

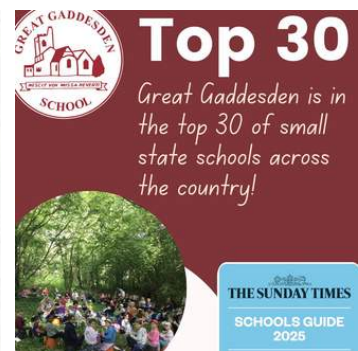
Great Gaddesden CE (VA) Primary School

Email: admin@greatgaddesden.herts.sch.uk Tel: 01442 255734
Headteacher: Mr Matt Beach



Dear Parents/Carers,

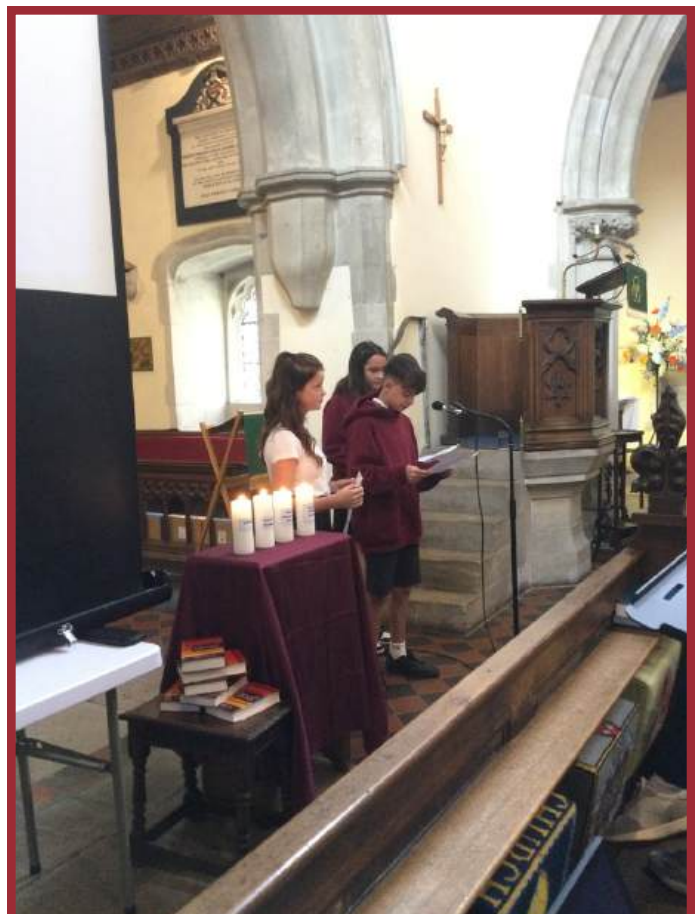
We have come to the end of a very successful, busy and enjoyable year at Great Gaddesden school. It has been my great privilege to join the community as the Headteacher and I have felt very fortunate to be supported by such a strong family of staff, children, parents/carers and governors. Together, we have achieved a lot this year from being ranked by the Sunday Times Good School Guide as being in the Top 30 of small school's nationally, to going on a wide range of trips. We have also refurbished the Early Years outdoor area, grown our Nursery and wrap around provision and further developed our school vision through our vision day, introducing the 3Be's and using this as a driver for our pupil leadership team. These are just some of many successes from this year.



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

Today, we said a fond farewell to our Year 6 pupils: **Dottie, Tommy, Adam, Olive, George** and **Sophie**. We are very proud of them all and our secondary colleagues are very fortunate to have a child from Great Gaddesden join their school. The children have risen to the challenge of being leaders of the school and as commended by Mr Wilcock, SIAMS Inspector, "older pupils flourish through the opportunities they have to lead the pupil community and support their younger peers." This cohort have grown our pupil leadership team this year and have laid a strong foundation for our Year 5 children to now follow.

Here are some of the highlights from the Leaver's Service this morning:



Further to my communication on Monday, we are delighted to share our successful SIAMS inspection with you all. A summary and highlights are shown below and a full copy of the report is now on our website.



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Great Gaddesden Church of England Primary School

Vision

"Treat others exactly as you would wish to be treated yourself" - Luke 6:31 (World English Bible)

1) **Be** observant and thoughtful 2) **Be** kind and empathetic 3) **Be** flexible and reflective

Our vision is a call to empathy, encouraging us to step into the shoes of others. By treating each other with the respect and kindness we wish for ourselves, we create a culture of mutual respect, where productivity and collaboration soar. We aim to grow a community that values learning and humanity towards others, guided by the life and teachings of Jesus, our Christian values, and our 3'Be's. We aim to support all to feel valued, included and become flourishing individuals, with a heart for others and the world.

Great Gaddesden Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It has the following notable strengths.

Strengths

- The Christian vision is an imaginative, effective and compelling response to the context of this small, rural school. This means that pupils flourish through a rich and diverse educational experience.
- Collective worship is central to the life of the school. It strongly reinforces the Christian vision and its associated values and promotes the spiritual flourishing of adults and pupils.
- Leaders, teachers and support staff work tirelessly to ensure that pupils and parents are known as unique and valued individuals. As a result, pupils who are vulnerable or going through difficult times receive timely and sensitive support.
- Religious education (RE) is carefully planned and taught with expertise and passion. Consequently, pupils greatly enjoy their lessons, develop impressive religious literacy and make strong progress.
- Leaders have established a rich culture in which adults make pupils' spiritual development a priority. The forest school and reflection areas offer them rich opportunities to reflect and experience wonder.

Development Points

- Build on the work being done by the pupil leaders in standing for justice. This is to further enhance their confidence in using their sense of personal responsibility to enrich the lives of others.
- Enhance the way experiences for spiritual development are planned across the curriculum. This is to deepen the opportunities for pupils and adults to flourish spiritually.

- "Great Gaddesden's Christian vision is deeply embedded and has a profound impact on the life of the school. The more recent addition of the 'three Bes' to the vision has sharpened its focus, enhancing its impact. Consequently, leaders, adults and pupils understand and value it as a crucial guide to their conduct, priorities and attitudes."
- "The 'three Bes' have a profound impact on relationships at Great Gaddesden."
- "School culture is characterised by the practice of thoughtfulness, empathy and reflectiveness."
- "Parents and staff greatly value the fact that the parish church is an integral part of their experience of school. They flourish because the school's Church of England foundation is central to its work."
- "Leaders work energetically to ensure that pupils, including those who are disadvantaged, have a rich school experience. Consequently, pupils, including those who are deemed vulnerable, make strong progress during their time at school."
- "Here, pupils follow a programme that gives them the opportunity to reflect and to experience wonder at the created world. These spiritual experiences have a profound effect on pupils."
- "Older pupils flourish through the opportunities they have to lead the pupil community and support their younger peers."
- "A culture of care amplifies the impact of this familiarity. People actively look out for each other, consciously living out the school's vision."
- "Adults thrive through the kindness they are shown when facing difficulties and the unwavering support that leaders give to their professional development."
- "Leaders, teachers and support staff work tirelessly to ensure that pupils and parents are known as unique and valued individuals. As a result, pupils who are vulnerable or going through difficult times receive timely and sensitive support."
- "Pupils are deeply engaged in their learning in RE. This is because of the relevant curriculum, taught with enthusiasm and skill by well-trained teachers."
- "pupils flourish through a rich and diverse educational experience"

Have a lovely summer holiday and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Friday 5th September**.

Warm regards,

Mr M. Beach
Headteacher