Day |
| 28th: | Parent’s Quiz Night |
| April | |
| 3rd: | Easter RE Day |
| 4th: | End of Term @ 1.15pm |
| 22nd: | INSET DAY |
| 23rd: | Start of Summer 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