



# Great Gaddesden C of E Primary School

## Weekly update - Autumn Term : Week 11

### Religious Life of our School

This week, linked to our value of courage, Mrs Ansell talked to the children about Corrie Ten Boom. The children were fascinated to hear how, during WWII, Corrie and her family hid Jewish people in a small hiding place, built behind a bookcase in their home. Buoyed by her strong Christian faith, Corrie believed you should, 'never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.'



### Illness in School

We have had a number of children and staff who have been unwell with sickness bugs and viruses in the past few weeks. A reminder that, following HCC guidance, all children must remain away from school for 48 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. As these illnesses spread very easily, this will ensure that we limit cases amongst our community.



This week, we welcomed Mrs Collins, our new County Advisor to school. Mrs Collins was able to share the fantastic news that **Great Gaddesden School is ranked FIRST out of *all* the school in Hertfordshire for Reading.** This shows the incredible progress and attainment that the school has made. What a phenomenal achievement! This is testament to the consistent hard work of all pupils and staff, and a reflection of the children's positive attitude to their learning and indeed, all aspects of school life. How proud we all are of our small church school!

### Year 3 & 4 Trip to Verulamium



On Thursday, Year 3 & 4 visited the Verulamium Museum in St Albans, enriching their learning about the Romans.



The children had a great time visiting the Roman hypocaust, looking at the artefacts in the museum and dressing up and participating in the Roman workshop.

There was a particular fascination in the skeletons that were on display. Based on the Roman pottery that they had seen, the children created their own clay pots at school.



### Follow the Star: our walk to Bethlehem



We are four weeks in to our Follow the Star journey to Bethlehem. On Thursday, we had covered the total of 1771 miles, taking us to Turkey. Once again, we were able to celebrate our progress during our celebration assembly, this week. Do keep following the star and sending your mileage to: [ggfollowthestar@gmail.com](mailto:ggfollowthestar@gmail.com).

Please also remember to share [the fundraising link](#) with friends and family, to help raise money for our school and The Small Steps Foundation, in Uganda. We are currently just over half way to our target of £1000.



## Forest School

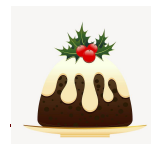
We were greeted with a carpet of colourful leaves at Forest School this week. Year 1 & 2 were inspired by famous paintings and recreated them, using the leaves. They also made natural crafts, to remind them of the beautiful autumn colours.



### Diary dates:

All dates are displayed on the [School Calendar](#) on the website. Please note that occasionally, it may be necessary to change dates. When this occurs, these will be highlighted to parents. Newly added dates are displayed in **red**.

29/11/23	Y5/6 Bletchley Park visit
01/12/23	Non uniform day (chocolate/bottle donations for FOGGS Xmas hampers)
07/12/23	Christmas Jumper Day (supporting Save the Children)
12/12/23	Whole School Pantomime - Peter Pan
13/12/23	Christmas lunch
14/12/23	KS2 Carol Singing at Care Home
15/12/23	9:00 Follow the Star Collective Worship in church
15/12/23	2:40 Piano and flute sharing assembly school
19/12/23	a.m. EYFS Nativity 2:00 - KS1 Nativity story (Y1/2) 6:00 - KS2 Carol Service (Y3-6)
21/12/23	1:30 pm - End of Autumn term



### Christmas lunch

Please ensure that your child's [Christmas lunch](#) is ordered by Monday 27th November. Please follow the link to make the menu choices for this year's school Christmas dinner. This will be on Wednesday, 13th December.

### Non - Uniform Day

A reminder that Friday 1st December is a non-uniform day, where children are invited to wear their own clothes, in exchange for a bottle or chocolate donation for the FOGGS Christmas hampers. Please ensure that children wear sensible shoes and warm clothes that are school-appropriate.

