Thursday 14th September 2023

**Coming up… (new items)**

**AutumnTerm**

Monday 11th September 8.50am-9.10am - Class 2 meet the teacher

Tuesday 12th September 8.50am-9.10am - Class 3 meet the teacher

Wednesday 13th September 8.50am-9.10am - Class 4 meet the teacher

Thursday 21st September Class 2 Plague day

Monday 25th September - Friday 29th September - Eco travel week

Friday 29th September - Wear something Gold (or yellow)

Parent meetings

Thursday 5th October Class 3 history trip - more information to follow

Monday 2nd October - whole school visit from Electric Umbrella

Friday 6th October - Class 4 history trip - more details to follow

Tuesday 10th October - Class 4 parent meetings 1:30pm-3:30pm

Wednesday 11th October - Classes 2 & 3 parent meetings 1:30pm-4:00pm

Thursday 12th October - Parent meetings for all classes 3:45pm - 7:30pm

Thursday 12th October - school photos

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have settled well back into school routine including our reception pupils who are being helped by their buddies to navigate playtimes and the dining hall. There are a number of reminders below; these have already been shared with the children.

**Reminders**:

***Hair*** - Inline with school expectations, please make sure that pupils with long hair have it tied back at all times. Not only does it reduce tangles, it is the best way to control nits. All pupils with hair passed collars will need it tied up for PE lessons.

***Jewellery*** - only watches and earrings are permitted. These should be removed before PE lessons. Tape can be used to cover earrings that can’t be easily removed. Earrings should be discrete, preferably stud - type.

***Uniform, PE kit and sports clubs clothing*** - For several of our sports clubs, such as dodgeball, running club and team building, the children do not need to wear PE kit or specialist clothing. They may wish to wear trainers but should change into school shoes if it is a non-PE day. i.e. footwear should be inline with school uniform. Full details of school uniform can be found on our website:

[School Uniform | Little Gaddesden Church of England Primary School](https://www.littlegaddesden.herts.sch.uk/parents/school-uniform/)

***PE - days***

Class 1 - Friday *Class 1 pupils should have their PE kit in school to change into*

Class 2 - Wednesday & Friday - come to school in PE Kit

Class 3 - Wednesday & Monday - come to school in PE kit

Class 4 - Tuesday & Thursday - come to school in PE Kit

***Medical appointments*** - We recognise that it is not always possible for medical appointments (particularly specialist appointments) to be made outside of school hours. If this is the case, please confirm dates via email to the school office ([admin@littlegaddesden.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@littlegaddesden.herts.sch.uk)). Please also ensure that the office is aware about lunch arrangements if the appointment is for only part of the day.

Any follow up information or recommendations that impact school routines should be put in writing so that medical details are accurate, up to date and can be shared as appropriate with class staff.

***Clothing -*** We already have a few items of clothing that we have not been able to return to owners. Please ensure your child’s clothing is named in a way that does not wash away. This is particularly frustrating when the only visible name is one of a past pupil.

**Class 1: -** please make sure that you have sent in snack money for your child.

**Class 2: -** Next Thursday (21st September) we will be tackling the plague… [Plague day letter .pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sbYkbFp3p_Fq04D52X5CexzQGrNON_3T/view?usp=drive_link) We are also delighted to welcome Mr Hodgson who has joined our Class 2 team, supporting pupils with their learning.

**Class 4: -** Our residential trip this year is a week in the Isle of Wight. Full details will be shared next week including payment schedules.

Transition information for Year 6. If you would like to discuss the process or options relating to secondary school choices. Please make an appointment with myself or Mrs Craft via the school office.

[Y6 Moving On Leaflet 2024.pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fcF0neK--r2y9voMDNNfxxoQWOAwQfPV/view?usp=sharing)

[Y6 Townsend School Open Evening.pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1f9IAo69HhdwC8shRXzX27WX5786M0jnb/view?usp=drive_link)

[Y6 Admissions Poster 2024.pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/15WqGcKwdcPF_JzzrxyNKJv5_eXVbTyDK/view?usp=sharing)

**Eco Travel week**

As you are aware, drop off and pick up time around our school can get very congested. This is not only frustrating for those trying to navigate the local road, but also increases pollution in the immediate vicinity of the school and playground.

For the week ***Monday 25th September to Friday 29th September***, we would like to encourage you and your children to walk (cycle or scoot) at least part of the way to school.

For those travelling from beyond the village, there is parking at the far end of The Green (opposite Hudnall Lane) and we are anticipating that The Bridgewater Arms will allow parking for the short time it takes to drop off your child.

Each class will be competing for a Eco trophy, collecting points for each day they walk, cycle or scoot.

**Wear something Gold (or yellow)**

The Pupil Parliament team has decided to again support Childhood Cancer Awareness. This takes place each September, raising money for research, and support for those impacted. This year the charity is raising awareness of the longer term side effects from the treatment. On Friday 29th September, the children are asked to bring in £2 for this cause, they can then choose to wear something Gold (or yellow) to school. They do not have to wear their normal school uniform.

**Fruit snacks - we need your help**

Pupils in classes 1 and 2 are offered fruit and vegetables snacks each day at break for free. In the past when take-up from younger pupils has been lower, we have been able to offer this to children in older years who thoroughly enjoy the healthy options.

This year we do not have surplus to offer fruit snacks to our KS2 pupils. We have explored sourcing extra fruit for our older pupils but the cost through the schools’ supplier is prohibitive.

I am aware that some companies will consider sponsoring such a provision in school - if this is something that you would be able to help with please let me know via the school office. We are keen to encourage healthy food choices for all our pupils .

**Support for families locally:**

[Dacorum ParentCarers Courses and Support - Autumn Term - 06.09.2023.pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1l4Kz7k02dIGVMfviVn4NIo6tQ0yr8Ka4/view?usp=drive_link)

[DSPL8 ParentsCarers Newsletter - Autumn Term - 06.09.2023.pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DWaMpeG9XRTr1uccTNtG_7zrN26LEHzE/view?usp=sharing)

[Family Centres Sep- Dec 2023 DACORUM.pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CPGD9sUU_VzV-Til_zwF6m_6q942Y0El/view?usp=sharing)

**Local information**

[Tring Swimming Club.tmp](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RR2sdftA3vGRgeR7eSRKuN-9sZgZIyZi/view?usp=sharing)

[Raring2go!](https://raring2go.co.uk/) Is an organisations that promotes local activities. [Here](https://8bbal.r.ag.d.sendibm3.com/mk/cl/f/sh/SMK1E8tHeFuBnbxdWstILUvMN42W/It5OHpD0PN4m) is the latest edition of their online magazine.

[Ashridge Estate - Protecting Our Roots - Poster.pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dKmxKtJbJJ18ZzYweg2zOlOqhkud1Uyf/view?usp=sharing)

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Lorna Elkes

Headteacher