



# 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*

Friday 28th March 2024

## Coming up... (new items)

### Summer Term

Monday 15th April - Summer Term starts

Friday 19th April - Swimming lessons begin.

Dear Parents and Carers,


Thank you to those who were able to share our Easter Church Service, I'm sure you will agree that the children sang and read beautifully.

Whilst this has been a relatively short term, in our final assembly today, the children reflected on all they have enjoyed and taken part in. Here is a small selection:

- Author visit
- Victorian day
- Pirate afternoon
- Easter tableaux at Northchurch Baptist Church
- Celebrating Chinese New Year
- Midsummer Night's Dream workshop
- Spanish baking
- Chiltern Open Air Museum
- Sporting events
- Stations of the Cross
- Wellbeing week.

On behalf of the team, thank you for all your support with enabling our pupils to have a super term.

**Class1** - please see details relating to the online health questionnaire.

 Reception TLM Spring 2024 Dacorum.pdf

**Class 3 Swimming Summer Term** - please see attached letter. [Class 3 swimming Summer 2024](#)

### **School Meals - Menu Change**

The school menu will be changing after the Easter break, a copy of the new menu is [attached](#). Due to rising costs the cost of a school meal provided by HCL is now £3.85 for all KS2 (Year 3-6) children, unless receiving Free School Meals (FSM). KS1 (Reception to Year 2) children remain free as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme. Please could we ask **all** parents to complete the menu choices form to let us know what your child would like for lunch each day; Red, Green or Packed Lunch.

Please complete one [form](#) for each child. The deadline for completion of the form is **Wednesday 27th March**.

## **Clubs for summer Term**

Details of clubs for the summer term. These can now be booked via Arbor or by using the links to the booking forms. **Please note the date change for Mondays afterschool.**

- 📄 School Clubs Summer Term 2024.pdf
- 📄 Little Gaddesden - Football - Years 3 to 6 - Wednesday ASC - SUM24.pdf
- 📄 Little Gaddesden - Years 1 & 2 Football - LC- SUM24.pdf
- 📄 Little Gaddesden French Summer 2024.docx
- 📄 LITTLE GADDESSEN YOGA SUMMER 24.jpg
- 📄 Street Dance Summer 24.png

## **School hours**

From September 2024, the government announced a new minimum expectation on the length of the school week of 32.5 hours. In order to meet this requirement, we need to adjust the length of our school day.

### ***Our proposal:***

To extend our end of day from 3:15pm to 3:20pm.

For all pupils to be registered by 8.50am.

As part of this we will be changing the way in which pupils come into school - moving to a 'soft start'.

School gates will open from 8:40am and pupils will be able to come into school from 8:45 in the morning. This will also alleviate the log-jam we currently experience as pupils enter the school after lining up.

### **What does this mean for you?**

- Access to the playground from 8:40am
- Children able to enter school from 8:45am
- Pupils to be in school and registered present by 8:50am
- School day ends at 3:20pm.

We would very much value your [views](#) regarding this. <https://forms.gle/Cr1a6nFxGRr9bzn59>

## **After school - wraparound care**

We are currently exploring options regarding provision of an after school 'supper club'. We have been in discussions with several local providers regarding offering this.

In principle, we would be expecting childcare from the end of the school day until 5:30pm or 6:00pm. This would include a reduced rate offer for pupils attending an after school club.

The provision would include a light supper.

Before we can take this proposal forward, we would like to gather parents' views about days, timings and costs. Please use [this form](#) to give your views.

## **Support for families locally**

- 📄 MMR Hemel Hempstead.jpg

- 📎 Ask the School Nurse.pdf
- 📎 Dacorum-Parenting-Course-Brochure-Summer-2024.pdf
- 📎 Hertfordshire Mental Health workshops.png
- 📎 Hertfordshire Upcoming Webinars.pdf
- 📎 Neurodiversity- Newsletter.jpg
- 📎 PHN Newsletter primary Spring 2024.pdf

## **Local information**

- 📎 Game 17 - London 06.04.2024.pdf
- 📎 Premier Easter Camps - Tring (1).pdf
- 📎 EASTER CAMP excluding early bird.pdf
- 📎 Graphic Novel Page One Poster.pdf
- [www.waterworld-tickets.co.uk](http://www.waterworld-tickets.co.uk) discount available with code **EASTER15%OFF**
- 📎 [Premier Easter Camps - Tring.pdf](#)
- 📎 Cascade Camps Newsletter - March 2024.pdf
- 📎 DBM Easter Flyer.pdf
- 📎 FizzBug Easter Fun.jpg

I hope you have a lovely Easter break and we look forward to seeing all our pupils on Monday 15th April.

Lorna Elkes  
Headteacher

## **FOLGS**

Hi everyone,

Thank you all for your support over the past few months. We've made a good start to the school year, raising nearly **£10k**, and still have some brilliant events planned before the summer holidays (we've the Circus in Autumn too) and hopefully raise a further **£6k**. We've got hair braiding, the Year 5 Quiz + Curry Night, Folk Night, and The Inter Village Sports Day to look forward to... and yes, of course, we need your help to bring these events to life.

Three other things we really need help with:

1. Are there any experts willing/able to help us build wooden shelves for the storage container? We can provide materials.
2. Can anyone help us take down and rebuild the school gate? It needs some love, and we'd like to build in a Friends notice board to keep you all up to date.

3. Cleaning and repairing the school BBQs - they're great, but a little love would go a long way. Any volunteers?

It will also be two years that this team has been together, which means that myself, Ben D, and Simon P will be stepping down. This means we'll need to recruit new team members to help keep the events running, bring fresh ideas, and help us raise money for the children and the school roof project. A huge thanks to Simon and Ben for every effort, you've been brilliant.

This means there are now only 4 in the Friends team (Emma P, Claire N, Rebecca M + Sarah R), so it's time for some new faces to take their turn. It's not as onerous as you think... Please ignore the PTA horror stories from other schools. We have clear ways of working, know what's what, and can help new team members get up to speed quickly easily...and we have a fair amount of fun too. On average, it's probably closer to 30 minutes of our time a week across the year... so if you're able to help us help the school, we can find a role that works for you.

Please talk to one of us or send me a message ([friendsoflgschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoflgschool@gmail.com)) and we can help you work out if there's a role for you.

Thanks again,  
Will + the Friends Team