



# GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY

December is always a month full of joy and anticipation, and I am thrilled to share some highlights and updates with you all. This term has been marked by incredible hard work, creativity, and collaboration across the school. Some key moments include:

- **Academic Progress:** Our pupils have shown excellent growth in their learning, and teachers have been working tirelessly to provide engaging lessons and support.
- **School Performances:** Our magical Festive Performances & Nativity Play are underway with rehearsals and I know they will be stunning successes! A heartfelt thank you in anticipation to the performers, staff, and families who support these events.
- **Charity Drives:** We are proud to announce that, through our school's efforts, we raised £635.20 for MacMillan and £652.50 for Children in Need, showcasing the generosity of our community.

As we move into December, there are several exciting events to look forward to:

- **Christmas Jumper Day** (Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December): Pupils and staff are encouraged to wear their most festive jumpers to school in support of Save the Children.
- **Classroom Festivities:** Teachers will be organising end-of-term activities for their classes, including creative projects and celebrations.
- **Christmas Dinner Day** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December & **Party Day** on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

As always, I would like to extend my gratitude to our wonderful school staff, parents, and carers for your unwavering support. Together, we have created a nurturing and inspiring environment for our pupils to thrive. On behalf of everyone at Goldington Green Academy, I wish you a joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year. May the holidays bring warmth, rest, and quality time with loved ones.

## Diary Dates for December/January

### December

3rd	9am Cherry Class Assembly
3rd	10-11am GGA Toddler Group
5th	9.15am Yr. 2 Christmas Performance
5th	2pm Yr.1 Christmas Performance
6th	3pm PTFA Christmas Fayre
9th	9.15 & 2pm EYs Christmas Nativity
10th	Flu Vaccinations
11th	9.15am Yr.3 Christmas Performance
11th	2pm Yr.4 Christmas Performance
12th	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
12th	9.30am Yr.5 Christmas Performance at Priory Methodist Church
12th	2pm Yr.6 Christmas Performance at Priory Methodist Church
13th	Yr.5 Victorian Christmas Day
16th	2-3pm Preschool Stay & Play session
17th	9am Redwood Class Assembly
17th	Headteacher's Tea Party
18th	Christmas Dinner Day
19th	2-3pm Reception Stay & Play session
20th	Party Day
20th	Last Day of Autumn Term

### January

6th	Start of the Spring Term
7th	9am Holly Class Assembly
7th	10-11am GGA Toddler Group
15th	9am Monkey Puzzle Class Assembly
21st	Year R—Year 6 Class Photographs
28th	9am Coconut Class Assembly

*Skingsley*

**Mrs C Skingsley**  
Headteacher

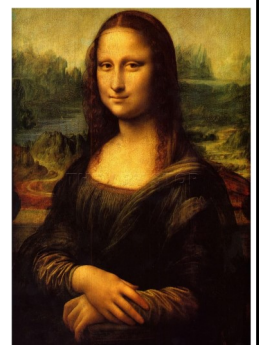
### GGA Toddler Group

We are pleased to announce that on 3rd December we are launching our monthly Toddler Group. It will take place from 10am to 11am and is open to all families with children aged 0-4 years old. (An adult must stay with their child for the duration of the group.) This will be an opportunity for your child to socialise with others and for you to get some new ideas, talk informally with professionals and enjoy a tea or coffee. To book your place please email [apugh@goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk](mailto:apugh@goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk) or ask at the school office. We look forward to seeing you and your child.



### Artist of the Month

This month's Artist is **Leonardo Da Vinci**. Please encourage your children to find out 3 facts to tell their teachers, for example:-  
When was he born?  
What is the name of this famous painting by him of a lady?  
What country did he come from?



# NEWSLETTER

### School Closure due to Severe Weather

As the cold winter months are upon us, it is important that you know the processes Bedford Borough Council use if the decision is made to close the school due to severe weather conditions. During periods of potential weather disruption we ask parents to:

- Check our school website [www.goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk](http://www.goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk) where it will clearly state either 'school closed' or 'school open' and a link will be available to our Severe Weather policy.
- Check the following website for information on school closures [www.bedford.gov.uk/school\\_closures](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/school_closures) and for school transport cancellations [www.bedford.gov.uk/winterupdates](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/winterupdates)
- If you do not have access to the internet, please listen to one of the following radio stations **Heart 96.9FM** or **Three Counties Radio 95.5FM**.

Please note that if the school is open it does not automatically mean that it is safe for the contracted school transport to run. In the event of worsening weather conditions during the school day it may become necessary to close school early. In this very rare event school will contact parents to advise them of the situation.

#### Christmas Post Box

Our Christmas post box is up and ready to receive your children's Christmas cards to friends and class mates within school. **Please can you ensure that the envelope is properly addressed with the recipients full name and class written clearly**, otherwise we cannot guarantee the card will be delivered.



#### Friday Family Reading Sessions

Please can we remind you all that our Friday Family Reading Sessions take place each Friday morning from 8.30-9am. Remember that you are welcome to bring your preschool child with you and that you can read with all your children together at the same time. We look forward to seeing you on Fridays.

#### Recent Monies Raised

The following recent events raised:- PTFA Fireworks - **£736.00** and Children In Need - **£652.50**. Thank you to all of you who supported these two events.

#### Quad Playground Refurbishment

Exciting News! A small team have been given permission to revamp the quad playground. This space is enjoyed by all years across the school, from honeysuckle to PE lessons and is a fantastic space for Reception to enjoy their lunch play. This year we hope to make improvements to the space but in an environmentally sustainable way. We've already collected tyres and gardening club have started to decorate and plant in them. We've had a brilliant donation of a play kitchen and some equipment so the children now have a fun role-play house. The next step is for the shed to be transformed, thanks to Mr Henderson and Mr Jackson. Using recycled pallets, they are going to fix up the shed so it can become the permanent playhouse and the current house will become a comfy quiet reading shed. If you would like to help in any way, we'd love to hear from you. It could be by donating soft furnishing such as cushions or beanbags or if you've got the skill base perhaps you could help us build a water tight sheltered area. Please email [ebridle@goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk](mailto:ebridle@goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk) for more details.



#### PTFA News

Firstly, thank to everyone for making our annual PTFA Fireworks night such an amazing success. We have had such positive feedback from all who came and we raised an impressive £736 too.

Our next PTFA event is our upcoming Christmas Fayre on **Friday 6th December between 3pm and 5pm**. Please do come along to enjoy the atmosphere. You will be able to buy Raffle tickets, we have some lovely prizes, visit Santa and his Elf or your children can have fun at our craft tables. Hope to see you all on the 6th!



#### Recipe of the Month Root Vegetable Soup

This is a recipe that our Year 6 children have been making at school. Why not give it a try at home too. Just follow the link below for the recipe.

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/root\\_vegetable\\_soup\\_14910](https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/root_vegetable_soup_14910)



## Values Education

During the month of December the school is focussing on the value of:  
**Peace**

If your child has demonstrated the value of Peace 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.



### Staff News

We will be saying goodbye to two long standing members of our teaching team at the end of this term. **Mrs Julie Loxley** is relocating to America and **Mrs Assunta Spina** is starting her retirement. We will miss both of them greatly and wish them both the very best in all they do. We will be welcoming **Miss Mabel Agbenorto**, who will be teaching Willow Class along with Mrs Lall from January. We hope she will be very happy here at Goldington Green Academy.

### Year 2 Warwick Castle Visit by Scarlett, Willow Class

In the morning Mrs Spina did the register and then we lined up and then she took us to the coach. It was a long way to Warwick Castle. We walked to a turret and climbed up the winding steps to watch a video about the castle and at the end of the video it made me feel scared as it said we had to go down to the basement for the next video.

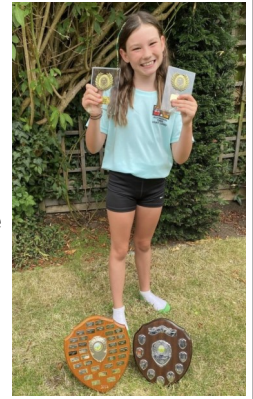
Next, we went into the Keep. Inside the Keep there was an amazing museum with all the armour they wore in the past. We went through a corridor to see where and how the people lived in there in the past. It was super! Afterwards, we had lunch outside while watching the 'Birds of Prey' and a peacock tried to bite my trousers! We walked around the castle and we went down to the Engine Room to see the old watermill. We could see the moat, the river, the towers and the ramparts as we walked around.

Our day went very quickly and we were soon back on the coach to school.



### Congratulations to Sophie, Coconut Class

We would like to congratulate Sophie in Coconut Class for winning the Lawn Tennis Association's County Championship event for her age group in Bedfordshire. She is currently the girls County Champion for age 9U and 10U. Such a wonderful achievement. All of us at Goldington Green Academy are very proud of her.



### "Let It Snow" Winter Reading Challenge for Y5 & Y6

Calling all Yr.5 and Yr.6 readers! Are you ready for a fun Winter Reading Challenge? For every book you read during the month of December, you can pick up a white dot sticker from Miss Moriuchi in the library and add it to your class snow globe. There will be a prize for the snowiest globe!

Just a reminder that Yr.5/6 children can reserve library books using the Reading Cloud app on their Chrome-books, as well as visit the library Monday-Thursday lunchtimes.

Happy reading



### Final Reminder\*\*\* Admissions to Reception Year September 2025 \*\*\*Final Reminder

If your child's date of birth falls between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 it is essential that you complete an application form for your child's place in the Reception Year at school before the cut off date of 15th January 2025. **ALL PARENTS must apply for a Reception place, if you do not apply you will not be allocated a school place AT ANY SCHOOL.**

These applications can be completed online at [www.bedford.gov.uk/onlineadmissions](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/onlineadmissions) (which is the preferred method). If you apply on line, please ensure you receive a confirmation email of this and keep it for future evidence should there be an issue with your application. If you do not have internet access please telephone the School Admissions Service on 01234 718120 to request a paper application form.

Please remember that your child will not automatically get a place at our school if they attend our Pre School or Acorns class, and that even though your child is wearing our school uniform and we very much see us as one school, preschool and Acorns children are not part of Goldington Green Academy until they are formally admitted into Reception through Bedford Borough procedures.

All the information on the starting school process is online at [www.bedford.gov.uk/startingschool](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/startingschool)

### Remember

**You must apply for your September Reception place with Bedford Borough Council**