# Great Gaddesden C of E School: Week 4 Update: Summer Term '23



# Religious Life of our school

All of our classes are now leading their own child-led worship once a week. It has been lovely to see the way in which the older children have worked with our younger children, helping them to plan and deliver their own sessions.



This month, our school value is 'Honesty' and this morning, Rev'd Russell shared the story of Saul in relation to this value. The children always enjoy our Friday Collective Worship in church, led by Rev'd Russell and Mrs Tisbury.

#### **Times Table Rock Stars**

We have decided to re-introduce the popular 'Times Table Rock Stars' programme into the school. The children have used this programme in the past to support their Maths learning and it seems an appropriate time to reintroduce this again. The school has initially paid for all Y3 - Y5 pupils to have their own individual log-ins, which will give them access to multiplication/division resources. The children will be bringing home a copy of their log-in details and their passwords, so that they can access the programme at home.

In September, we are hoping to extend this provision to include Y1 + Y2 children, with resources including addition and subtraction.

# **Uniform policy**

As promised, we are now able to share details of the new uniform provider. This is <u>Beat School Uniform.</u>, who are based in Watford.

It is marvellous to see all the children so smartly dressed in their Great Gaddesden uniform.

On the rare occasion that a pupil is not wearing correct uniform, a letter will be given to parents as a gentle reminder of expectations.

Please remember there is a good supply of pre-loved uniform available at all times, in the Halsay Chapel in church. There are facilities to make a voluntary donation.

# Coming Soon..... 'Marvellous Me'

Following a review of the school communication/newsletter, we will shortly be launching a new, free app called 'Marvellous Me'. This is a staff to parents communication app, which is simple to use and will help us keep you informed of your child's learning in school. We hope that it will help you to have meaningful conversations with your child about their learning and will give you the opportunity to celebrate their



successes. We will soon be sending you a letter containing your child's unique joining code and giving details of how to sign up.

The weekly updates, with diary dates, will continue on a weekly basis. Both these forms of communications will replace the previous newsletter format.

#### **Coronation Service**

Many thanks to all our families who joined us in church on Sunday, to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. It was such a lovely occasion, with so many of our families joining together. The children sang so well and should be so proud of themselves.



Congratulations to the winners of the 'Design a Crown' competition - well done Harley, Lowri and Arlo. All the children thoroughly enjoyed making them and they wore them in a very regal manner during the royal tea party on Friday afternoon.

#### **Forest School**

In recent weeks, children have been enjoying the wonderful sights and smells of bluebells and wild garlic in our local woods. They have also been learning about nesting and created some wonderful nesting bags to hang in our school garden.





# Coming soon...... Dacorum Music Festival;

3rd -15th July sees the very first Dacorum Music Festival with live music, school workshops and community events.

As part of the festival, we are delighted to be hosting <u>Djembe drumming workshops</u>, here in Great Gaddesden. This event is an opportunity for families in the area, to come together to make music with each other. In the sessions, you will explore the culture, rhythms and beats involved in djembe drumming. Please note that early booking is recommended as it is anticipated that this event will be oversubscribed. It is possible to set an alert for when booking opens.

#### **Tickets are available here:**

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e /djembe-drumming-workshop-g reat-gaddesden-session-2-ticke ts-630909526377?aff=ebdsopo rgprofile



# FOGGS: Bags2school

Many thanks to all for supporting this. This raised an impressive £50.



#### **Phonic testing**

During the week beginning Monday, June 12th, Year 1 will be taking the statutory phonic screening test. Please follow this <u>link</u> for a short, informative video, giving further information.

#### **Multiplication Timetable testing**

During the w/beg 12th June, all Year 4 pupils will be taking the statutory Multiplication Times Table Check. Please get in touch with the office if you have not received the parental information regarding this.

Please see diary dates on following page.

Please note that new dates are shown in red.

#### SATS

Y6 have done very well this week - taking the SATs in their stride. We celebrated completion with cakes and hot chocolate, with all the trimmings!



Next week, it will be the turn of Y2 who will focus on Reading and Maths, the results of which will be used to support the final teacher assessments. Please ensure your child arrives punctually for school in the morning.

# **Diary dates:**

All dates are displayed on the <u>School Calendar</u>, on the website. Please note that occasionally, it may be necessary to change dates. When this occurs, these will be highlighted to parents.

15/05/23	KNEX technology day for KS2 Y1/2 - farm visit
16/05/23	EYFS - Dacorum sports Mini Olympic challenge
17/05/23	Y5/6 trip to Amaravati Monastery
29/05/23 - 02/05/23	HALF TERM WEEK
08/06/23	Class photos
15/06/23	KS1 : Mini Olympics challenge
19/06/23 -23/06/23	Our Small Church School Week
22/06/23	Sports Day:- EYFS +Y1 / Community picnic p.m. Y2 - Y6
23/06/23	Inset Day
27/06/23	Y6 trip - Hazard Alley
29/06/23	Y3/4 trip - Saxon Day, at St Albans Cathedral
04/07/23	Djembe Family Workshop (part of Dacorum Music Festival)
05/07/23	Jazzy Socks for Jazzy Jars
08/07/23	Great Gaddesden School + Church Summer fete
14/07/23	Inter-village Sports Day 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Hosted by Little Gaddesden
17/07/23	Y6 Leavers' Service
20/07/23	FOGGS end of term party 3:30 Y6 Leavers' Party
21/07/23	Last day of summer term