



Newsletter

"Tolerance and compassion are qualities of fearless people" - Cliff Richard

Latest News

This year we are supporting:

SAMARITANS



Your PTA Needs You

As Phil Curtis, our current PTA Chair, has shared each week with you, we are needing a Chair to fill his shoes as we begin making plans for next year. As our Treasurer will also be moving on along with their child from Year 6, we also need to find a replacement for Rhian's role. As you will have read, these roles are pivotal to ensure PTA events happen across the year and crucial funds are raised for the school. Many of the events are pre-set and come with many notes on how they run and timings to begin plans. There are of course others who also help along the way to ensure the role is not too daunting on top of parent's day-to-day responsibilities. Without the roles filled there is a real risk of events not taking place and an even greater risk of losing the momentum that has been built over the years of further engendering the sense of COMMUNITY, which is so strong at GJS. Remember, the role can also be shared...Please contact Phil and Rhian if you want to find out more about the roles, using their details on the reverse of the newsletter!



10R—Science Week

It's been another successful Science Week at GJS!! Our theme has been 'Adapt and Change' and true to form, all the children have fully embraced the theme and shown great enthusiasm. In Year 6, we explored how butterflies have had to adapt and change over time in order to survive. In Year 4, we explored bee communication and applied our understanding of adapt and change to some of their computing work on Scratch! Year 5 linked the theme with their Earth and Space topic and explored how humans would need to adapt and change not just how they lived day to day, but also the rules and laws that they'd need to follow, and in Year 3 we explored animal adaptations and started really unpicking how different animals have changed over time in order to survive. As if that wasn't exciting enough, Year 3 were also very lucky to be visited by Dave Prangley and Adam Drury who are both engineers and came to talk to Year 3 about how they experience science in their jobs! Thanks to their brilliant lesson, many of the Year 3s are now inspired to explore engineering and what that could look like for them in the future! As always, we want to inspire as many children as possible to keep exploring Science and STEM long after their time at GJS is finished, so if you haven't already, we highly recommend going on the [Primary Science Teaching Trust website](#) and looking up some awesome scientists that might be just like your children!



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!

Inset Dates—2025-26

As school term dates for next year are now available online and can be found [here](#), we are beginning to firm up our 5 Inset Days for next year. Each year we try to hold them at the same points in the year and every effort is made to try and align them with other GLP schools, as well as our feeder schools.

- Preliminary dates for 2025-26 are:
- Wednesday 3rd September 2025
- Monday 3rd November 2025
- Friday 13th February 2026
- Monday 13th April 2026
- Friday 22nd May 2026


World Book Day—Staff Recommends...

As part of World Book Day last week, staff were asked to recommend their favourite books they have read over the last year. A selection of these have been sent along with the newsletter this week. We hope there is something there for all tastes!

And Finally...Operation: Waste Buster

In our effort to reduce school lunch waste, we have been attempting to raise the profile of waste with the children making any subtle changes we can make as a school too, by weighing our waste over the 3 weeks of our rolling spring menu. Today was the final data gathering exercise with our waste coming in at 30.4kg. This follows last week's total of 30.3kg and the previous week's total of 38.8kg. Over the 3 weeks, this has totaled 97.4kg, the equivalent to over 8000 chips! As we look forward to next week's 10richment focus of Earth Week, we hope we can continue our pursuit of reducing our food waste and we would appreciate any support from home too on this area.

House Points	
Jupiter	1137
Mars	1071
Neptune	1062
Saturn	1015




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

Our Deputy Designated Safeguard Leads are:
Mr Maclver—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 – Arthur
3EC – Sam
4JS – Marcell
4NS – Penelope
5NM – Thea
5KW – Florence
6EM – Wilf
6SD – Millie



98%

HONESTY Values Champions

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



Sports News

Well done to all the children who took part in our recent football trials with Mr Samson and Bill Bingham. Your child will be made aware in the coming days if they are to represent the school in these events after Easter. Practice sessions will also continue on Friday afternoons for those chosen leading up to the competitions so the children will need to come to school in kit on these days.

Good luck to all our swimmers who will be representing the school tomorrow at Charterhouse at the annual Godalming Schools Swimming Gala. We will sure to let you know how we get on in next week’s newsletter.

Diary Dates

Spring 2025

March	
15th:	Godalming Schools Swimming Gala @ Charterhouse
17th–21st:	10R–Earth
20th:	Y5 River Walk
24th–28th:	Scholastic Book Fair
26th:	Y5 Space Exhibition
26th:	PTA Discos
27th:	Y5 & Y6 Netball Tournament @ Rodborough
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
24th:	Year 4 Football Tournament @ Rodborough

