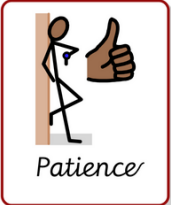


Great Gaddesden CE (VA) Primary School

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



Weekly update

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a lovely, sunny week here at Great Gaddesden school! Our play leaders have been working with Mrs Redman to ensure the children have lots of exciting activities during lunch play and have been doing a wonderful job!

Also this week, as per the separate communication, FOGGs have started the '25 Challenge' which is taking place until the 1st June. All proceeds will go towards investing in resources for the children to use in school. We would really like to share photos each week of challenges the children have completed. Please send these via the school office: admin@greatgaddesden.herts.sch.uk

We have seen our first groups of children make use of the wrap around provision until 6pm this week. The feedback from the children has been great and they have really enjoyed the new activities Mrs Jeffery has provided. If you would like to extend your booking from 4:30pm to 5:30pm or 6:00pm, please let the school office know and we can change this for you.

Next Thursday is VE day which marks 80 years since the end of World War Two. To mark this significant occasion, the children will learn more about this in class and we will be coming together as a whole school to celebrate this with an afternoon tea outside. The children have also been busy making bunting and preparing the decorations.

This Saturday, Year 4's entries to the Dacorum Young Artists competition will be displayed at the exhibition at Ashlyns school. This takes place between 11:30-1:30pm and it would be great if you can pop along to see our children's work displayed.

Have a good weekend.

Mr Matt Beach
Headteacher

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Attendance

OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK IS: 97%

OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR IS: 94%

Religious Life



This week is our last week focussing on the values 'patience' and 'acceptance'. On Monday, in collective worship, we focussed on the Parable of the Mustard Seed. We discussed how the mustard seed parable emphasises patience and perseverance. While a mustard seed appears small, it can grow into a large tree, demonstrating that small beginnings can lead to significant growth over time.

"If you wait patiently it will make everyone feel happy."

BIG QUESTION WHY IS PATIENCE IMPORTANT?

"People appreciate it"

"Patience has a very important role in life"

After school club

NOW OPEN
UNTIL 6PM
3 DAYS PER
WEEK



The children have really enjoyed the new and exciting activities at After School Club this week. They also enjoyed having a picnic outside!

We are open until 6pm on Monday, Wednesday & Thursday and are open until 4:30pm on Tuesday.

Please make all bookings via Arbor and select the session you would like.



- Children staying 3:15-4:30 = £6 (per child)
- Children staying from 3:15-5:30pm = £11 (per child)
- Children staying from 3:15-6:00pm = £13.50 (per child)

FUN!



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

Gymnastics



This week, Year 3&4 started their half term of gymnastics lessons at Sapphire. As a small school, we wanted to provide our Junior children access to a larger space with specialist equipment. A great time was had by all and next half term will be Year 5&6's turn.



Forest school



Year 1&2 enjoyed venturing up to the woods on Thursday. They were very creative and enjoyed being outside with the lovely weather we have had!



Spotlight on Learning

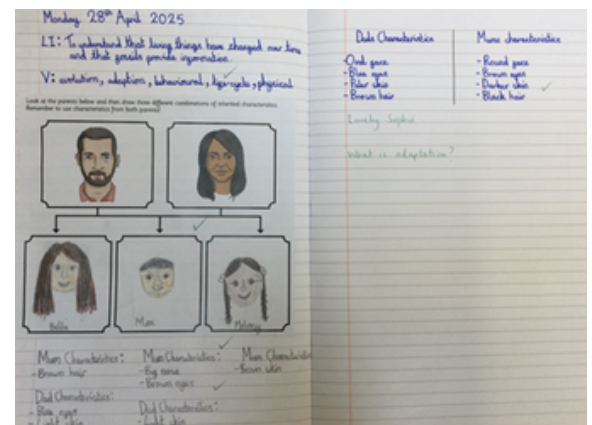
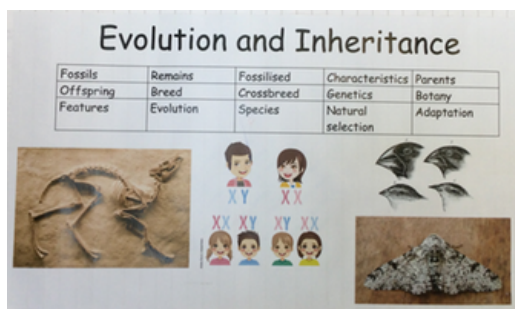
It has been a very busy time since returning after the Easter break. In English, we have started an exciting new unit of work based on the dystopian book 'Boy in the Tower' – as part of this unit, we have been exploring old film trailers from the 1950's to gather ambitious vocabulary.

During our learning in RE, we have been contemplating the idea of refuge and what makes us feel safe. We have linked this to the Buddhist belief in the Triple Refuge and how it helps them in their journey through life. We built wigwams to help demonstrate the idea of a safe refuge.

Our unit of work on collage has concluded, with the children completing a finished piece of work inspired by the Rainforest – a range of materials and techniques was used.

This week we started our new science topic on Evolution and Inheritance.

We talked about fossils and how they give us clues as to how animals and plants have changed and evolved over time. We also looked at how our characteristics such as hair colour and eye colour have been inherited from our parents. We analysed an image of two parents and drew predictions of what their children might look like based on their parents characteristics.



We also made our own fossils out of salt dough and shells.



Learners of the week

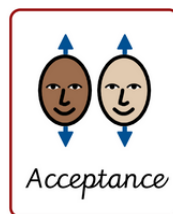


This week, the following learners below were chosen by their class teacher for demonstrating **excellent learning behaviours**:

Early years	Fredrik
Year 1/2	Lewis
Year 3/4	Ophelia
Year 5/6	Dottie

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

Early years	Savannah
Year 1/2	Joshua
Year 3/4	Molly
Year 5/6	Adam



Key dates

May	8th Y5/6 Forest School (afternoon) 8th VE Day w/c 12 th 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) 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 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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