



Godalming Junior School

Newsletter

"You can't use up creativity: The more you use, the more you have" - Maya Angelou

Latest News

This year we are supporting:

SAMARITANS





House Points

Mars 1117 1100

802

770

Neptune

Jupiter





Our Designated Safeguard Lead, Operation Encompass Key Adult and Attendance Lead is:

Mr Samson-HT

Our Deputy Designated Safeguard Leads are: Mr MacIver-Deputy HT Mrs Wilkinson-SENCo Mrs Munz-Bursar Mrs Kirby-HSLW

'It's everyone's business'

<u>School Access 2025-26</u>
Following a recent safeguarding review of the school site, the school welfare team has taken the decision to rottowing a recent sareguarding review of the school site, the school welfare team has taken the decision to disable the Meadrow school gate at the end of the school day from September. This will only be used next year in the case of emergencies. At the beginning and end of each day both the Marshall Road and Hallam Road gate will continue to be used and there will be a staff presence at the end of each day, like there has been at the beginning of the day, at the Marshall Road gate as this is where most children leave the school site independently. We are informing parents now so appropriate measures and changes can be arranged before **Thursday 4th September**, the first day of next term.

Walking Home Policy Change 2025-26
We will also be changing our Walking Home Policy from September 2025, which will see ONLY those in the upper school leave the school at the end of the day independently. The only children who will be able to leave the school site at the end of the day in the lower school are those with older siblings in the upper phase of the school, who they leave with each day. Once again, we are informing parents now so any arrangements can be made as early as possible in preparation for September. We thank you for your understanding that making these changes will make routines and practices at GJS even safer for the children here.

Attendance
We would like to remind parents that where a child is taken out of school for 10 sessions or more and the 'leave of absence' is without the authority of the Headteacher, each parent is liable to receive a penalty notice for each child who is absent. If a parent/carer has not incurred a penalty notice relating to the relevant child/children since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court. Further information is given within our Attendance Policy.

Wellbeing Support That's Out There
At GJS, we know that at any point people might be facing challenges or difficulties in their personal life, within their family or at work. We also know that it can be really hard to reach out and find the support that's out there. With that in mind, we've made a range of information padlets that can be accessed by anyone, at any time and completely anonymously. Within them is a range of guidance, strategies, and agencies that might be of use so please do save the link and spend some time seeing what support is out there, just in

case it's ever needed. Support and guidance for helping children with their mental health

Additional support agencies
If you have any questions then please don't hesitate to contact Miss Coleman, the Wellbeing Lead.

<u>Asthma Support for Parents/Carers</u>
The Surrey Heartlands children and young people's team are hosting a half hour session for parents and carers enabling them to understand and take better control of their child's asthma. This will take place online on Wednesday 18th June, 7.30-8pm. Please click here to book.

<u>Lunch Menus</u>
School lunch menus can be found <u>here</u> on the school website. Polite reminder that children can either have school dinners or packed lunch every day, or, if they wish, children having packed lunch can opt into school dinners, but they must **only** do this on a Wednesday and/or Friday.

Our 'in focus' value: CREATIVITY

This term, we turn our attention to the value of CREATIVITY, when the children will learn the importance of this value, what it 'looks like' at GJS, how we try and engender a culture of this value at school and the importance of learning a new skill, language or instrument in order to be more creative! We focus on this value during a time when we will be considering roles for the Year 6 production, holding auditions for our inaugural 'G-Fest' event and inviting Music Works back to GJS for their musical showcase! Once again, any 'home talks' you can have with the children on the value is always much appreciated.

And Finally...
You may recall in our previous newsletter, we made reference to the Surrey School Term Date change proposal to extend the autumn half term break in 2026-27 to 2 weeks, to align more with some private schools and some multi-academy trusts. It is important to note that this is not an 'extra' week of school holidays, rather a 'shift' of dates, as the additional week for the half term break will be 'made up' by breaking up for the summer that year a week later than usual. We are welcoming any views parents have on this potential change, as GJS has always historically adopted the Surrey Term Dates and are keen to inform parents what our plans intend to be before the end of term. Incidentally, this will only affect those in our current year 3 and 4 year groups. Feel free to pass on your views to school leaders via the school office, by email or in person before or after school son before or after school



PTA News

We are still in urgent need of a new Chair and Treasurer to help with the running of the PTA (these roles could be shared between two or three people). Without a Chair or Treasurer we can't function as a charity. If you are interested in getting involved with the PTA, or want to know more details, please reach out to Phil (philipdcurtis@hotmail.com) or Rhian (Rhianhooper@hotmail.com) who can give you an overview of what is required.

Future Events

Wednesday 9th & Thursday 10th July—Year 6 Play Friday 11th July-Summer Fair - 6.00-8.30pm

School Achievement

Pupil of the Week Pupil of the Wee 3AR — Maebelle 3EC — Isobel 4JS — Arthur 4NS — Elvey 5NM — Kris 5KW— Noah 6EM — Nathan 6SD — Izzy



TRUST Values Champions 3AR — Dylan 3EC — Anne-Marie

4JS — Florrie 4NS — Archie

5KW - Maddie

5NM — Warwick 6EM — Harry

6SD - Loretta



Sports News

Y4 Sports Day
Well done to Year 4 who managed to complete their rearranged Sports Day this week! ALL children performed superbly and it was great to see ALL the school values on show! The children behaved brilliantly, were respectful to each other and to each house and there was great racing and competing 'thrown' in! After many changes throughout the morning, it was Saturn who were victorious, retaining the Year 4 trophy. How would this effect the overall standings...?

During our Celebration assembly today the total scores from ALL houses from ALL 4 Sports Days were added up to find the overall Sports Day Winners for 2025. The final standings were:

J	Jupiter	4900
	Mars	4735
	Saturn	4620
	Neptune	4540



Diary Dates

9th:

10th:

<u>Summer 2025</u>

June 9th-13th: 10R—International Week—Asia

Y5/6 Girls Kwik Cricket Tournament @ FCC 1.00-4.30pm

Y5 Kwik Cricket Tournament @ FCC 1.00-4.30pm

14th: Choir Blast

Y4 @ Sayers Croft 16th-18th:

17th: Y6 Kwik Cricket Tournament @ FCC 1.00-4.30pm

18th: Y3 Trip to Haslemere Museum 24th: 5KW Trip to Godalming Museum

25th: 25th: 5NM Trip to Godalming Museum Y4 Kwik Cricket Tournament @ FCC 1.00—4.30pm Y6 Junior Citizens Event @ Guildford Spectrum Y5/6 'G-Ashes' @ FCC 9.00—1.15pm 26th:

27th:

July 'Bump Up' Day 10R—Arts Week 1st: 7th-11th:

8th: 'The Forest in Between' Y6 transition event Y6 Production 'Oliver with a Twist' @ 7.00pm Music Works Showcase 9th and 10th:

9th: 10th: District Sports @ The Spectrum





