



# Little Gaddesden C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Lorna Elkes

Newsletter 19th November 2020

Dear parents and carers,

As we are rushing towards December, and we all have high hopes for festive activities, I will share Covid updates first...

[From the DfE - Updated guidance for parents and carers](#)

[From Hertfordshire updated guidance about stopping the spread of the virus.](#)

If you need to contact the school regarding self-isolation or queries relating to Covid, please use the following email address. [covidnotice@littlegaddesden.herts.sch.uk](mailto:covidnotice@littlegaddesden.herts.sch.uk) .

## **Well-being.**

This week has been 'Just Talk' week in Hertfordshire which focuses on mental health and well-being in our community, taking the 5 Ways 2 Well-being approach. We have decided to use the 5 Ways 2 Well-being, taking a theme each week starting this week until the end of term.

Week 1 - **Connect**. During lockdown we wrote letters and sent pictures to older people in care homes. We are doing this again. We know that many older people are not able to see or connect with family and loved ones as they have previously and a letter or painting can significantly lift spirits.

Week 2 - **Give** - Operation Christmas Child. An opportunity to ensure that other children around the world have a Christmas gift. All that is needed is a shoe-box sized box to then be packed with a range of gifts - the list of suggested items can be found [here](#). We will be collecting the boxes in school over the next two week before arranging for them to be collected by Samaritan's Purse for shipment to children around the world in time for Christmas. Alternatively, if you would rather pack your shoebox virtually, you can do so [here](#).

Week 3 - **Be active**- the children will be focusing on their physical well-being, including some 'daily mile' challenges.

Week 4 - **Take notice**- A week full of mindfulness that pupils will be able to use and share with you at home.

Week 5 -**Keep Learning**- a reminder that learning a new skill or setting goals helps maintain our focus and motivation. We will also take this opportunity to reflect on and celebrate what our pupils have achieved this term despite the many challenges we have all faced.

If you would like to get involved in the 5 Ways 2 Well-being as a family there are a range of suggestions [online](#) and links to organisations offering help and support, as well as online modules aimed at [primary pupils](#)

Pupils arriving in PE clothes

From next week, please send your child to school in their PE clothes on days when they have PE. They will be able to remain in these clothes for the duration of the day.

### **PE days for each class**

Class 1 - Thursday

Class 2 - Wednesday and Friday

Class 3 - Tuesday and Thursday

Class 4 - Wednesday and Thursday

If your child takes part in after-school clubs they will still need a change of clothes if they are wearing school uniform to school on that day.

### **Drama Hut Workshop - Classes 3 & 4**

We have arranged for a drama workshop to work with Class 3 and 4 on Thursday 3rd December. The activities are linked to their respective curriculums. Social distancing and Covid-safe measures will be maintained throughout. Letters are attached that provide more details. Apologies for the short notice, however, we have been lucky to secure a last minute booking.

[Class 3](#)

[Class 4](#)

### **Running Club**

Our running club has successfully continued despite the cold weather and rain - I am truly in awe and admiration of the many pupils who regularly arrive to complete miles. We now have some students that have completed 20 miles since the start of term. Quite a remarkable achievement!

If your child would like to join the runners they can do so on an adhoc basis by signing up using the online forms.

[Wednesday Golden Mile running Club](#)

[Friday Golden Mile running club](#)

### **School dates**

Please note there will now be 2 INSET days at the start of the Spring term and 1 Occasional Day at the end of the Summer term.

### **Spring Term 2021**

Monday 4th January

INSET DAY

Tuesday 5th January

INSET DAY

Wednesday 6th January

Term Starts 8.50am

Monday 15th - Friday 19th February

Half term

Friday 26th March

Term Ends 1.30pm

## **Summer Term 2021**

Monday 12th April	Term Starts 8.50am
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday
Friday 28th May	INSET DAY
Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June	Half term
Wednesday 21st July	Term Ends 1.30pm
Thursday 22nd July	Occasional Day

## **Access to Google**

I am aware that most of the pupils are demonstrating excellent technology skills accessing our online learning Google classroom at home. I am also aware that there have been a few questions regarding access across different devices. [Here](#), you will find a quick-guide to most devices. Should your child or you have any further queries please let the school office know.

## **Parent meetings:**

Thank you for all your cooperation and patience with our virtual parent meetings, particularly for parents in class 2 who had to manage a last-minute technical hitch. If you have not yet been able to speak to your child's teacher or your link did not work, please contact the school office who will be able to arrange a time for you.

It's going to be a cold weekend so do wrap up warm when enjoying time outside.

Lorna Elkes  
Headteacher

## **Attached:**

[From the DfE - Updated guidance for parents and carers](#)  
[From Hertfordshire updated guidance about stopping the spread of the virus.](#)  
[2020-A4-How-to-Pack-A-Shoebox-leaflet-download-revised-dates \(1\).pdf](#)  
[Shoebox Online](#)  
[5 Ways 2 Well-being suggestions](#)  
[5 Ways 2 Well-being for primary pupils](#)  
[Drama Workshop Class 3.pdf](#)  
[Drama Workshop - Class 4.pdf](#)  
[Wednesday Golden Mile running Club](#)  
[Friday Golden Mile running club](#)  
[Accessing Google classroom - a quick guide.pdf](#)