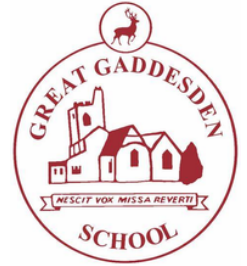


Great Gaddesden CE (VA) Primary School

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

This month's
value is:



Weekly update

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week, the works have begun on our Early Years outdoor area and the children have looked very excited and intrigued to see what has been happening each day!

Following on from the discussion and consultation at parent forum this week about wrap around provision, we are very aware that the demand for this is growing. Therefore, we politely ask that if you do not this provision to provide at least 24 hours notice so that we can allocate spaces to other families in need of a place. We are still looking for an after school club manager to increase our capacity so if you know of anyone interested in this position, please share the advert further down in the newsletter.

In other news, please ensure to add the remote E-Safety Parent Information Session on 27th February at 8pm to your diaries. This will be led by Mary Rebello who is a brilliant Computing Consultant that supports schools across Hertfordshire. We will ensure the link will be sent out before the meeting.

As you will note in the dates for March, we have our Spring parents evenings. I will write to you after half term to provide more information and hopefully this will work seamlessly on Arbor!

Thank you to FOGGs and everyone who helped out at our second successful disco of the year.

Wishing you a lovely half term break and I look forward to seeing you all on 24th February.

Kind regards,

Mr Matt Beach
Headteacher

In this issue:

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Attendance update:

Our attendance has been great this week!

OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK IS: 95%

OUR OVERALL ATTENDANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR IS: 94%

Religious life of our school

This week in collective worship we have continued to explore the value 'Community' and also service. We specifically reflected on action we take to serve the local community and beyond.

At our school, it is important for our children to have the opportunity to be agents of change and the work we do to support the community should be driven by the children. We reflected on Mahatma Gandhi's famous quote as pictured to the right.

Our Big Question was
What action should we do to serve our community?



Some of the action we have taken to serve the Community so far this year:



Christmas Carols at St Paul's Care Home



Harvest offering for DENS (local foodbank)



Macmillan Coffee morning which was attended by parents, governors and local residents.

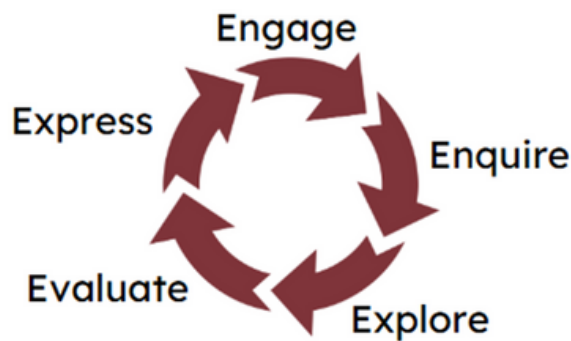


Spotlight on learning

This week our Spotlight on Learning is about the RE curriculum at Great Gaddesden!

In line with the Church of England's Statement of Entitlement and our theologically rooted vision, our RE curriculum is a priority within the school, integral to our mission of enabling all pupils to flourish academically, socially, and spiritually. It enables pupils to acquire a rich, deep knowledge and understanding of Christian belief and practice, balanced with a range of other religions and worldviews.

Through our RE curriculum, we aim to provide a high quality, sequential framework that equips students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to navigate and contribute positively to our diverse world. Our enquiry approach (as shown below), through the Emmanuel Project curriculum, encourages critical thinking, empathy, and respect for different perspectives, allowing students to reflect and develop spiritually through the 'big questions'. This provides opportunities for our children to carefully consider the profound questions of life, belief and morality.



Last week, Mrs Peck (our School Effectiveness Advisor) reviewed the RE curriculum and made the following observations/comments:

The curriculum "is in keeping with the distinctive Christian character of the school"

Discussion with pupils from Year 5 and 6 indicates that "they can recall a considerable amount of information from their current learning about humanism including the central beliefs of a humanist and the distinction between a person who is agnostic, atheist and secular in their world view."

Each class has an enquiry question for each unit and we have provided a summary of each classes enquiry question and current learning below:

*Early Years
How can we help
others when we need
it?*



Tom and Tessa play a key role in supporting our Early Years as they start their RE curriculum journey.

This half term, they wrote some lenten promises about what we could share or give up to help other people.

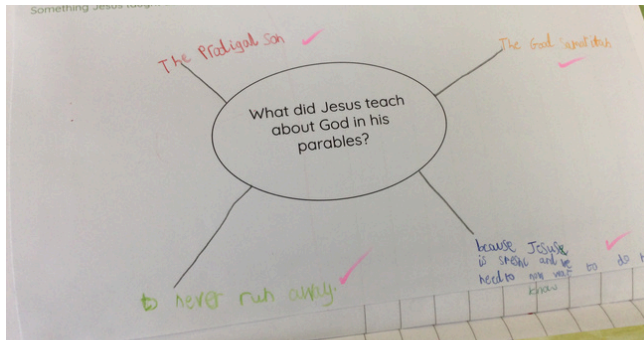
The children also experience an encounter with Sikhism and think about who helps in the Sikh Divali story.

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

Year 1&2

What did Jesus teach about God in his parables?

The shepherd in Jesus says is kind and loving. This is like God.



Year 3&4

How does the story of Rama and Sita inspire Hindus to follow their dharma?



Year 5&6

Why do Humanists say happiness is the goal of life?

More information about our RE curriculum is on our website:

https://www.greatgaddesden.herts.sch.uk/web/religious_education/705681

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 | Ozzy |
| Year 3/4 | Julie |
| Year 5/6 | Guney |

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

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Early years | Freddie |
| Year 1/2 | Kauan |
| Year 3/4 | Ophelia |
| Year 5/6 | Dottie |



Headteacher's award
Lenny- for working really hard with his Maths work on perimeter!

Forest School

On Thursday, Year 3 and 4 had a lovely time building dens up in the woods. We also saw some early signs of spring including snowdrops and catkins. We could also smell the wild garlic starting to grow under the trees!



Community information

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



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...

https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view/after-school-club-manager_100149.htm

VIEW FULL DETAILS

We're Hiring



I've been offered my secondary school place – what now?

Date	Tuesday 25 th February 2025
Time	10.00-11.30 <small>Session will be held virtually via MS Teams</small>
Are you applying for secondary school this year?	
Practical help and advice on what happens next after you've been offered a school place	

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

Tel: 01442 401222 Ext: 5

(closing date to register is Fri 14th Feb)



12th March- World Book Day

The children are welcome to dress up as a character from their favourite book. We ask that the children bring with them a copy of the book their character is in (where possible) to share for a whole school 'drop everything and read' session on the day. We encourage families to be creative with what you have at home and not buy a costume for the occasion. We have copies of lots of books in our Library which the children can borrow for World Book Day. If you would like to make a story in a jar with your child, they will be most welcome to refresh the current ones we have.

Key dates

New or amended dates added in **red**

Things in bold are coming up during the first week back

February	<p>24th February- Spring 2 begins</p> <p>27th- Y1/2 Forest School PM</p> <p>27th 8pm - Parents Online Safety Information Session (online led by Mary Rebelo- Computing & Online Safety Consultant)</p>
March	<p>4th Shrove Tuesday</p> <p>5th Ash Wednesday (Start of Lent)</p> <p>12th World Book Day & Open afternoon (Parents welcome to join us from 2:30pm onwards)</p> <p>13th Dacorum Sports Event (Reception at Longdean 12:30-2:45pm)</p> <p>14th Red Nose Day</p> <p>25th & 27th Parents Evening</p>

01442 255734
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