

# Great Gaddesden CE (VA) Primary School

This month's  
value is:



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Headteacher: Mr Matt Beach



## Weekly update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term.

This week, Early Years were delighted to be able to access their beautiful new outdoor area! We hope they will have lots of fun and exciting learning experiences in the coming months and years ahead. Experiencing the outdoors is a key part of our vision for the children's education at Great Gaddesden and ensuring the environment supports learning opportunities effectively is really important.

Yesterday, I wrote to you all about the upcoming parent/carer evenings due to take place on Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th March. Please ensure to have made a booking on Arbor by Monday 10th March at 12pm. If you need any help with this, please either give the school office a call or pop in.

Last night, we had the E-Safety information session for parents delivered by Mary Rebelo. For those of you that were able to join the meeting, I hope you found it useful. Thank you to Mary for being so generous with her time and supporting our community. The slides and resources will be shared with you all as soon as possible. One of the key messages I took away is that 'it takes a village to raise a digitally responsible child'.

In other news, we were very grateful to Travis Perkins for donating some bark for our Forest School area. The children enjoyed putting it all out and tidying up the area.

Have a lovely weekend and hopefully the sun will keep shining!

Kind regards,  
**Mr Matt Beach**  
Headteacher

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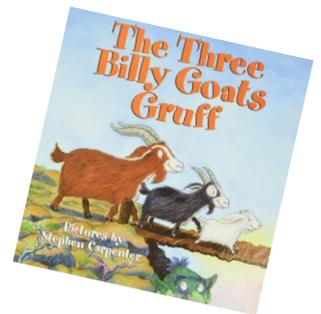
*Thank  
you!*

# Spotlight on learning

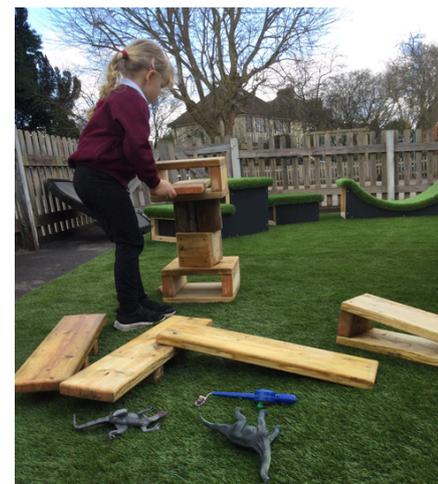
This week we hear from Early Years!

The children have had a great week with learning focusing on the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff. The children have thought of some great words to describe the troll including our Drawing Club word 'grotesque!'. They have retold the story by making character masks and small world animals as well as creating story maps. They have used some problem solving and made bridges using a variety of materials as well as learning that triangles are a strong shape to use when making a bridge.

The children have also been investigating length using comparative language including longer, longest, short and shortest. They have also been remember that when comparing different lengths, each object needs to start in the same place.



The children have also had a wonderful time using their new outside area and have loved playing in the huge sandpit, on the green blocks and experimenting with the wooden construction blocks and guttering creating lots of fun games.



# Religious life of our school

This week was the last week of our value 'Community'. We went back to our school mission & 3Be's which are at the heart of our school community. The children were tasked with spotting as many of the 3Be's being lived out and capturing them in our scrap book. We also introduced Prayer and Blessing cards for the children to complete in our reflection area. We have a prayer dice to support the children to write their own prayers.

### Upcoming Easter events:

- Our **Easter Service** will be on **1st April at 2pm** (all welcome to join us)
- We would like to the children to bring in two hard boiled eggs this year on 3rd April. One to be decorated for a competition which will be judged by the Reflection Ambassadors and the other undecorated but please ensure to be named for the egg rolling.
- During the last week of term (w.c 31st March)- FOGGs will be running a Easter Scavenger hunt!



# Forest School

The sun finally came out for Year 1&2 during their forest school afternoon on Thursday and we certainly made the most of the lovely weather. We toasted marshmallows on our campfire, built dens amongst the trees, played in the mud kitchen and searched for wildlife using magnifying glasses. A few of us even had a go at 'whittling' sticks using potato peelers! Everyone was really sensible and well behaved during the session and we all had a lovely time.



# Learners of the week



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

Early years	<b>Frankie &amp; Poppy</b>
Year 1/2	<b>Priscilla</b>
Year 3/4	<b>Albie</b>
Year 5/6	<b>Amorie</b>

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

Early years	<b>Benji</b>
Year 1/2	<b>Tommy</b>
Year 3/4	<b>Molly</b>
Year 5/6	<b>Guney</b>



## Headteacher's awards

**Ophelia**- for writing an excellent persuasive paragraph!

**Alex**- for a very thoughtful and carefully written reflection in RE

**Maeve**- for creating an excellent creative project inspired by the Billy Goats Gruff story!



# Attendance

**OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK IS: 96%**

**OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR IS: 94%**

Our attendance has continued to be good this week which is great to see!

Our aim is for our overall attendance for the year to be in line with the national expectation of being above 95%.

## Absence reporting:

Please call on 01442 255734 and **Option 1** to leave an absence message.

or email- **absence@greatgaddesden.herts.sch.uk**

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or need any support, please contact Mrs Redman, Pastoral Support.

# Community information

Please scan the QR code to find out lots of information about support available locally for families





**After School Club Manager**  
Great Gaddesden C of E (VA) Primary School

NEW THIS WEEK

📍 Dacorum Borough 🕒 Part time

💰 £25,183 - £26,409 H4 Pro-rata (based on 15 hours weekly/term time)

📅 Closing date: 30th Jan 2025 5:00 PM

We are very excited to offer this new opportunity to join our team. The role of After School Club/Wrap Around Manager is key to helping us achieve our vision to grow our wrap around provision at Great Gaddesden school. The role is for 15 hours per week (3:00-6:00pm Monday to Friday) and...

[VIEW FULL DETAILS](#)

We're

Hiring

[https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,after-school-club-manager\\_102007.htm](https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,after-school-club-manager_102007.htm)

## Key dates

New or amended dates added in **red**  
**Things in bold are coming up next week**

Please note the correct dates have been added for World Book Day and Red Nose Day.

March	<p>4th Shrove Tuesday</p> <p>5th Ash Wednesday (Start of Lent)</p> <p>6th World Book Day</p> <p>12th Open Afternoon (parents welcome from 2:30pm)</p> <p>13th Dacorum Sports Event (Reception at Longdean 12:30-2:45pm)</p> <p>21st Red Nose Day (wear something red)</p> <p>25th &amp; 27th Parents Evenings</p> <p>w.c 31st FOGGs Easter Scavenger Hunt (more details to follow)</p> <p>31st March Year 3/4 trip to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Neasden</p>
April	<p>1st April Easter Service at 2pm (at St John's Church- all parents/carers welcome to attend)</p> <p>3rd April Decorated &amp; plain eggs to come into school</p> <p>4th April End of term (1:30pm finish for all pupils)</p> <p>22nd April (INSET day/School closed for pupils)</p> <p>23rd April Start of Summer Term 1</p>