

# **Godalming Junior School**

# Newsletter



"Success is going from failure to failure without losing enthusiasm" - Winston Churchill

# atest News



## **Attendance Matters**



#### **House Points**

Mars 1453

1226 Neptune

1225 Saturn

900 **Jupiter** 







**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'

#### GJS-Healthy School

Last Friday Sarah Lyles from the local authority, visited us to 'quality assure' our maintained status as a Surrey Healthy School. During her visit she met with teachers, leaders and children to validate the wonderful work we do to keep the children safe, provide a broad, ambitious and purposeful curriculum and set a culture at GJS of Respect for ALL. There are so many highlights to share from her findings:

'The school plays a significant leading role in Godalming Learning Partnership'

'The school has recently been successful in their application to become a Locality Nurture Hub for the borough'

'Attendance at the school for this point in the academic year is extremely positive'

'Pupils spoke passionately and positively about the school, the staff and the curriculum. They spoke with pride about the ways in which the school is <u>unique</u> and supports pupil wellbeing including physical and mental health'

'Pupils spoke in depth and with significant understanding about emotional intelligence and inclusion' Sarah finally stated that 'The passion underpinning the sentiments expressed by each person I met was overwhelming' and hoped that GJS would engage in a Surrey Healthy Schools case study to share our purposeful and effective practice more widely by producing a short video.

A reminder that Tuesday 2nd July is Bump Up Day for most children, who will visit their new class or school. Good luck to those Year 6 children who will be visiting their new secondary schools next week!

You may be aware that school attendance is a hot topic nationally as schools, particularly secondary schools, struggle to get their attendance figures returning to 'pre COVID' levels. As a result, the DfE and the local authority are putting new systems, processes and deterrents in place in the hope that children's attendance improves and there is a reduction in their 'broken weeks' when odd days are taken. GJS has enjoyed fantastic attendance figures for a number of years and we really appreciate the support from parents in fully investing in the education of their children so that attendance figures are higher than local, similar and national averages. You will be receiving a letter shortly outlining the DfE's position and the issuing of penalty notices from September 2024. All schools are being advised to inform parents of the DfE position during the last few weeks of term to avoid any ambiguity during the next academic year.

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

#### Value in Focus: PERSEVERANCE

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At a time of year when we start to look ahead, consider next steps in our journey and consider the thought of moving schools, PERSEVERANCE is the perfect value to be 'in focus' for the final few weeks of term. At this stage of the year, we expect ALL children to embrace and uphold this value and begin to look ahead to beginning a new year and ensuring ALL are equipped to deal with the greater expectations on them, whether that is here or whether that is moving on to their new school. Staff will be looking out to see examples of the children 'living' this value, showing initiative and confidently facing challenges they encounter during our busiest term of the year. We are asking EVERYONE for the final push, final steps in improving areas of their work and also holding 'home talks' about the value of PERSEVERANCE. Children are also invited to research people from history who showed a 'never say die' attitude, pushed boundaries, changed minds and stood up for what they believed in. Mr Samson would welcome 'Perseverance Projects' either handed to him directly or sent via head@godalming-junior.surrey.sch.uk to share in assemblies this term, put on the school website or even display around the school!

Godalming Learning Partnership's GET Teaching Programme

Why not GET Teaching with the Godalming Learning Partnership and Winchester University, an OUTSTANDING teacher training provider?

The Godalming Learning Partnership is a group of schools serving the children and families of the Godalming Learning Partnership is a group of schools serving the children and families of the Godalming Learning Partnership is a group of schools serving the children and families of the Godalming Learning Partnership is a group of schools serving the children and families of the Godalming Learning Partnership is a group of schools serving the children and families of the Godalming Learning Partnership is a group of schools serving the children and families of the Godalming Learning Partnership is a group of

The Godalming Learning Partnership is a group of schools serving the children and families of the Godalming area. We are a strong collaborative group with a long history of working closely together to achieve more for our young people, schools and community.

We run an exciting opportunity to train as a teacher in partnership with Winchester University and are inviting applications to start in Sept 2024.

The one year school-led GET Teaching school based PGCE programme provides the perfect combination of immersive classroom experience in our local schools and academic study at Winchester University. Our current trainees are teaching and training across all our schools ensuring they gain invaluable experience of a wide range of settings.

If you are interested and want to know more, speak to Mr Samson who has led the programme since its inception or alternatively you can e-mail Rachel Dunnage: coordinator@godalminglearning.org.uk

We have recently been made aware that the 5 members of this year's cohort have passed the course, maintaining the GLP's 100% pass rate of the School Based Teacher Training PGCE programme for the 5 years we have been running the course! This is a fantastic achievement and one we are ALL very



#### Summer Fair—Friday 12th July 6.00—8.30pm

A huge thank you for all the bottle tombola donations today. As with the Winter Fair, we will be running the token scheme again for people to pay for the games and stalls. The value of each token is 50p and the stalls will cost either 50p, £1 or £2, so either 1, 2 or 4 tokens. The tokens can be purchased on the night from the bar, but to avoid possible long queues, they can be pre-bought either by making a bank transfer to Godalming Junior Parent Teacher Association, (Sort code 30-99-50, account number 65867168, please add child's name and class in payment reference) or we will also be selling them in the playground after school on the week of the fair.

Friday 5th July-Jolly Jam Jars

Friday 12th July—Book Donations (good quality children's books)

All donations to be dropped off in the Music Room as usual on arrival to school.

# School Achievement

Pupil of the Week 3AR — Violet 3EC — Oliver R 4JA — Evander 4RH — Daniel 5SD — Emily 5NM — George 6EM — Josh 6TA — Whole Class





Attendance Winners: 6TA – 99% ANTI-BULLYING **ALLIANCE** 

Spring AB Stars Champions: 5NM

#### **INDEPENDENCE Values Champions**

3AR — Arthur 3EC — Dotty 4JA — Flynn 4RH — Albert 5SD — William 5NM — Adam

6EM — Alfie 6TA — Sebby



# **Sports News**

#### Cricket season at GJS ends in style



After 4 inter school tournaments and our largest EVER inter house G-Ashes event, the curtain closed on cricket at GJS this week in highly dra-matic fashion...unlike England's performance in the semi final of the T20 World Cup!

Tuesday saw the Y6 team go up against 5 other teams at Farncombe CC. After a round robin series of games, GJS qualified for 3rd place play off game narrowly losing to Wonersh and Shamley Green Primary School by 1 run!

Y4 Kwik Cricket Champions - 2024 On Wednesday it was the time of the Y4's taking part in the inaugural Waverley Schools Rising Stars competition. Again, after a round robin series of matches involving 6 teams in total, it was the Godalming Invincibles (GJS) who were outright winners beating Busbridge Junior School in the deciding match! EVERY child representing their school or house have performed superbly and we hope interest has been sparked for children to seek out local opportunities at local clubs. A massive thank you to Graham Ekins from Farncombe CC who has once again coached, run clubs and organised the tournaments this year to support GJS's cricket provision this year! Godalming Junior Schoo

# **Diary Dates**

### Summer 2024

July 2nd:

Bump Up Day 2nd:

New Parents Evening @ 6.00pm

2nd Bump Up Day (Rodborough School children only) 3rd:

10R-Arts Week 8th-12th:

District Sports @ Guildford Spectrum Music Works Showcase 8th:

9th: 10th & 11th: Y6 Production

'GJS Got Talent' Show PTA Summer Fair Mad Hatter 'Thank You' Tea Party 12th: 12th:

15th:

End of Term @ 1.15pm 23rd:

September

2nd: Start of Term 3rd:

Y3 Curriculum Evening @ 6.00pm 10th: 10th: Y4 Curriculum Evening @ 7.00pm Y5 Curriculum Evening @ 6.00pm Y6 Curriculum Evening @ 7.00pm 11th: 11th:

16th-20th: Y6 Trip to UKSA 30th-4th: 10R-Poetry Week

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