



NEWSLETTER NO 1

Friday 16th April 2021

Our value for this month is:



Reception playground

Our Reception children are really enjoying the builders getting to work building a new climbing frame on the new reception playground. We are very excited to see this in progress and are looking forward to the end results.



Sustrans Big Pedal

Get set...Gothic Mede we're taking part in Sustrans Big Pedal 2021, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 19 April to 30 April. It's free and we would love everyone to be involved. Sustrans Big Pedal is a great way to get children active, which is important for physical health and mental wellbeing.

What do you need to do?

Encourage your child(ren) to take active journeys to school on as many days as possible during the event, and join them on their way.

Thank you Mrs Lowings

We are really sad to see Mrs Lowings leave us after 10 years. We very much hope that she enjoys her retirement and wish her all the very best.



The Value of this month is Tolerance

- Acceptance of oneself and others whilst recognising that we are all different
- Being understanding and open minded

At school we will think through some potentially challenging situations which could lead to quick and hostile reactions. We will discuss the need to avoid these situations by adopting a calm and reflective approach respecting other peoples' opinions and their differences. The message that we should try to live in peace and harmony, appreciating that we are all unique human beings and will therefore differ in many, many ways, will be the basis of our Assemblies. We will help the children realise that intolerance is often due to fear of the unknown and therefore it is important that they are curious and want to learn about others apart from themselves.

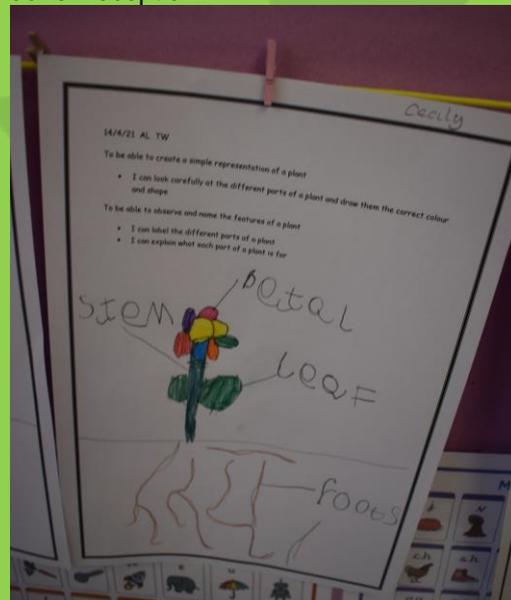
Thought for the month:

'I disagree with what you say but I defend your right to say it.'

At home as a family, you could talk about avoiding instant reactions to difficult situations and instead count to ten and think things through from everyone's points of view. Make a list of things you have strong, but maybe differing opinions about e.g. spiders or marmite, and have a debate about them allowing everyone to state their views and listen to others.

Learning about plants

Reception children have been learning about plants. The children have been drawing plants and then writing labels for the different parts of the plant such as stem, petal and leaf. They have produced some wonderful work this week. Well done Reception.



Golden Book

Children are nominated by Teaching Assistants and Teachers for a Principal's award which is entered in the Golden Book. The award can be for living one of our Values or special achievement. Sporting awards/achievements gained through a regular commitment to a club or group are also celebrated.

Ash	Brooke-May	for her happy personality and positive attitude to school. She always has a lovely smile on her face and plays beautifully with her friends.
Oak	Freddie	for presenting his star challenge book called 'Gorilla' to the class clearly and confidently.
Beech	Riley	for having a beautifully sunny disposition and positive attitude to learning. He shows the value of caring and love at all times.
Elm	Ollie	for his fantastic effort with his homework of measuring and comparing sizes.
Maple	Soleil	for her instruction writing on how to make a fox mask. Soleil included time connectives, imperative verbs, adverbs and other features of instructions in her writing.
Willow	Rhozie	for her consistently positive attitude towards all of her learning, particularly when writing narrative.
Sycamore	Lucy	for using a range of maths strategies in her calculations and for explaining her reasoning clearly.
Chestnut	Freya	for using all of her phonics knowledge when spelling tricky words and for producing independent writing in English.
Hazel	Eden	for her engagement and participation in the shield of resilience workshop.
Birch	Sam	for an amazing attitude to his learning that has helped him to settle into Birch Class so well.



Remote Learning Policy

We have recently reviewed and updated our Remote Learning Policy. We have made it clear what work we will be setting if a child has to self-isolate if they or someone in their family have COVID-19 symptoms and are awaiting test results. The updated policy can be found here:

[Gothic Mede Academy Remote Learning Policy April 2021](#)

We would encourage you to familiarise yourself with the expectations so that you know what to expect if you are in this situation at any point.

Access road

Over the last few days at drop off, you may have seen Mrs Davis and Mr Clarke standing at the end of the access road to the left-hand side of the school (as you face it from the road). This is because we have had

concerns raised by parents about drivers who are endangering children and adults by driving down or parking on this road while children are arriving at school.

We completely understand the difficulties with access to the school. The fact that so many children and parents would be arriving at school by car in 2021 was not considered by the original designers!

However, this is a private road that belongs to the school and is for the use of staff and delivery drivers (and emergency vehicles if necessary). We must prioritise the safety of the children so please do not park or drive on this road.

If you have any questions, please email the school office.

Web Site: www.gothicmede.org.uk

Email: GMA-Office@bestacademies.org.uk

Facebook: [@gothicmede](https://www.facebook.com/gothicmede)

Twitter: [@GothicMede](https://twitter.com/GothicMede)