

Great Gaddesden CE (VA) Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Matt Beach

This month's
values is:



Weekly update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am pleased to share with you all that from this week, Miss Carty and Mrs Lilley started their newly appointed roles as Lower and Upper School Senior Teacher. Together alongside myself and the Inclusion & Pastoral Team, we make up the school leadership team (as shown below):

Headteacher- Mr M. Beach	
Inclusion & Pastoral	Teaching, Learning & Assessment
SENCo- Mrs G. Aikman Pastoral Support & Attendance - Mrs E. Redman	Lower School Senior Teacher - Miss J. Carty Upper School Senior Teacher - Mrs D. Lilley

Also this week, we were proud to mark the 80th anniversary for VE day (please see further down for more details).

It has been lovely to see our families starting to use the extended wrap around provision on a Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evening. Mrs Jeffery has been working very hard to develop many creative activities for the children to enjoy. If you would like to extend your child's booking from 4:30pm to 5:30pm or 6:00pm on any of these days, please contact the school office directly.

Today, it was lovely to see the sunshine again! It looks like the weekend weather is going to be warm and sunny as well.

Have a good weekend

Warm regards,

Mr Matt Beach
Headteacher

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Attendance

OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK IS: 95%
OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR IS: 94%

'Treat others exactly as you would like to be treated yourself.' (Luke 6:31)



VE Day

This Thursday marked the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) day. We discussed with the children the significance of this and our reflection ambassadors led some prayers, poems and time for reflection. We came together as a school to have a cream tea together. The children enjoyed making decorations and completing some follow up learning around VE day in their classrooms.



80 Years



'Treat others exactly as you would like to be treated yourself.' (Luke 6:31)

25 Challenge

Here are some of the outdoor challenges so far!



1ST MAY - 1ST JUNE 2025

CHALLENGE 2025

WE ARE INVITING YOU TO PARTAKE IN CHALLENGE 2025, TAKING ON 25 CHALLENGES OVER THE COMING WEEKS

WE ARE ENCOURAGING YOU TO GATHER AS MANY SPONSORSHIPS AS YOU CAN SO SHARE YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS FAR AND WIDE AND HELP RAISE VALUABLE FUNDS FOR YOUR SCHOOL

SPONSORSHIP FORMS WILL BE COMING HOME WITH YOUR CHILD ALONG WITH A LIST OF IDEAS TO HELP GET YOU ON YOUR WAY!

Forest school

The woodland was absolutely filled with beautiful bluebells and wild garlic when Year 5 and 6 visited on Thursday! We started the session by practising the art of 'Shinrin-Yoku.' This is otherwise known as tree-bathing and is where you take in the forest atmosphere with all the senses to promote relaxation and well-being. We discussed how some people experience spirituality through connecting with nature.

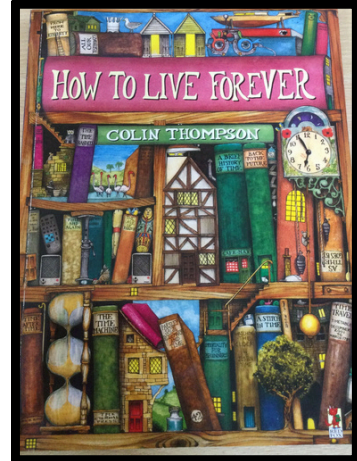
We also had a go at the craft of 'Hapa zome' which is the Japanese print-making technique where natural pigments from leaves and flowers are transferred to fabric by using a hammer! We made some beautiful pencil cases which the children were able to take home with them.



Spotlight on Learning

This week, we hear from Year 3&4!

After reading 'How to Live Forever' in class, we have been busy writing a 'prequel' to the story. We have focused on using paragraphs in our writing, including speech dialogue and thinking about how to finish with a powerful ending.



In Maths lessons we have been learning about all aspects of telling the time from seasons, months and years to seconds, minutes and hours! We have used digital, analogue and 24 clocks to tell the time and convert different units.



Our topic in Science is 'Plants' and this week we focused on the purpose and function of leaves. We went outside to collect a variety of leaves and then identified which type of tree they came from. We were amazed at the huge variety of different sizes, colours and shapes that we found! We also discussed the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees.



Learners of the week

This week, the following learners below were chosen by their class teacher for demonstrating **excellent learning behaviours**:

Early years	Margot
Year 1/2	Fox
Year 3/4	Harley
Year 5/6	Leo

Headteacher awards:

- Carter (Year 2)
- Kauan (Year 1)



This week, the following learners below were nominated for demonstrating **'honesty'** (our value of the month):

Early years	Benji
Year 1/2	Priscilla
Year 3/4	Harley
Year 5/6	Kiera



Key dates

May	w/c 12th Y6 SATs week 20 th EYFS Forest School (afternoon) w/c 26 th Half Term
June	3 rd June Y3/4 Forest School (afternoon) 13 th EYFS Forest School (afternoon) 16 th Y5/6 Forest School (afternoon) w/c 23 rd Small schools week 24 th Whole School Trip (More information to follow) 26 th Sports Day (Weather Dependent) (lunch picnic followed by the afternoon of events) 27 th INSET Day (School closed for Pupils)

July	1 st Soiree (Evening/Time TBC) 2 nd Y3/4 Forest School (afternoon) 7 th Early Years Stay & Play/Welcome Meeting (for new families joining Nursery & Reception) 2-3:00pm 8 th Y6 Trip to Chessington 8 th Y1/2 Forest School (afternoon) 18 th End of Year Reports sent out 22 nd Y6 Leavers Service at 9am (St John's Church) 22 nd Term Ends @1:30pm 23 rd Occasional day
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