



Newsletter

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

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!

Book Fair 25th - 31st March

The Scholastic Book Fair arrives at GJS next week! On the front playground after school every day, from Tuesday, you will be able to browse the books and make online purchases. At our last book fair, families helped the school to earn £750 worth of new books for our classrooms! See the attached poster for all details and a link to browse the selection.

10R—Earth Week

For the final 10th enrichment of the term, we have been focusing on all things ECO. It has been great to hear the habitual change, the children are trying out, whether this is having less screen time, turning down thermostats or switching things off from the mains; it is good to hear children being more mindful around what energy is being used. We do ask families to engage in Earth Hour tomorrow and 'switch off' for an hour. This might be a time as a family to consider that requires energy around the home and consider what further ways we can be greener in our behaviours!

Plastic Recycling Workshop

As part of Earth Week, on Tuesday the Year 5 and 6 School Councillors were invited to Charterhouse for a workshop about recycling plastic. The children used a plastic shredder to break plastic bottles into tiny pieces before using a process called Injection Moulding to produce combs, pens and rings. They worked brilliantly as a team to ensure that the process ran smoothly and safely while trying to create as many items as possible. The children had lots of fun and learnt about what a simple milk bottle could become in the future when it is recycled.

Year 5 River Wey Trip

Yesterday, Year 5 children had a wonderful morning on their River Wey trip. In very pleasant sunshine, we walked along a stretch of the river and took notes on the various human and physical geographical features that are visible there. We also discussed our predictions for what it might look like in 100 years' time. Additionally, the children took the opportunity to put this term's art skills into practice by drawing the landscape across the Lammas Lands.

Year 4 Police Talk

On Tuesday, Year 4 were visited by the Youth Engagement Officers (YEO) from the Police who talked to the children about staying safe. PC Dave and Laura talked about what they do as YEOs, which includes visits to schools, patrolling when schools finish and meeting with other professionals who help keep children safe. The children were shown what a police officer has on their uniform and the tools they use. They even got to touch some of police equipment which included a baton and handcuffs, and they had the opportunity to try on a police vest and hat.

Our 'in focus' Value: TOLERANCE

This half term, we continue our focus on 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

Train to Teach in Godalming

There will be a Train to Teach in Godalming information webinar on Wednesday 26th March, 7-8pm. If you are interested and would like tickets, please click [here](#).



House Points

Saturn	999
Jupiter	980
Mars	916
Neptune	809



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—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 – Faye
 3EC – Freya
 4JS – Jonah
 4NS – Isabella
 5NM – Joseph
 5KW – Samuel C
 6EM – Jacob
 6SD – Alex



98%

HONESTY Values Champions

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



Sports News

Congratulations to our swimming squad who last week secured a ‘podium’ 3rd place at the annual Waverley Schools Swimming Gala at Charterhouse Club last Saturday, missing out on 2nd by a single, agonising, point! There was some wonderful swimming talent on show and ALL children were, once again, a real credit to the school and themselves. They supported each other, cheered each other on and even stepped in to replace other children at the last minute. With so much going on, it was great to see so many children WANT to represent GJS on a Saturday afternoon!

Thank you to ALL the parents who came along too as part of ‘Team Green’ and to Mr Maclver and, the ever present at sporting events, Mrs Williams. It was great to see both Chloe and Sam Fox, ex-pupils and Godalming Swimming Clubbers, support our school throughout the afternoon! Thanks also needs to go to our admin team for all the pulling together of the event, Mrs Ab lorwerth and Mrs Hudson—*Cheers*.



Diary Dates

Spring 2025

March	
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:	Y4 Football Tournament @ Rodborough
28th:	District Sports trials begin
May	
1st:	Y6 Football Tournament @ Rodborough

Inset Days 2024-25

~~Monday 2nd September 2024~~

~~Friday 25th October 2024~~

~~Friday 14th February 2025~~

Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Friday 23rd May 2025