

# Great Gaddesden CE (VA) Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Matt Beach



## Weekly update

Dear Parents/Carers,

We started this week by taking part in International Day of Acceptance. It was lovely to see so many bright colours and creative hair styles! The children enjoyed joining the live virtual workshop from Electric Umbrella. The day was a good way to reflect on what makes us different and unique.

Early Years have been busy taking their learning outside this week with Forest School and also making their own bird feeders! I really enjoyed seeing the children sequence the steps they took to make them and write some excellent instructions for children in other year groups to be able to make them too!

Our Eco Ambassadors have also been working hard outside this week by litter picking and making sure we turn things off that are not in use.

In other news, Key Stage 2 are really enjoying learning to play the recorder with Mr Waygood. We are delighted to offer our children the opportunity to learn a tuned instrument as part of our curriculum offer. We plan to hold a musical soiree in the Summer term to show case all of the music learning our children have been doing.

As I am sure you are aware, there have been lots of winter illnesses about. We have been reminding the children to wash their hands regularly and catch coughs and sneezes safely. Hopefully, as we head towards Spring, the warmer weather will help reduce this. Attached with this newsletter is some important health information we have received from the NHS.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Kind regards,

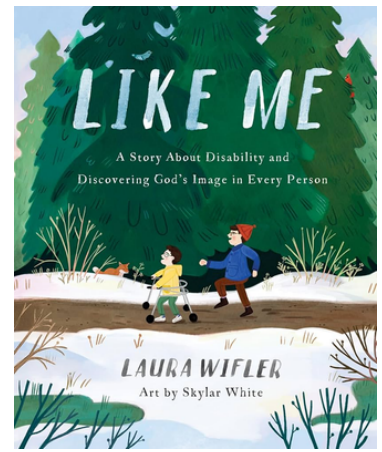
**Mr Matt Beach**  
Headteacher

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# Religious life of our school



On Monday, as part of International Day of Acceptance, we listened to the story 'Like Me- A Story About Disability and Discovering God's Image in Every Person' by Laura Wifler.

*"In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith"*

*Galatians 3:26*



On Wednesday, the children took part in our weekly Child-Led worship. This is really well established at our school and enjoyed by the children. Recently, we have had leaders from other Church schools come to visit our school to see it in action.

## Forest School

EYFS had a fantastic time in the rain during Forest school this week! We took part in a range of activities including:

- Telling stories using a puppet theatre.
- Cooking dinner in the mud kitchen.
- Making 'pebble creatures.'



We also had a campfire and toasted marshmallows!

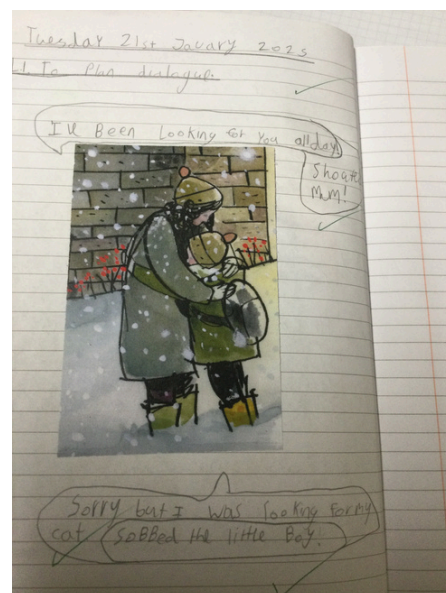




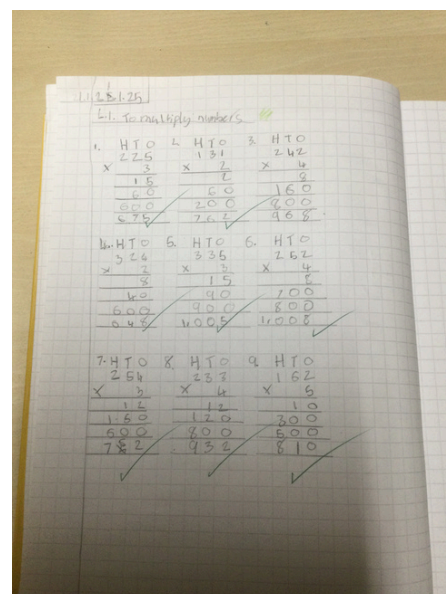
# Spotlight on learning

This week, we hear from Year 3&4!

In our English lessons we are reading a text called 'Small in the City.' The focus for our learning this week has been writing dialogue. We have learnt various synonyms for the word 'said' including mumbled, shouted, cried, shrieked, replied, asked etc and used these to improve our writing. We have also started to learn the correct conventions for using inverted commas in our work.



In maths we have been using place value grids and counters to multiply 2 and 3 digit numbers by 1 digit. We have used formal written methods to record this.



We have a Geography focus for our learning this term. We have started a unit called 'Exploring Eastern Europe.' We have located Europe on a map of the world and named the countries and capital cities of the countries in Europe. We have used chrome books to carry out research on specific countries and created fact files using this information.

# Learners of the week

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

Early years	<b>Eve</b>
Year 1/2	<b>Molly</b>
Year 3/4	<b>Ella G</b>
Year 5/6	<b>Joey</b>

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

Early years	<b>Freya</b>
Year 1/2	<b>Kauan</b>
Year 3/4	<b>Theo</b>
Year 5/6	<b>Rhian</b>



The following children received a **Headteacher's award** for exceptional work:

- Benji**- for excellent writing about making a bird feeder!
- Reed**- for writing an excellent Narrative



# Attendance

**OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK IS: 91%**

**OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR IS: 93%**

**UK Health Security Agency** **NHS**

## Should I keep my child off school?

**Yes**

Illness	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

**No**  
but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

**SCAN ME**

**Advice and guidance**  
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfoc>.

# Community information

**We're Hiring**



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

📍 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 are working on **growing our wrap around provision** offer to be able to provide this for an **increased number of hours and places.**

In order to do this, **we are advertising for a After School Club Manager.**

Please click the link below to find out more & share to help us make this vision possible:

[https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,after-school-club-manager\\_100149.htm](https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,after-school-club-manager_100149.htm)

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



# Key dates

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

January	28th- Y3/4 DSSN Small Schools Rapid Fire Cricket (9:30-11:45)* *The children will get changed when they arrive at school
February	5th Y5/6 'Cosmos in the Classroom'/Planetarium trip @St Albans Cathedral 7th Parent Cafe @St John's Church (First Friday of each month) 11th Safer Internet Day 12th Parent Forum 2-3pm 13th Y3/4 Forest School 14th FOGGs Spring Disco 3:15-4:30pm w.c 17th Half term (school closed) 27th- Y1/2 Forest School PM