



Newsletter

Last year we raised £1,024 for:



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

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 in our wonderful, NEW, state of art classrooms! 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. Next week it will be great to see as many of you as possible at our Curriculum Evenings and we hope you found out a little more about life in your child's year group this coming year.

Our VALUE in focus is: CONFIDENCE

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 and equipped to deal with challenges they face, in school and out. Our unique values education plays a significant part in achieving this and helps the behaviour and levels of attendance 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 **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!

Mobile Phones and Smart Devices

If you feel it is necessary for your child to have a mobile phone in school, a request form must be completed and 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. Once again, as a junior school, we actively discourage children having a phone in school at this age and strongly recommend any phone brought in ONLY has calling and messaging capabilities. Our Mobile Phone policy is reviewed annually, is a topic for national debate currently and is an agenda item for the next local schools headteacher meeting. We will update you further in due course if there is likely to be any GLP wide changes to mobile phones in our partnership schools.

Medical Forms

Please ensure that any necessary regular medication, including inhalers, are given into the office, along with a new form for this academic year.

Going Home Forms

The Going Home Arrangements form that you were emailed earlier this week needs to be returned by Monday please, along with a Independent Leaver form if applicable.

Parking at Pick Up Time

We kindly ask that all parents refrain from using our car park for school drop offs (for Breakfast Club) pick ups and consider using alternative parking/pick up options as we value our relationship with neighbouring residents and businesses, especially Majestic, who allow us to use the car park for our coaches on school trip days.

Staff Vacancy—Clerk to the Governors

We are still looking for a Clerk to the Governors to work at the school. This is a flexible role for four hours per week, term time only. You will be required to attend three Governor meetings per term. For more information please click [here](#).

GJS Breakfast Club

We are pleased to announce that KOOSA Kids is now providing a Breakfast Club for GJS children. This is open from 7.45am and is run by GJS staff. A breakfast of cereal, toast and fresh fruit will be provided daily!

PE Days Reminder

Please note that PE days this year are:

Monday-Year 3

Tuesday-Year 5

Wednesday-Year 6

Thursday-Year 4



House Points

Saturn	45455
Mars	44151
Neptune	42627
Jupiter	40798



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—SENCo
Mrs Munz—Bursar
Mrs Kirby—HSLW

'It's everyone's business'

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 13th 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—Wednesday 2nd October

School Autumn Disco—Wednesday 23rd October

Christmas Fair—Friday 13th December

School Achievement

Pupil of the Week

3AR —
3EC —
4JS—
4NS—
5NM—
5KW—
6EM—
6SD—



PERSEVERANCE Values Champions

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



Attendance Winners:



Summer AB Stars Champions: 5KW

Sports News

Sport at GJS

This year we have even more events and opportunities for the children at GJS to engage in physical activity, represent the school and their houses. Last year **EVERY** child represented their house through either entering the 'Chippie Chase' Cross Country Run in September, our Football Tournament in January, our Sports Day in May or our Cricket Tournament in June. Over 200 children, 92% of the school, represented the school in either football, benchball, basketball, swimming, cross-country, netball, sports-hall athletics, district sports or cricket! We will continue this year to offer a combination of both inclusive and competitive events for ALL year groups.

Next week Mr Samson will be sharing initial details of our first house event, the annual 'Chippie Chase' fun run on **Friday 27th September** during the school afternoon. Children will be made aware of the course, which is either a lap of Chippie Park in the lower school and 2 laps for those in the upper school. There will be a boys race and a girls race in each year group and signing up starts from Monday. More details to follow...

Diary Dates

Autumn 2024

September

10th: Y3 Curriculum Evening @ 6.00pm
10th: Y4 Curriculum Evening @ 7.00pm
11th: Y5 Curriculum Evening @ 6.00pm
11th: Y6 Curriculum Evening @ 7.00pm
16th–20th: Y6 Trip to UKSA
30th–4th: 10R—Poetry Week

October

7th–11th: 10R—Healthy Week
7th–18th: Y6 Bikeability
11th: Young Minds 'Hello Yellow' Mufti Day
22nd: Individual Photos

25th: **Inset Day**
28th–1st: **Half Term**
November

Inset Days 2024/25

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