

GREAT GADDESSEN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter 5

Monday, 8th October 2018

Message from the Head

Last week was certainly a busy week in school for all, with a number of exciting events taking place. From all the events, it was lovely to hear the way in which members of our community all remarked on the excellent behaviour of our children. This makes us all feel very proud of them, as they are all such fine ambassadors of our school, both when in school and when representing Great Gaddesden School in the wider community.

It is also great to see that all of our children are always smartly dressed in full school uniform, including school shoes, every day. I appreciated that this can be a challenge for parents and I thank you all for ensuring that the children are corrected dressed for school, every day.



DIOCESE HARVEST SERVICE

On Tuesday, 2nd October, our Y5 and Y6, joined other schools in our Diocese, at St Albans Cathedral to participate in the Harvest Festival Service. We heard about the Bishops of St Albans' Harvest Appeal which supports the farmers in Malawi, helping them to improve their lands and harvest. Our children were impeccably behaved and participated fully throughout.

A special thank you to Fenella and Phoenix who were asked to read and rose to the challenge, reading with clear, confident voices.



WORLD POETRY DAY

To mark National Poetry Day last Thursday, we had a 'Poetry Assembly', in which all classes performed a poem of their choice. There was a great variety of poems, with all the children performing their poems from memory, adding actions. Our EYFS shared a poem called 'Autumn' and showed us their paintings of leaf prints in autumnal colours. Y1/2 recited an AA Milne poem entitled 'Tails' and surprised us all by showing tails that they were all wearing! Y3/4 performed Ogden Nash's poem 'The Adventures of Isabelle' with great enthusiasm and Y5/6 shared 'Bone Yard Rap' with a pacey beat.



Monthly Values



RESPECT

Our last hand print of the month for 'Respect' was awarded to James P. This was in recognition of him demonstrating this value, both at school and at home. He was particularly helpful and respectful to his family when his mum was not feeling 100%.

PERSEVERANCE

Lilly was the first pupil to be nominated for demonstrating our October value.

We heard how she had tried a Maths challenge and didn't give up until she had managed to successfully completed it.

IALAC

This week, Olivia and Joshua spoke confidently about their gifts and talents in our Celebration Assembly. Staff and children added to the list, giving examples of ways in which they use their gifts to help others in our school.

Christian value for October: PERSEVERANCE

GRANDPARENTS AFTERNOON

On Friday afternoon, we welcomed nearly 50 grandparents/family relatives to join the children for the afternoon in their classes. What a fantastic afternoon it was! There was a busy atmosphere throughout the school, with all the children and adults working together to create a craft activity based on the theme of 'Poppies'. This included sewing, water colour painting, origami and tissue craft. All will be joined together to form a single piece of art work which will be displayed in Little Gaddesden Village Hall. James P's grandfather showed the children a brass Princess Mary Gift Fund 1914 Box. The children were fascinated to learn all about it. Below are a few quotes from the Grandparent's feedback :



*"We loved being able to spend time at school with our **Grandchildren in their school**".*

"The atmosphere throughout the school is lovely. Great to be part of it."

"So delighted that the children are able to explore and learn about historical events from the older generation"

"Please can we come back again soon ?"

Many thanks to all the children, staff and visitors for making this afternoon such a success.

MUSIC LESSONS START THIS WEEK



On Tuesday, 9th October we welcome Mrs Beqiraj who will be leading our KS2 children (Years 3-6) in their instrumental music lessons. This is part of the Wider Opportunities Scheme run within Hertfordshire and funded by the school. It enables all pupils, at some stage during their KS2 years, to have the opportunity to learn an instrument. The many benefits of learning a musical instrument include increased comprehension and Math skills, better coordination and a greater capacity for memory. Playing music involves using both sides of the brain, helping to develop language, numerical and auditory skills.

Y3 and Y4 will be learning the recorder. We have a set in school (which will be disinfected after use) but if your child would like to bring their own descant recorder, they are very welcome. Please ensure that recorders from home are clearly labelled. Y5 and Y6 will be continuing to play the ukulele, building on the skills from last year.



HARVEST SERVICE

Our Harvest Festival service will be taking place on Friday, 12th October at 9:00 a.m. in church. All parents are most welcome to join us .

HARVEST DONATIONS

This year, we will be asking for donations to support DENS, a local charity who supports families in need within our area. The children have been given a sheet produced by DENS, which give examples of much needed items.

FOGGS



request donations for the cake sale on 26/10/18 please + the return of completed questionnaires.

DIARY DATES

Friday, 12th October

- 9:00 Harvest Festival

Monday, 15th October

- Monastery trip Y3/Y4

Tuesday, 23rd October

- 3:30 Parents Consultation Evening

Wednesday, 24th October

- 5:30 Parents Consultation Evening

Friday, 26th October

- 3:30 FOGGS cake sale

HALF TERM WEEK

Mon. 29th October - Friday, 2nd November

Tuesday, 6th November

- Singing Festival Y3/Y4
2:30 Concert -Y3/4 parents (church)

Wednesday, 7th November

- 9:00 Sharing Assembly Y1/2

Wednesday, 14th November

- School photos

Thursday, 15th November

- 9:00 Sharing Assembly EYFS

Christian value for October: PERSEVERANCE