



Little Gaddesden C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Lorna Elkes

Together in Community

Built on our Christian values, rooted in the parable of the Good Samaritan

Thursday 30th November 2023

Coming up... (new items)

Autumn Term

Thursday 30th November - FOLGS AGM at the Bridgewater Arms 7pm

Friday 1st December - Christmas Jumper Day - non-uniform

Monday 4th December - Start of our reverse Advent

Thursday 7th December - Great Fire of Little Gaddesden - Class 2 parents only 9am

Saturday 9th December - Christmas Fair ■ Christmas Fair Poster (1).pdf

Tuesday 12th December - Dress rehearsal - preschool and grandparents 9.30am

Wednesday 13th December - School Christmas [lunch](#)

Wednesday 13th December - School Christmas evening production 6:00pm for 6:30pm start

Thursday 14th December - School Christmas evening production 6:00pm for 6:30pm start

Friday 15th Class 3 & 4 visit to Warner Brothers, Watford

Monday 18th December - Class 1 & 2 theatre trip - Cinderella

Tuesday 19th December - CL1 Breakfast with Santa

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to seeing the children in their festive jumpers tomorrow. A quick reminder that this is in lieu of tombola prizes for our Christmas Fair on the 9th of December.

As we are now in winter and the frosty days are with us, please make sure that your child has a coat in school as well as hats, gloves and scarves. All of which should be named.

Tombola Prizes

Each class should bring in the following items:

Class 1: Sweet treats including chocolates/truffles and biscuits

Class 2: Savoury crackers, jams, chutneys etc.

Class 3: Luxury toiletries, candles, gift items.

Class 4: Wine, spirits, liqueurs, speciality non-alcoholic drinks

Advent

This year the Pupil Parliament team, supported by Mrs Craft, have decided that we would like to run a reverse advent collection this year to send to Ukraine through Hope and Aid Direct. We are collecting items that will be delivered in the new year.

Items should be: Toys (new), Coats (new or nearly new), particularly Hats, Scarves, Gloves, Reflective clothing. Also: Wind up torches, Hot water bottles. These can be brought into school from next week.

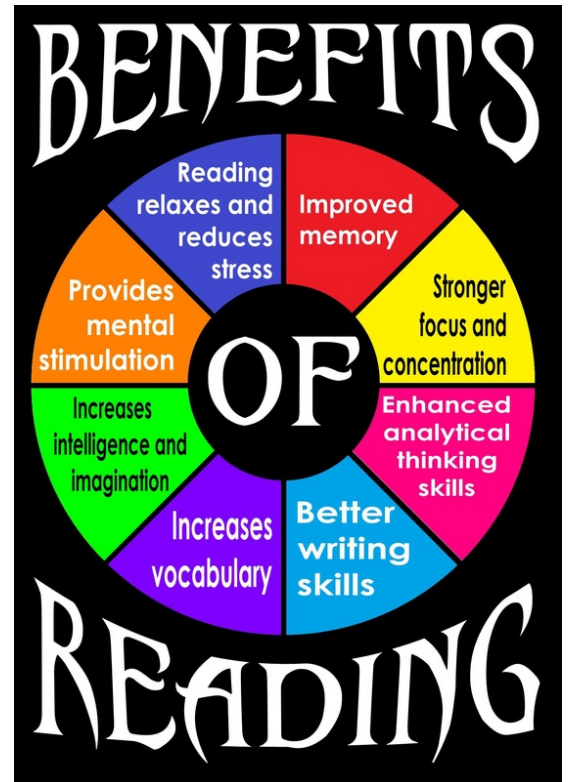
Reading

For advent, Storytime magazine has a free story advent with a digital story for every day of December. They can be found [here](#).

We all know the importance of children reading, whether this is early readers or those who are more confident. Research shown below, reflects the impact of reading for just 20 minutes each day.

For our younger readers, research and guidance is very prescriptive regarding the "reading" book a child takes home. This book must be an opportunity to rehearse their current phonic knowledge. It should not include words that go beyond the phonic knowledge that they have been taught so far.

Of course, all our children are encouraged to take home books to read for pleasure. For younger children especially, these are likely to be books that they will want to share with an adult who will be able to support them with less familiar words.



HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads

20:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to
1.8 MILLION
words per year
and scores in
90th PERCENTILE
on standardized tests

A student who reads

5:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to
282,000
words per year
and scores in
50th PERCENTILE
on standardized tests

A student who reads

1:00

minute per day

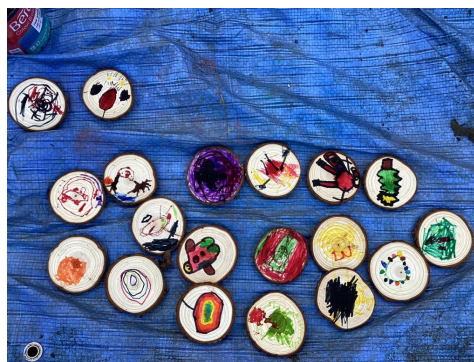
will be exposed to
8,000
words per year
and scores in
10th PERCENTILE
on standardized tests

Source: Nagy, Anderson and Herman, 1987

Class 1 - have looked at the rhyming book 'Shark in the Park' and made their very own telescopes like the main character Timothy!



We also introduced Advent and made our own Advent tree complete with decorations in the Forest



On the 19th December we are having breakfast with Santa [Breakfast with Santa.docx.pdf](#)
Payments can be made via Arbor.

Class 2 - This week we have created our 'Great Fire of London' silhouette pictures. They are on display in our classroom. We have started to design and make our houses for our 'Great Fire of Little Gaddesden' that will be taking place next Thursday morning 7th December.

Class 3 - In preparation for December 1st, we have created a class Advent calendar by sewing our own stockings!



Class 4 - We are busy rehearsing for the Christmas Production. In maths we are developing our understanding of fractions while in English we are writing free-verse poetry.

Isle of Wight residential trip

The next instalment of £70 is now due, this can be paid via Arbor.
Please see below the remaining payment schedule for this residential trip.

Payment 1: £70.00 30th November 2023

Payment 2: £70.00 31st January 2024

Payment 3: £70.00 29th February 2024


Payment 4: £70.00 31st March 2024

Final Payment £60.00 30th April 2024

Festive trips


As in previous years we have arranged a festive trip for the children. Pupils in classes 1 & 2 will be visiting the theatre for a production of Cinderella. Older pupils in classes 3&4 will be visiting the Warner Brothers studio and taking part in a workshop. Full details will be available next week.


Clubs for Spring term


Changes next term. Dodgeball will be on Wednesday mornings and Streetdance and Running club on Tuesday mornings. Full details of clubs  [School Clubs Spring Term 2024.pdf](#)


We are delighted to offer a 'ballet' club for pupils in reception and years 1 & 2 from January. Full details are available here.


 [LITTLE GADDESSEN BALLET LETTER RECEPTION-YEAR2.doc.pdf](#)


We will also be offering a Chess club on Monday lunchtimes; initially this is for years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Depending on uptake there may be an opportunity for pupils in year 2 who already play chess to join.  [Chess Club Booking Form - Little Gaddesden Spring 2024 .docx](#)

 [Street Dance Spring 24.png](#)

 [French club Little Gaddesden Spring 2024.docx](#)

 [Little Gaddesden - Years 1 & 2 Football - LC- SP24.pdf](#)

 [Little Gaddesden - Football - Years 3 to 6 - Wednesday ASC - SP24 .pdf](#)

 [Drama Club Little Gad .pdf](#) - price tbc

School run clubs will be available on Arbor from 7th December.

Infant Milk - Spring Term

If you would like your child to have a 189ml carton of milk daily during the Spring Term, please read the [attached milk letter](#) and sign up via the Arbor '**School Shop**

Christmas Lunch

Please make sure you have completed the [form](#) for our Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 13th December. Please complete the [form](#) by **Friday 8th December**.

If your child is in Class 1 or 2 and does not normally have a school lunch on this day (Wed-Week 2) there will be no additional charge in line with Universal Infant Free School Meals
If your child is in Class 3 or 4 and does not normally have a school lunch on this day (Wed-Week 2) a charge (£3.20) will be added to your School Arbor account which will need to be settled.

Support for families locally:

[DSPL8 Dacorum Facebook Page / DSPL8 Dacorum Instagram Page](#)

 [Dacorum ParentCarers Courses and Support - Autumn Term - 29.11.2023.pdf](#)

 [DSPL8 ParentsCarers Newsletter - Autumn Term - 29.11.2023.pdf](#)

Local information

- DBM Family Christmas Day.png
- Hemel Storm.png
- Netball academy.jpg

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Lorna Elkes

Headteacher

FOLGS

FOLGs AGM – Date set



This year's Friends' AGM will take place on the 30th of November 2023.

We'll also be welcoming new parents with a few sponsored drinks. Please do come down and ask any questions you may have.

Venue: Bridgewater Arms, Little Gaddesden. 7pm

Movie Night & Xmas Jumpers – Friday 1st December!



Please see the posters for details, but we're super excited to be running our 1st movie night of the school year. And it's a (Christmas) cracker. Will Ferrell's "Elf" will be entertaining your kids on Friday 1st December.

[Film Night 1 Dec23.pdf](#)

£6 gets your little one into the movie, fed and watered.

Times are 3:15 – 5pm.



Xmas jumper day is the same day as the movie!

This year we're asking for donations for the tombola – see the poster for details of what your class needs to bring! [Jumper 1 Dec 23.pdf](#) Tickets will be made available via Arbor from Monday (with consent form).

Christmas Fair!

The Little Gaddesden School Christmas Fair on the 9th of December is coming up fast.

 Christmas Fair Poster (1).pdf



See the attached poster for information on the day. As ever, we're reaching out for helpers on the day (each class will be running their own stall – look out for messages from your Class Rep!)