

GREAT GADDESSEN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Autumn 7

Thursday, 14th, November 2019

Message from the Head

We started this week by gathering together as a school community at the War Memorial, to remember the people who have died in wars. With the youngest members of our school, following the example of our oldest children, Rev'd John Russell led us in a Memorial Service, which was followed by the 2 minute silence. This gave us all a time to reflect on those who have shown courage and selflessness, so that we are able to enjoy the freedom we have today.



Last Friday, Mr McCarthy from The British Legion, visited us to talk to the children about the bravery and courage shown by all in times of war, making links with our school values. The children were fascinated to learn about The Dicken Medal which is awarded to animals for bravery. They were particularly moved by the story of Theo, the dog, who stayed loyal to his owner

FOOTBALL SUCCESS

Last week, our football team played their first game of the season against Maple Grove. They all played very well as a team, supporting and encouraging each other. All members of the team were delighted to finish with the final score of 4 - 3 to Great Gaddesden! Well done to everyone involved. A great result. Many thanks to Mr Williams and Mr Alleyne for their leadership with the team.



This week's match against Westfield School showed fabulous team work and great resilience. Unfortunately, we didn't win this time, but every member of the team should be proud of themselves.



Monthly Value:

COURAGE

Our value of 'Courage' during the month of November has been closely linked with the period of Remembrance. The children are nominating their peers for special recognition of living our value. So far on the Courage branch, we have William C, William F, James, Jack, Julie, Jamie, Ollie A and Henry. It is great to see our younger children developing an understanding of the way in which our values guide us.

IALAC

Last week, we celebrated the gifts and talents of Sophie and Olivier as they shared their IALAC speech and this morning we heard from Frankie and Abigail, with the school adding to their gifts and talents.

GADDESSEN SINGING FESTIVAL

Last week, we hosted the Gaddesden Singing Festival for our neighbouring Gaddesden schools. Y3/4 from Gaddesden Row joined us for a 'Firework theme' morning, working on poems, art activities and 'Wanted Posters'. In the afternoon, Little Gaddesden children joined us for the singing workshop, led by Herts Music Service. It was lovely to welcome so many parents from our local community for the concert at the end of the day. We were very proud of the way in which Great Gaddesden children looked after our visitors to school, ensuring that they were included and made to feel welcome.



Reception places for September 2020

The process of applying for Reception places for September 2020 is now open. If you know of anyone who is interested in a place at our school, please ask them to ring the office so that a visit to our school can be arranged.

Prayer of Courage

Dear God,

Help us to be courageous and brave in what we do and say. Please give us the courage to try new things.

Recorder Day

Five of our Y3 recorder players joined other schools from Dacorum recently to take part in a recorder day in Boxmoor. This day was led by Hertfordshire Music Service and gave the children the opportunity to play as part of a larger ensemble group, using the skills they have learning at school. The children had great fun and were fine representatives of our school, participating enthusiastically throughout the day.



Sporting events

Last week, our Year 2 children joined other schools in Dacorum and participated in a Sports Fayre in Berkhamsted Sports centre. They had the opportunity to play a range of activities, including target throwing, hurdling, football and balancing.

This week, it was the turn of Y1 to participate in an Inter Schools competition at the Hemel Sports centre. They did extremely well and finished in a very close second place.

We were delighted to hear that teachers from other schools commented on how well behaved our children were. What great ambassadors they are for Great Gaddesden.



Development of outdoor area

During half term, a number of our parents were hard at work relocating the EYFS shed into the bark area. This will now be used as the FOGGS' shed. We are awaiting the arrival of a new EYFS shed. I would like to thank all the parents who so generously gave their time, in the pouring rain, for the benefit of our school. We hugely appreciate the support you give us all.

MESSAGE FROM FOGGS.....

Donations: Thank you for all hamper donations! Any unused toiletries, would be gratefully received.

Donations of small toys (e.g. McDonalds toys in packets etc, party favours, lego men etc) are very welcome.

Bark Area Update: Phase one is complete! The old wooden sheds and other rubbish have been removed and the plastic shed has been relocated.

Phase two: pruning trees and bushes. This is due to take place in the next couple of weeks.

Festive Film Night:FOGGS have tried to spread out Christmas events in an attempt to lessen the financial impact. Our popular festive film night will take place after school on the **30th November**. Letters to follow.

Christmas Bazaar : Friday 13th December

Plans for the bazaar are going well but we are in need of some more volunteers. We are trying to raise £1,000 from this event for new bark for the bark area. If you can spare some time during the early afternoon of Friday 13th Dec to help set up the grotto, or can stay after school to run a stall please do let us know asap. FOGGS are parents too and would love to enjoy the fair with our children, but to do so we need lots of helping hands!

AUTUMN 2 DATES 2019

Applications for Reception class, Sept. 2020, are now open.

w/beg 11th November:

'Cool to be Kind' week

Monday, 11th November

- 11:00 Remembrance Service

Wednesday, 13th November

- World Kindness Day
- Y1 - Sports Festival
- 3:30 : Y5/6 Football tournament at Westfield

Friday, 15th November

- Children In Need

w/beg 18th November:

- 'JUST TALK' week to support good mental health

- ROAD SAFETY week

Monday, 18th November

- Flu vaccines

Tuesday, 19th November

- 9:00 Y1/2 Sharing Assembly

Wednesday, 20th November

- 9:00 Y5/6 Sharing Assembly

Friday, 22nd November

- Van Coles photography visit

Tuesday, 26th November

- 9:00 Y3/4 Sharing Assembly

Wednesday, 27th November

- 9:00 EYFS Sharing Assembly
- 3:30 pm Great Gaddesden v Hammond Academy football

w/beg 2nd December

LAST WEEK OF CLUBS

Tuesday, 3rd November

- 2:40 pm Y3/4 parent invited to open recorder/ukulele lesson

Wednesday, 4th December

- 3:30 Great Gaddesden v South Hill School football

Thursday, 5th December

- 4:30 - 5:30 Y7 - Y9 reunion

Prayer of Courage

Help us to live our values. Help us when it is difficult, by guiding our decisions. Amen