

Great Gaddesden CE (VA) Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Matt Beach

This month's
value is:



Weekly update

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we have enjoyed lots of sunshine and the bulbs that Early Years planted have started to sprout! As you can see below, playtimes have certainly been filled with fun, joy and imaginative play as the sun shone down on us:



On Tuesday, in collective worship, we introduced the liturgical season of Lent. Mrs Redman and Mrs Hollings kindly made pancakes with all of the children in small groups which were very much enjoyed by all! Being a small school, it means we can come together as a school family regularly and really makes our school such a special place to be.

On a separate note, unfortunately, there have been some reports of parents parking on the pavement. This is not only dangerous but makes it tricky for families with push chairs to get through. Please ensure to park considerately during drop off and pick up. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

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

Kind regards,

Mr Matt Beach
Headteacher

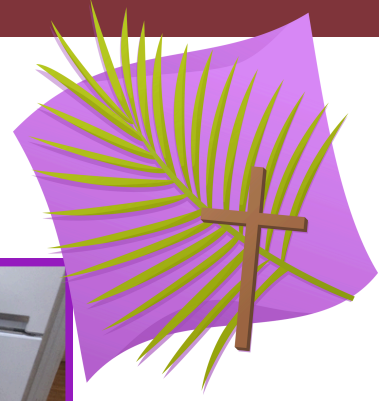
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Attendance this week: 94%

Overall attendance this year: 94%

Religious life of our school



On Shrove Tuesday, we came together as a whole school to reflect on the new Liturgical season 'Lent', which began on Ash Wednesday this week.

The reflection ambassadors ensured our focal point for collective worship changed from green to purple as we entered the new season.

Each class has a lent calendar to count down the 40 days of Lent. We reminded ourselves of Jesus' strength, persistence and courage during the fast in the desert.

Also this week, the children had the opportunity to reflect and come up with a Lenten promise.

"I promise to think about Jesus during Lent this year and not forget him amongst all the celebration and chocolate"

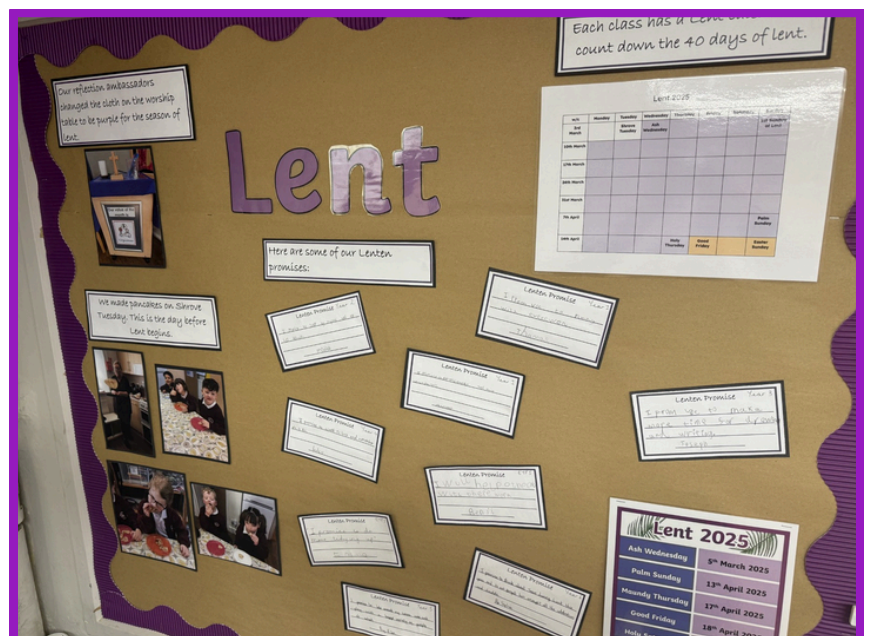
Sophie (Year 6)

"I promise to watch TV less and remember our 3Be's"

Amelie (Year 4)

"I promise to do more tidying up"

Emma (EYFS)



Spotlight on learning

This week, we hear from Year 3&4!

Our current English text is 'Frindleswyld' by Natalie O'Hara. We have written descriptions of the setting in the story and created some lovely paintings using this descriptive language. We have now finished reading the book and the children are writing their own sequels to the story entitled 'Frindleswyld Returns!'



In Maths our focus is on fractions. We have been learning about numerators and denominators, finding fractions using part-whole models and we are now working on finding equivalent fractions using a fraction wall.

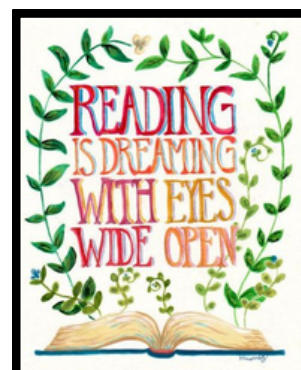


Our new topic in Geography is 'Marvellous Maps.' We have looked at a range of maps including globes, atlases, OS maps and Google Earth and used these to locate specific places. We have also used a key, compass points and grid references.



World Book Day

We enjoyed taking part in World Book Day and bringing different characters in our favourite books to life. Mid-morning, as a whole school, we took part in a 'Drop Everything and Read' session. Reading is one of the most important skills we teach the children and is the foundation for all learning. We encourage all children to read every day at home to a parent/carer and also their library book to be read to them/enjoyed as a family.



Forest School

We had a World Book Day theme for Year 3 and 4's forest school session this week! We each made a 'story stick' based on a character from a book using potato peelers as our whittling tools.



In addition to this activity, the children also took part in den building, mud kitchen activities and cooking marshmallows on the campfire!

Learners of the week

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

Early years	Freya
Year 1/2	Reed
Year 3/4	Bea
Year 5/6	Kiera

Headteacher's award:

Eve - for excellent story writing and using excellent vocabulary.



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

Early years	Fredrik
Year 1/2	Amelia
Year 3/4	Leo
Year 5/6	Pheobe



Community information

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



Dogs

IMPORTANT!

We have seen an increase of dogs at pick up. Where possible, we ask that dogs do not come onto the playground. However, in the event they do, please ensure the following:

- They are kept on a lead at all times
- Please wait with them by the picket fence at the back of the playground/by the bark area
- If they bark, appear anxious or are jumping up, please remove them promptly.
- Please also wait until the gate is less congested before leaving



It is important to note that the owners are liable for their dogs.

Helping your child with their worries	
Date	Wednesday 19 th March 2025
Time	10:00 to 11:30 am <i>Session will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams and in person at Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School (HP3 8ER)</i>
Would you like some strategies to help your child with their worries and anxiety?	
A free workshop for parents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is anxiety? • The signs to look out for • Strategies & tips to help your child to manage worries and anxiety 	

For more details and to book, please email:

jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk

Please include contact details and name of child's school when booking

Please specify whether you would like to attend **online or in person**

Tel: 01442 401222 Ext: 5

Key dates

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

March	<p>12th Open Afternoon (parents welcome from 2:30pm)</p> <p>13th Dacorum Sports Event (Afternoon EYs children at Longdean 12:30-2:45pm)</p> <p>21st Red Nose Day (wear something red)</p> <p>25th & 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 & 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>