



# Great Gaddesden C of E (VA) Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs S. Wickens

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Spring Newsletter: **10**  
February, 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we are approaching half term, the children have much to celebrate. They have all been working hard, trying to achieve their best. We have had a busy few weeks and wish all the children a safe and restful half term.

## **Values:**

We are proud of the children who have been nominated to receive recognition for our value of the month. Josh (Y1) added his hand print to our 'Values tree'.

Last week, our nursery children - Matthew, Olive, Charlie and Sophie showed a joint display of unity in their learning behaviour, during a Maths activity.

Lilly Green was the first to be nominated for our February value: Patience.

## **IALAC:**

We were all most impressed with the way Sienna Cheshire, James Rumph and Harrison King shared the ways in which they are 'Likeable and Capable'. We also heard from Ollie Doe, who shared how he is an excellent big brother to his new sister and Olivia Watson gave a confident presentation describing her gifts and abilities.

## **House-Points:**

Many congratulations to Fenella, Lucy, Fallon and Rebecca for achieving their 30 house point certificates and badges. A great achievement, children.

Congratulations to all the children who have now achieved their 20 house point certificates and to those who have been awarded with their 10 House points certificate. Well done!

## **Absences:**

A reminder that when your child is absent, please ensure that you inform the office staff by ringing or emailing, by 9:15 a.m. please. This ensures that all children are accounted for swiftly at the beginning of every day.

## **Finer Diner Award:**

The children have continued to focus on their table manners since the launch of our Finer Diner. They were keen to discuss (and demonstrate) their manners to our School Advisor, who visited earlier this week. She was most impressed with the children's behaviour, both in class and during break and lunchtime.

## **Writing Celebration:**

As writing continues to be an area of focus throughout the school, Miss Ayres led an assembly in which the children were chosen to share their writing. We heard a range of different writing genres from our Reception children to Y6. Their writing has now made it onto the 'Wall of Fame'. Well done, children.

### **Sporting event:**

Y2 represented Great Gaddesden School at a Sports Fair at Hemel Sport Space, where they joined other schools and participated in a range of activities. They were great role models for our school, showing great enthusiasm and sporting behaviour. Well done, children. Many thanks to Mrs Robertson, Mrs Pethard and Rowan's grandparents, who accompanied the Year 2 children.

### **Class Assembly:**

This week, EYFS shared the learning they have been doing and we saw photos of their muddy walk along by the stream. We heard instructions on how to play 'Pooh sticks', admired their stick men and family trees and we were all very impressed with the flame throwing dragons that the children demonstrated.

Please see below for other class assembly dates.

### **Enzo:**

This week, we were delighted to have a visit from Enzo and his owner, Mrs Pritchard. Enzo has just successfully completed his training to become a 'Hearing Dog'. Mrs Pritchard demonstrated the way in which she has trained Enzo to support those with hearing loss within their home. We were able to see the way Enzo responds when the doorbell rings and when a smoke alarm goes off. Our Nursery and Reception children were also able to see how keen Enzo was on their packed lunch trolley, which he discovered in the corner of the classroom! Mrs Pritchard has a long connection with the school, as her children were former pupils at Great Gaddesden. We thank her and Enzo for coming to visit us and look forward to hearing updates regarding Enzo's progress as he goes to his new owner.

**Congratulations** to the Doe Family on the arrival of baby Georgiana. What lovely news!

### **Children's Shrove Tuesday event at church:**

A reminder that this event will be for the children of Great Gaddesden School at church on February, 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 – 12:00. This event can be extended to pre-school siblings, if accompanied by a parent.

### **Goodbye and thank you to Mrs Sutherland:**

We say 'goodbye' to Mrs Sutherland, as she leaves Great Gaddesden School. We thank her for everything she has done for all the children and staff at our school and for the cheerful way in which she has always greeted everyone. Her hard work and dedication to the school is much appreciated by us all and we wish her the very best. Mrs Sutherland was unable to join us in church on Friday morning but Miss Ayres has kindly offered to deliver all your generous gifts to her.

### **Office arrangements:**

After half term, Mrs Birch-Palmer will lead our school office, with the support of Mrs Stevenson. Until the end of the Spring term, Mrs Stevenson will work on a Monday and Mrs Birch-Palmer will work from Tuesday to Friday.

### **Nursery Open Morning:**

A reminder that we are holding our **Nursery Open Morning on Thursday 22nd February, 9.15 - 10.45am**. Please inform friends and other family members to whom this may be of interest. All are welcome to attend. During this time, our visitors are welcome to stay for a 'Stay and Play' session in our Early Years environment, have a guided tour of the school and meet the Early Years staff. Refreshments will be available.

Wishing you all a good half term,  
Kind regards,

Mrs S.M. Wickens  
Headteacher



## Dates for Spring 2:

Thursday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> February:	Open morning for prospective Nursery parents 9.15-10.45am
Tuesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> February:	Yr3/4 to attend BBC 10 piece Orchestra concert – Watford Colosseum
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March:	World Book Day -come to school dressed as a book character
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> March:	Uniform order deadline (reminder will be sent nearer the time)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March:	Children singing in playground for Mothers Day (details to follow)
Sunday, 11 <sup>th</sup> March:	KS2 choir to participate in Royal Albert Hall Royal Gala performance
March 12 <sup>th</sup> –16 <sup>th</sup> March:	National Science Week
Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> March:	Super Science Day, whole school (details to follow)
Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> March:	Abbots Hill Maths Challenge for selected Year 6 children Football match against Flamstead School (details to follow)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March:	<b>Class Assembly Y1/2 NEW</b> Parents evening (details to follow)
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> March:	<b>Class Assembly Y3/4 NEW</b> Parents evening (details to follow)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March:	Great Gaddesden's Got Talent! (details to follow)
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March:	Easter Service, 9am at church
Thursday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March:	Church service followed by traditional egg rolling competition. 1.30pm term ends

## **Term Dates for academic year (2017/18):**

**SPRING 2 – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

**SUMMER TERM: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July**

***Children to return on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April and break up on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July***

**HALF-TERM: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

A reminder of the following INSET days and Occasional Days when children will *not* be at school:

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April – INSET DAY**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June – INSET DAY**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Occasional Day**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July - Occasional Day**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July – Occasional Day**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July – Occasional Day**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July – Occasional Day**