

Great Gaddesden CE (VA) Primary School

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Weekly update

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a busy week full of exciting events! On Tuesday, we had our vision day exhibition and on Thursday afternoon, our Harvest Service. During the service, I was bursting with pride at all of our children who behaved beautifully as well as sharing poems, prayers, readings and songs with such confidence. It was really clear that the children had a strong understanding of the significance of Harvest as a time to give thanks as well as supporting those in need.

Over the last few weeks, we have been welcoming families looking for a Reception school place for September 2025. Please do share with family and friends looking for a school place. Every parent that has looked around so far has commented on the excellent behaviour, warm and calm environment as well as the beautiful surroundings.

Next week, we have parents evening on Tuesday and Thursday. Your children's books will be set out for you to look through in the hall and teachers will greet you there. Appointments will take place in either the Library or Nurture room. Due to limited space and also to have more privacy, where possible, we ask for you to please attend without your children. However, we completely understand this might not be possible. Please ensure to arrive 5 minutes before your appointment. Also on Thursday next week we have our Early Years stay and play session.

As I am sure you are aware, next Friday will be the last day of this half term. It is also the FOGGs Non-Uniform day where we kindly ask for donations for the Christmas hampers (please see the flyer in the community information section).

Have a lovely weekend!

Mr Matt Beach
Headteacher

In this issue:

- Update from Headteacher- 1
- Religious life of our school- 2 & 3
- Spotlight on learning- 4
- Awards & attendance- 5
- Community information and dates- 6

harvest
BLESSINGS

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

Religious life of our school

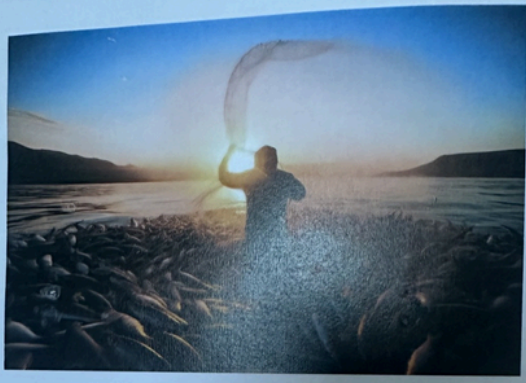


You show your care for the land by sending rain; you make it rich and fertile.
You fill the streams with water; you provide the earth with crops.
This is how you do it; you send abundant rain on the plowed fields and soak them with water;
you soften the soil with showers and cause the young plants to grow.
What a rich harvest your goodness provides!
Wherever you go there is plenty.

Psalm 95 verses 9 to 11

(Read by Olive, Year 6)

A Harvest Prayer



Dear God,


Thank you for the fishermen who work tirelessly,
Thank you for the back-breaking labour they go through just to feed us,
May the tides always be in their favour,
and that the ocean shall forever yield a plentiful bounty.

Amen

Year 6
Harvest prayers from Adam and Sophie



A Harvest Prayer




Dear God,

Thank you for the farmers and those who are dedicated in providing us with the good and crops we need to survive.
We are ever so grateful for the rain and sunshine to help the crops grow.
We are grateful for the love you have given our farmers.
Thank you that we are gifted with land and crops this harvest. Please keep them safe from the floods and other risks.

Amen.

Thursday 10th October 2024
L.O. To write an acrostic poem.

Thank the farmers
Have gratitude
And celebrate the Lord
Never disrespect people who give us food
Kindness is important
Fruits and vegetables are really healthy
We get cherries we have to take care of them
Love and respect everyone.



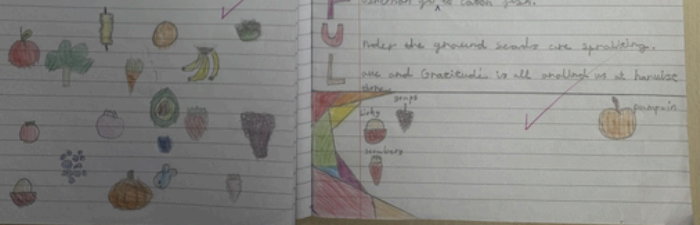
Year 3 & 4
Thankfulness acrostic poems from Alys, Theo, Ophelia & Amelie

Thursday 10th October 2024
L.O. To write an acrostic poem.

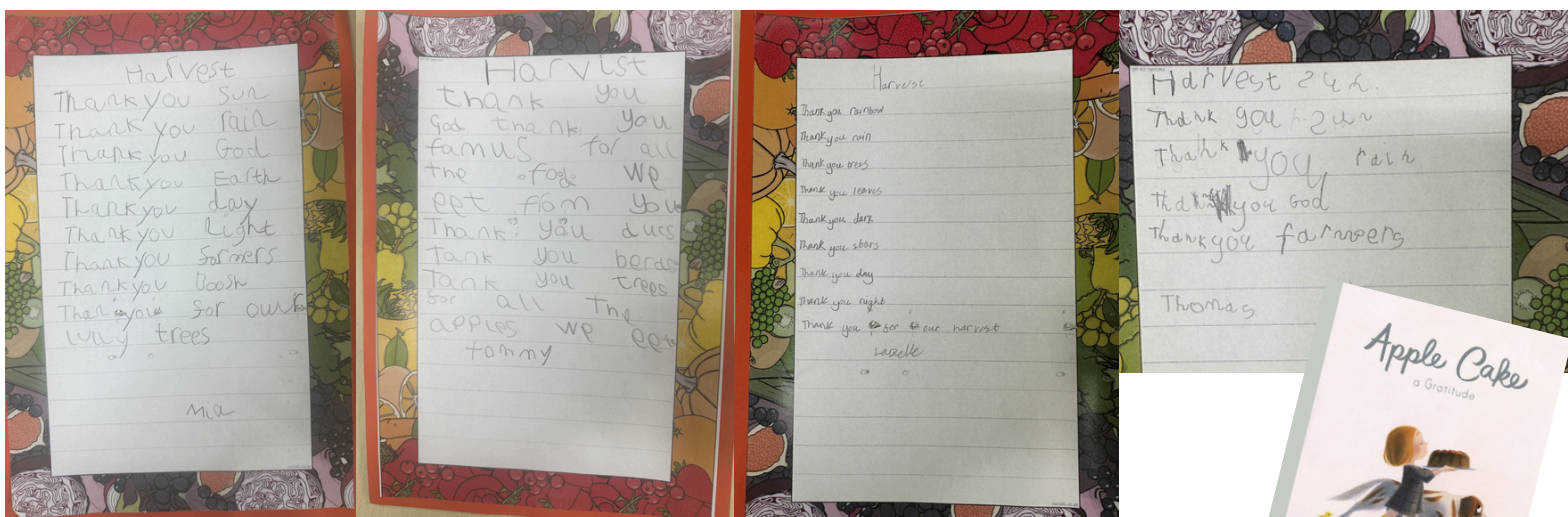
Thank you Lord for all the good we can have
Harvest is a time to be thankful
Autumn leads stuff to fall
Not only one is as happy as you
Kindness is a virtue
Food and drink is important to us all
Under the ground seeds are sprouting
Love of world and everything in it.

THANKFUL

Thank you for our food and drink
Autumn is a time to be thankful.
All the leaves are falling
Animals and wild life need looking after.
Indulgence, respect and love
Fishermen go to catch fish.
Under the ground seeds are sprouting.
We and God's kindness is all around us at harvest time.



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



Year 1 & 2

Thankfulness poems inspired by the book 'Apple Cake- a Gratitude'
by Mia, Tommy, Thomas & La Belle

And God, who supplies seed for the sower and bread to eat, will also supply you with all the seed you need and will make it grow and produce a rich harvest from your generosity. He will always make you rich enough to be generous at all times, so that many will thank God for your gifts which they receive from us.
2 Corinthians, chapter 9 verses 10 to 11
(Read by Jess, Year 5)

Vision day exhibition



Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Vision Day exhibition at St John's Church. We hope you enjoyed seeing the different ways the children expressed the vision.

We were delighted to receive a card from one of our neighbours who said our exhibition was 'beautiful' and noticed how much thought and hard work went into it.

We plan to varnish the pebbles and add them to our Garden of Reflection.

Spotlight on learning

This week we hear from Early Years! The children in Early Years have had a busy week learning all about Harvest. They have used their senses to explore different fruit and vegetables and developed their language describing them as well as sorting whether they grew under or above ground. The children did some printing with the vegetables and then harvested some of their own in our outside area, making sure to wash all the soil off them afterwards! The children explored weighing different vegetables and tried to get the scales to balance and estimate which would be heavier or lighter.



They had an exciting time making vegetable soup. They all had a turn peeling and chopping carrots and potatoes. The children noticed that before cooking the vegetables were hard and once cooked they became soft which told us they were cooked. They enjoyed watching the soup be blended and all made sure they blew on the soup before trying it. It was pretty unanimous that the soup tasted yummy and some children even asked for seconds! The children practised using words like; first, then, next, after that and finally to sequence the stages of making the soup and used their developing phonic knowledge to write about it.

We were very proud of the children taking part in the Harvest festival with the rest of the school and remembering the songs we had learnt to share.



Learners of the week



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

Early years	Maeve
Year 1/2	Whole class
Year 3/4	Joseph
Year 5/6	Phoebe

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

Early years	Savannah
Year 1/2	Whole class
Year 3/4	Ella
Year 5/6	Jessica



Attendance

OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK IS: 91%
OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE SO FAR THIS TERM IS: 92%

Unfortunately, we have had an increase of lateness this week. Please ensure your child arrives at school by 8:45 each day. Gates/doors open at 8:40 and close at 8:45.



Since children have been in school by 8:45am, it has been great to see the children getting going with their learning sooner. We continue to be mindful that there are local traffic issues from time-to-time. However, it is important for all children to be at school on time.

You can review your child(ren)'s attendance record through the Arbor app. If you would like support accessing this, please let the school office know.

Thank you to all of our families that are parking at the garden centre and walking down. This reduces congestion and idling. I requested Hertfordshire County Council to conduct a survey with the hope we could have a Crossing Patrol Attended on Piper's Hill. However, after completing their survey, unfortunately, we do not meet the criteria for this. Nonetheless, we are open to any ideas to support our families with safe crossing and plan to discuss this further at Parent Forum.

Community information



<https://padlet.com/SENCOGG/sup-port-for-children-and-families>

NON UNIFORM DAY

in exchange for donations for the Christmas Hamper Raffle

FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER

SUGGESTED DONATIONS

crackers/biscuits	bottles of nice alcohol	chocolates
festive savouries	bottles of nice beverages	sweets
chutneys/jams	sweet treats/puddings	cakes

please bring your donations to school on the day!
thank you as always for your ongoing support!

www.surveymonkey.com/r/HPCISurvey2024

The Herts Parent Carer Involvement 2024 Survey is open until 3rd November

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HPCISurvey2024

We want to hear from Hertfordshire parent carers of children and young people (age 0-25) with any Special Educational Need and/or Disability. Your child doesn't need to have a diagnosis or EHCP for you to take part.

Share your thoughts and make a difference



Key dates

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

October	<p>22nd & 24th Parent Consultation evenings (see separate communication)</p> <p>24th Early Years stay & play 8:45-9:15am</p> <p>25th FOGGs Non-Uniform day (Christmas Hamper Donations)</p> <p>w/c 28th Half Term</p>
November	<p>14th November Parent Forum 9-10am (open to all parents to attend/more details to follow)</p>