



Little Gaddesden C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Lorna Elkes

Thursday 2nd February 2023

Coming up... (new items)

Spring Term

6-10th February - Wellbeing week

Monday 6th February - NSPCC workshop for Class 4

Tuesday 7th February - RE workshop - whole school event

Wednesday 8th February - Skip 2bfit - whole school event (children to bring trainers)

Thursday 9th February - Hannah Gold - author of The Last Bear

Thursday 9th February - First Aid workshops - whole school event

Friday 10th February - Grandparents' Afternoon Tea and Music 2:30pm (see attached form)

Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February - half term holiday

Monday 20th February - INSET day, school closed to pupils.

Friday 24th February - Wellbeing Workshop - whole school

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day

Wednesday 14th March - **Class 1** hands-on session for parents 9am

Tuesday 21st March - **Class 4** assembly for parents 2:45pm

Monday 20th March - Class 2 Parent meetings 1:20 pm - 4:00 pm

Tuesday 21st March - Class 4 Parent meetings 3:30pm - 4:30pm

Wednesday 22nd March - Class 3 Parent meetings 2:30pm - 4:30pm

Wednesday 22nd March - **Class 2** visit to Mountfitchet Castle

Thursday 23rd March - **Class 3** assembly for parents 9am

Thursday 23rd March - Parent meetings all classes 3:40 pm - 7:00 pm

Monday 27th March - Athlete visit - more details to follow

Wednesday 29th March - **Class 2** assembly for parents 2:45pm

Summer Term

Friday 5th May - Coronation Celebrations - more next term.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we head towards half term, at last we seem to be enjoying some kinder weather, seen also by more children arriving for Wednesday and Friday Running Club. Some of our pupils have achieved an amazing 50 miles of running so far this year. If your child attends Running Club, please also make sure that they have their school shoes to change into ready for the school day.

Like all schools, we encourage children to bring fruit as a healthy break-time snack to keep them going till lunch time. In science and PHSE, pupils learn about a healthy body and mind. Please support this by checking that snacks are fruit and that packed lunches are healthy. They should not contain chocolate bars and absolutely no nuts.

Well-being week next week

We have a range of activities organised for next week finishing with our Grandparent's afternoon tea. For this there will be a musical performance from our choir and light refreshments of tea, coffee, sandwiches and cake. This is for extended family members and older members of the wider community. Please complete [this form](#) to help with our catering provision.

Skip 2be Fit: On Wednesday please make sure your child has trainers or similar for the Skip 2be Fit activities.

Class 1: Our delightful Guinea pigs are looking for carers for half term. Please speak to one of the class teachers if you are able to help.

As part of our learning about buses, we sketched the minibus and went on a trip to the 'transport park' with its helicopter climbing frame!



Class 2 have been planning a recount of the story of Rapunzel using the alternative version; writing as if we are Rapunzel, planning her escape!


Class 3 have been writing their own invented Greek myths, including a hero on a quest and a battle with a mythical monster! Do ask them to describe their monster's features...

Class 4 We have been rehearsing formal methods of division, including honing our skills at long division! Children will not need to wear PE clothes on Tuesday but please have trainers for Wednesday's skip2bfit.

Internet safety

Tuesday 7th February is safer internet day. At school we spend a lot of time reinforcing with the children about being safe online, including what to do and who to speak to if they are worried. You can also support this at home through open conversations, limiting screen time and monitoring use of game consoles.

This guidance has been released to coincide with Safer internet day

 Safer Internet Day 2023 - film for parents and carers

Tablets, phones and consoles are best in shared spaces, particularly with the increasing use of headphones and the ease at which random strangers can make contact with children.

We are becoming increasingly aware of pupils accessing TikTok. Whilst there are many fun resources available on it, this social media platform also has numerous hidden dangers for young children. Hence the guidance age of 12+ years. TikTok is starting to address the many concerns raised about it, which can be found here.

<https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide/>

I would strongly recommend that you regularly speak to your children about how to keep safe online.

Playground update

I am delighted to confirm that work on the new playground will begin the week after half term. As you will appreciate, this may involve some disruption in the playground and with vehicles needing access by our school gate. I know you will be understanding and work with us. We are all very much looking forward to seeing the fruition of all the hard work from the FOLGS and local community raising funds to enable this project.

Author visits:

Hannah Gold - Thursday 9th February

The children will also have the opportunity to get a signed copy of this book but, for this visit books must be pre-ordered from Tring Bookshop, by clicking on the link here

<https://tringbookfestival.co.uk/ourbookshop/product/the-lost-whale-2/>

Please include your child's name, school and class. In the 'Order notes'.

Order notes (optional)

Support for families locally:

- Dacorum ParentCarers Courses and Support - Spring Term - 01.02.2023.pdf
- DSPL8 ParentsCarers Newsletter - Spring Term - 01.02.2023.pdf

Local activities for families



Little Gaddesden VPA

The next VPA show in the village hall is on Saturday 4th February at 2:30pm.

Full details can be found online [VPA Winter Show - Little Gaddesden VPA](#).

There is a complete range of categories for the children to enter their creations or their pets. [W VPA-WINTER-SHOW_Entry-Form_12-02-2023.docx](#)

- Game On February Half-Term 2023.pdf

You will remember our Toy Hub collection before Christmas. This proved hugely successful helping nearly 500 families locally. ■ ToyHub EoY NEWSLETTER 2022 AW01.pdf

Have a lovely weekend...

Lorna Elkes

Headteacher

FOLGS UPDATE

Folk Night

We're still full steam ahead for the folk night on Friday 10th March. Just a reminder to get your tickets early to avoid disappointment.



Just £16 to see the critically acclaimed - The Wilderness Yet

"This is something timely... 'The Wilderness Yet' have released a lovely album..." – Mark Radcliffe, BBC Radio 2

"Exquisite" – Tom Robinson, BBC Radio 6 Music

Can't find a babysitter? Bring the kids! Children Yr 4 upwards are very welcome!

- £16 + Booking Fee
- Doors open at 7pm
- Fully stocked Tring Brewery Bar
- More info to come on our Facebook page!

Tickets available from:

www.wegottickets.com/event/569221/
www.thewildernessyet.com/
www.facebook.com/thelgfolkclub

Tea Towels To Treasure!



Would you like a tea towel with self-portraits of each child in the school on it? Or some coasters with your child's individual self-portrait on them?

The teachers have very kindly organised for the kids to do their portraits in class, and we are arranging for tea towels and coasters to be printed in time to gift for Mother's Day/Easter/Father's Day. We will give more details (pricing and timings) in subsequent newsletters.

Order forms should also be available in the next few weeks and will be sent home in the children's bags. Every item sold will raise money for the school, so dig deep, hurray!!

Rotary Club!

The FOLGS would like to extend a huge thank you to Berkhamsted Rotary Club, and all helpers that went out collecting money with Simon Heath & "Santa's Sleigh" before Christmas. The following Elves will be on Father Christmas's nice list next Christmas:

- Sam Jonas
- Joe Wrighty
- Ben Dawson
- Jon Angel
- Will Howard
- James Pelly



A whopping £13,500 was raised across the whole of December for local charities, with £466 donated to "FOLGS" for our evening's efforts. We mustn't forget to thank Santa himself who went out in all weather every night on the run up to Christmas and was forced to stay at home just one night when he was unwell. Santa also kindly helped in our hour of need at the Christmas Fair and is very keen to come back this year but on his sleigh!

The Rotary Club do amazing work to support young people, improve the lives of the elderly, vulnerable, and disadvantaged, locally and further afield. Each year they organise a half marathon and fun run. This year's marks the 40th anniversary on Sunday 5th March. If you are interested in running or able to help out please look at "Berkorun.com". They're desperately in need of marshals for 2 hours on the Sunday morning. - contact Paul_franc@hotmail.com for more details.