

NEWSLETTER

November 2015 – Number 3

Godstone Village School



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, it clearly demonstrates the amount we have achieved in the last four weeks! We had a very successful Open Day and Open Evening this week. In particular I wish to thank the Year 6 children who offered to showcase our school supporting both events. A special mention needs to be made to Eloise and Oscar who gave an excellent presentation to parents about their school experience with such confidence and expression!

In order to be in line with current Surrey guidelines regarding term time dates, the last day of term will now finish at normal time, 3.20pm, (not 1.30pm as previously stated). I know an earlier finish at the end of term has been the status quo in previous years but I need to now act, on current advice. Please speak with me if the change of time on the last day of term causes any difficulty for you.

As you will be aware, the school and Educational Welfare Officer for Surrey monitor attendance. The reasons of all absences are recorded. Absences for illness are unavoidable but we can together limit other forms of absence. Please try to avoid making medical appointments during school time, or if unavoidable, a pupil can come into school, register then be collected for the appointment and then return to school. Holidays taken during term time are classed as unauthorised absence.

Please ensure your child is sent to school wearing correct uniform. School shoes need to be worn not trainers regardless of whether a child has verrucas or not. I plan to have Oxted Podiatry visit school next term to lead an assembly on foot health.

Finally for some staffing news, Mrs Jo Beeson is leaving her office role next term. We wish to thank Jo for not only working in our busy office but also teaching French to the junior children over the last three years. We wish her every success for the future. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Mandie Edwards who will be starting in the office next week and Mrs Debbie Cope, Special Needs Support Assistant. We are very much looking forward to welcoming them both and working together.

Candida Jarrott-Chase

Head Teacher

Inspirational Learning for Life

Anti-bullying week 16th -20th November

The theme across the country this year for anti-bullying week was 'Make a Noise about Bullying'. The children and staff at Godstone School really embraced this theme. The aims of the week were to raise the profile of bullying and equip the children with the skills to deal with situations in which they may be bullied and what to do if they see others being bullied. The children in reception and nursery focused on being a good friend and worked together to create a 'magic picture'; talking with a partner as they drew a picture about how to be a good friend.



In years 1 and 2 the children looked at emotions through role playing the nursery rhyme Humpty Dumpty, they also looked at different feelings and chose one to display by creating an emotion face collage.



The children in years 3 and 4 discussed how to deal with different situations if you were being bullied or saw bullying happening. The classes acted out the different situations through drama. In year 5 and 6 the children focused on cyber-bullying by creating posters to support children who may be being bullied on social media sites. The year 5 children embraced the theme 'Make a Noise about Bullying' by composing a class song!



At the end of the week as a school we celebrated all the work that had been completed during anti-bullying week in an assembly. There was a real buzz in the hall and the staff felt very proud of the children and the different ways they presented their learning. I would like to say a big thank you to the children in Key Stage Two for their fantastic acrostic poems and congratulations to Elijah in year 3, Anna in year 4, Tia in year 5 and Lilly in year 6 on receiving a certificate for their incredible efforts writing their poems. Whilst this week successfully raised the profile of anti-bullying we must still continue our commitment to the school's values of honesty, independence, confidence, respect, happy and safe.

Mrs Booth



Year 1 Forest School sessions

Over the last two weeks we have started our Forest School sessions at Bay Pond. In the first session, we walked the boundaries of the woodland to see where we were allowed to play. Our first game was hide and seek. We all went to hide and then when a grown up calls “1, 2, 3 where are you?” we all shout “1, 2, 3 we’re here!” and run back to the circle. We then explored the area, finding a natural object beginning with the first letter of our name. Everyone found ‘J’ a little tricky!

We then sat around the fire circle and talked about the rules when we have a fire. We each came up with a code word to shout if someone was to walk near the fire circle...as a class we chose ‘penguin’ and ‘shark!’ Before we had a fire we had to collect snappy sticks to burn.

Once the fire was lit we went off bug hunting. We found lots of different insects and also some strange creatures that we thought were lizards. We soon learnt that they were actually newts! Some of us had a go at making mud face paint. We loved painting each other... and the adults!

During the session we all had a turn at whittling sticks using a potato peeler. Once we had done this we were able to use the sticks to toast our marshmallows over the fire! We finished our session by sharing our favourite part of Forest School that day around the fire.

We can’t wait to go to Forest School next week!

Kingfishers



Cygnets and Robins

The children were very excited to have a visit from our community police officer Hayley to support our topic on 'People Who Help Us'. The children had an opportunity to learn first-hand about the role of the police and to ask questions. The children enjoyed dressing up in a real uniform and seeing a real police car.



Mrs Cruwys, Mrs Andrews and Mr Stevens

Year 3

On Thursday evening, we went to compete in a quicksticks tournament at Oxted School.

We were feeling a bit nervous because we were playing against 7 other schools. We played fantastically, winning 4 games overall!! It made us feel more confident so the next match we could play even better! In the end Godstone came 3rd place, scoring 18 points in total!

We cheered so loudly the whole of Oxted could hear us!!

We can't wait to play again soon!!

Joshua, Josh, Jack, Tom, Amelia and Natalie

Year 5 & 6

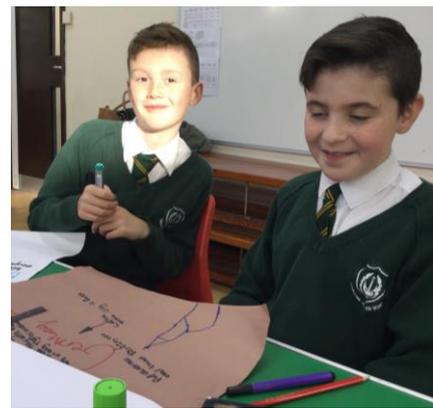
A group of us from Y5 and Y6 went to Oxted School to join in a Quicksticks Tournament. It's a bit like hockey but without a goalie. We played 6 games with different schools. In the first game, Hamish (y5) and Oscar (y6) scored a goal each. We all felt brilliant! Also, our mums and dads were cheering us on. We won that game. The 2nd game we also won, 1-0 and followed this with drawing a couple more games and winning others. We felt really tired but persevered. We worked very hard as a team. Out of 12 teams we came in fourth place. We love Quicksticks and look forward to going to another tournament.

By Faustas, Skye and Hamish.

Geography Workshop

On the 25th of November Year 5 took part in a Geography Workshop delivered by Year 8 students from Oxted School. Throughout the afternoon the children researched the 6 continents of the world. Once the children had found out lots of interesting information about the continents they created a poster and delivered their fact filled presentations to the class. The children managed to find out some fantastic facts. Examples include, -94°c being the coldest recorded temperature in Antarctica and Brazil being the only South American country not to speak Spanish. The class were supported wonderfully by the six Year 8 students who were leading each group and helping the children to find facts and design their posters.

Mr Leonard



Decoration Morning

The time is nearly upon us when the school is covered in glitter and sparkle!! So we would like invite family members to come to our decoration morning on Friday, 4th December to help the children make some lovely festive things!

Years R to 6 start at 9.15 and finish by 11.15, with a mince pie and mulled non-alcoholic wine at break time as a small reward for your help. Times for Cygnets parents are slightly different, with the session for morning attenders from 9 – 10am and the session for afternoon attenders from 12.15pm – 1.15pm. Please come along if you can, and join in this annual morning of fun and sparkles!

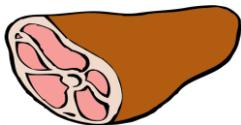
Christmas Fayre

At 3.30pm on Friday, 4th December the Friends Christmas Fayre opens and once again there will be lots of things on offer for the children, so please come along after school and enjoy this wonderful event. If you are able to help at all either before or during the fayre, please speak to one of the committee members who will be very happy to hear from you. Once again we would ask if buggies could not be brought into the hall as space is very limited!

A reminder that Friday, 27th November and 4th December will be mufti days. The first one we ask children to bring in bottles for the tombola and the second one that they bring in jars filled with sweets!

Dinner Menu Correction

Please note that on Wednesday, 9th December the roast will be gammon not turkey as we are saving that for the Christmas lunch!



Apparently some parents have been parking in Rogers Mead car park. This is a private car park and nobody should be parking there. Also it has been reported that parents have been rude to residents when they have been asked to move. This behaviour is obviously totally unacceptable. Please can you be respectful and considerate to our neighbours.

We raised £253.80 for Children In Need
FANTASTIC FUNDRAISING!



For selling poppies, wristbands and rulers we raised £205.69 for the British Legion.
Well Done!



NATIVITY PLAYS & CAROL CONCERT

Please find below details of the Christmas plays and concerts and the ticket allocation available. Unfortunately our numbers for each event are limited by fire regulations. Every family will only be allowed **2** tickets but for Cygnets to Year 2 you can either have 2 tickets for one performance or 1 ticket for each performance. Tickets are available to collect from the school office.

There is no charge for the tickets however there will be a retirement collection at the end of each performance.

A waiting list for additional tickets will be operated.

	Classes	Date	Time
'The Tiptoe' Nativity	Cygnets & Robins	Tues, 8th Dec	1.30pm
		Weds, 9th Dec	9.20am
Little Angel Gets Her Wings	Kingfishers & Owls	Tues, 8th Dec	2.15pm
		Weds, 9th Dec	10.15am
St Nicholas Church Carol Concert	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	Weds, 9th Dec	7.00pm