

GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year 2025, and welcome back to the start of the Spring Term. I hope you all had a lovely festive break with your loved ones.

Please remember to look at the various forms of communication we use regularly to help keep you informed. Our website contains all the important information about your child's learning and the 2 podiums on the playground share brief notices. Also please ensure that we always have your correct email address so you receive text messages and emails when we need to let you know of anything urgently via our Group Call messaging system.

As you know the school day starts at 8.30am and being in school on time is extremely important for all children in order that they receive the best possible start to their learning. Arrival at 8.30am enables staff to support children in a range of activities, for example, time to have 'check ins' with the teacher or learning support assistant for emotional health and well being support, individual reading with an adult, opportunity to practice spellings, maths facts or pre-learning for lessons and sharing class news together. All of these activities maximise the opportunity for a settled start to ensure children are ready for their first lesson.

Finally, as you can see from the Diary Dates below, early in February we have our Parent Consultations once again. Please do make sure you sign up to see your child(ren)'s class teacher. These sessions are invaluable to discuss all aspects of your children's schooling including their progress and any concerns that we or you may have.

Diary Dates for January/February

January

- 6th Start of the Spring Term
- 7th 10-11am GGA Toddler Group
- 16th M&M Productions 'Snow White'
- 21st Year R—Year 6 Class Photographs
- 28th 9am Holly Class Assembly

February

- 3rd-7th Parent Consultation week
- 4th 9am Monkey Puzzle Class Assembly
- 4th 10-11am GGA Toddler Group
- 11th 9am Coconut Class Assembly
- 12th Yr.5 London Science Museum Trip
- 17th-21st Half Term
- 25th 9am Cedar Class Assembly

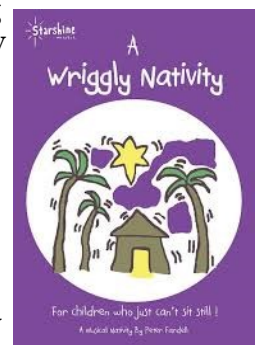


Skingsley

Mrs C Skingsley
Headteacher

EYFS Christmas Nativity

We are extremely proud of the EYFS children in for some, their first ever Nativity! The children not only learned song words but also sign language alongside. They sang beautifully on the day and really encompassed the Christmas spirit! Thank you to all of the grown-ups that came along to watch. Their little faces lighting up as they spotted you was truly magical.



Staff News

We would like to welcome back **Mrs Emma Woodford**, Pre-School who has returned from Maternity Leave.

Honeysuckle Club News

The children of Honeysuckle Club worked hard making Christmas decorations for the East of England Ambulance Call Centre last term. We hope they spread some cheer to those who worked hard over the festive season.

Street Tag

Don't forget to sign up to the Street Tag App to gain points when walking to school. The new start date is 6th January.

Artist of the Month

We have been learning about our Artists of the Month in Art Club. Our Artist of the Month for January is LS Lowry. Please can you find out about this artist and come and tell Mrs Stephenson or Mrs Goldthorpe, or you could also tell your class teacher. We look forward to hearing about your findings. Thank you.



Flora in Magnolia with her Art work.

Recent Monies Raised

Thank you once again for all your support and generosity given for recent events at school. We are always so appreciative especially at this expensive time of year.

We raised:-

- PTFA Christmas Fayre - **£428**
- Christmas Jumper Day in support of Save the Children Charity - **£200**
- Santa Letters - **£135.50**



School Choir

During the month of December some children from the school choir have had opportunities to perform at two locations – Holy Cross Church and Goldington Social Centre on Barkers Lane. The performances included the singing of several Christmas songs and solo performances on a variety of different instruments. The children were amazing – performing with confidence and enjoyment. Well done to all. Both venues are keen to see us back again during the course of next year.



We received this lovely message from Holy Cross Church:-

“On behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Cross Church, Goldington Road, I would like to say a heartfelt Thank You to the children of the choir and the staff who accompanied them to our social group on 17th December. The children sang beautifully and played their musical instruments with such confidence. The guests we had attending our Christmas party were very appreciative. It really made their afternoon! Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a restful break from all your hard work.”

Year 5&6 Winter Reading Challenge 2024

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Winter Reading Challenge 2024! It was lovely to have so many Y5 and Y6 children visiting the library to choose and read books.



We loved seeing the class snow globes fill up with snow as the weeks passed. The competition was very close, but the overall winner at the end of term was Monkey Puzzle Class – congratulations! They will receive a special book for their classroom. A special mention to Holly class too as they were worthy runners-up!

On another note, we'd like to say a big thank you for some wonderful book donations we have received recently. They are a fantastic addition to our collection and we know they will be enjoyed by the children. Happy reading!

Alice in Wonderland Workshop

A Report by Mia and Brooke, Cedar Class

Last month we did an Alice in Wonderland Workshop on line in Chestnut Class with the Royal Ballet.

First we did a warm up with dance and stretching. After we did the first part of the poses/actions/dance of Alice, then we acted the part when she eats and drinks the food. We then did the Mad Hatter poses/dances/actions. We also acted out throwing cake and blocking being thrown at with cake.

Finally we did a recap and performed everything we had learnt from the Royal Ballet.

We really enjoyed this workshop.

Recipe of the Month

Ham and Cheese Lasagne

For a simpler Lasagne recipe try this creamy ham and cheese version. It is very moreish and no one will notice there's hidden vegetables in it! Just follow the link below for the recipe.

<https://realfood.tesco.com/recipes/ham-and-cheese-lasagne.html>



Values Education

During the month of January the school is focussing on the value of:

Hope

If your child has demonstrated the value of Hope at home, please let us know by emailing their class teacher, stating the reason you are nominating them.

Names of pupils nominated for the monthly Value will appear on the School's Value Notice Board and School's Website.

Online Safety

How old is your child online? Has your child signed up to a social media or game online but have said they are older than they are so they can have an account? If



TikTok thinks your child is 13 when they join when they are in fact only 8, then by the time they reach 13, the app will think they are 18. This puts your child at risk of viewing content that is not appropriate. Here are tips to help:

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/news-centre/2022/risks-of-children-using-false-ages-on-social-media>

Congratulations!

All of us at Goldington Green Academy are very proud to announce that **Archie in Cherry Class** has been awarded the Junior Disability Sports Personality of the Year Award at the Bedford Sport and Physical Activity Awards 2024. Archie has beaten the odds and continues to progress every week in his basketball skills.



He is now one of the strongest people in the Bedford Thunder for his age group and wants to continue playing, not letting his disability stop him from playing with able bodied athletes. Well done Archie!

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Diego in Redwood Class** on passing his grading exam to upgrade to the yellow/orange belt in Karate. Well done from all of us at Goldington Green Academy.



Attendance Matters!

As you know, we take attendance and punctuality of the children very seriously. Thankfully, in the most part, families also echo this and for that we thank you. Sadly, there are still a small number of families who do not echo the school ethos. Please can I remind you of the importance of children attending everyday unless they really are too unwell to do so. It is also imperative that children arrive on time as learning does start straight away and they cannot afford to miss what is happening at the beginning of the day.

Please help us help your children. Thank you for your continued support and to all those who ensure their child's arrival

School Matters!

at school is punctual; it really does help everyone concerned.



Vehicle Idling

Please can we remind you of the importance of switching off your car engine when waiting to collect your children from school. The emissions that come from parked cars that leave their engines running on residential roads contribute to dangerous and unacceptable levels of air pollution. Thank you for your support.

Donations

Now that the festive season is over for another year, please can you consider donating your child(ren)'s 'grown out of' Christmas jumpers. We would like to keep a supply in school for any child who is not able to come to school wearing one when we celebrate the festive events here at school. Thank you for your kind support.



Parking Reminder

Please can I inform all new parents and remind all others of the parking issues we have here at school. Please be aware that the car park at the rear of the school is for staff only.

Parking around our school entrances at the beginning and end of the school day is a problem to all concerned, especially local residents and unfortunately we regularly receive telephone calls from distressed residents who have had altercations with drivers who have blocked their driveway or used private parking bays while dropping off or collecting children from our school. **All our local residents have been advised by the police to report to them registration numbers of any vehicles parking inconsiderately, and any verbal abuse or threatening behaviour they receive from vehicle owners.**

I also need to remind you that the lane between the school and the Holy Cross Church on Goldington Road should not be used for parents parking. This is a private lane for residents only. Also that the Holy Cross Church car park is a private car park and must under no circumstances be used by our parents.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that Tesco are happy for parents to use their car park at these times and it is only a very short walk to school from there. Please be aware though, that parking is only permitted in the customer car park and **not** the area used by Tesco delivery lorries and only to park in disabled spaces if you have a disabled badge. Thank you for your continued support.

