



Newsletter No. 6

Pride in ourselves, pride in our school, pride in our community.

Friday 14th October 2022



Year 3

It has been a very busy half term in Year Three. The last few weeks have flown by with a fantastic range of learning activities including making hundreds with chalk in maths, composing and presenting our school council speeches, making emoji shadow puppets in science, an archaeological dig in our study of prehistory, learning about Kandinsky and abstract art and our weekly djembe tuition from Mr Bruno.



Duke of Edinburgh's Award comes to Gothic Mede!

We are very excited to be bringing this fantastic opportunity to Gothic Mede!

To encourage independence, confidence, resilience and self-motivation, our school is running an award scheme called the Junior Duke Award. This includes the Micro Duke, Mini Duke, Junior Duke and now also the Senior Duke Awards and is aimed at helping children from the age of 5 to 13 to learn and practice a large variety of life skills.

Each of these levels has a selection of challenges and, in order to complete a level, the children need to finish a pre-determined number of these successfully. These include skills such as first aid, ICT, eco awareness, drama, music, sport and other life skills such as cookery and puncture repair. We will be delivering a lot of this in school, but there will be content that will need to be rehearsed and completed at home with friends and family. With this scheme, practice definitely makes perfect! On completion of a level, a well-earned certificate and badge will be awarded.

Swearing around school

We have been informed that there are regular occasions of parents/carers swearing while waiting in line for the gates to open in the morning. It has also been reported that parents/carers have been heard swearing on the playground while walking their children in and out of school and while waiting for their children at the end of the day.

This is incompatible with our value of respect at Gothic Mede Academy and something about which we will do everything that we can to eliminate. I hope that you agree that our children should be protected from hearing inappropriate language on and around our school site.

Transported to Brazil

In PE, Year 4 have been transported to Brazil and have been practising their samba moves ready for the carnival parade. They have had lots of fun incorporating these movements into different pieces of fast-paced music; Kulikitaka by Toño Rosario is a favourite.



Reading Corner

This week in Reading Corner we are celebrating Black History month. Here are some wonderful books to share with your children to celebrate Black History.

Reception/Year one: John Agard's Windrush Child



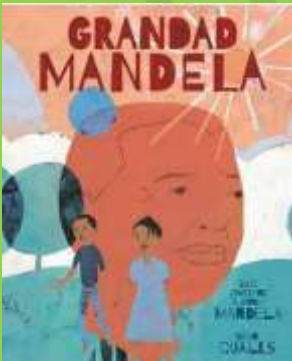
In this beautifully illustrated picture book, John Agard's touching poem Windrush Child is brought to life for young readers.

Year one/year two: Little People Big Dreams: Maya Angelou



This inspiring biography for young readers focusses on writer, speaker and civil rights activist Maya Angelou.

Years 3 and 4: Grandad Mandela



This insightful non-fiction picture book recounts the life of Nelson Mandela through the eyes of his great-grandchildren, Zazi and Ziwelene, as they ask their grandmother (Mandela's daughter) a series of questions about him.



Chicks

This week we welcomed our 2022 class of chicks to Gothic Mede. We have watched our eggs hatch during the week and we now have 10 healthy chicks, 5 boys and 5 girls! This morning Year 2 helped to set up and transfer our chicks into their brooder ready for the weekend.



For parents, carers and children already at
Gothic Mede as well!



OPEN EVENING

- ★ Do you live in or around Arlesey and have a child/children who are under the age of 9?
- ★ Come and see our school and facilities, which include a nursery, classrooms and Forest School
- ★ Thursday 20th October 2022, 5pm-6:30pm
- ★ **We look forward to welcoming your family!**



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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	Mason	for his increased confidence and contributions in class and for his enthusiasm and enjoyment during Forest School.
Oak	Roseanna	for always working hard in phonics and handwriting lessons. Roseanna takes pride in her work and often chooses to practise her letter formation during choosing time.
Elm	Neil	for his increased confidence to participate in class activities and demonstrate his knowledge and understanding in lessons.
Beech	Erin	for taking great pride when creating her Christmas card. Erin concentrated throughout the task and produced a lovely piece of work.
Willow	Riley	for always being ready to learn and living the value of respect all of the time.
Maple	Alexa	for her fantastic effort when singing our harvest song in the harvest festival.
Sycamore	Joseph	for consistently demonstrating our school's values of respect and responsibility so soon after joining us.
Chestnut	Blake	for excellent attitude towards learning in his all lessons and for your brilliant investigative ideas in science when learning about shadows.
Birch	Eliza	for showing constant readiness in all of her learning and taking on each task with enthusiasm.
Hazel	Evie	for her fabulous engagement and development of her research skills in science and English lessons.



Tidy Ted

Willow Class - making sure all areas of the class room are nice and tidy.

Other awards to mention

Following the school assembly and learning from the school council Jackson was very inspired and wanted to make a difference so he tackled Bury Mead/ Carter's Way forest walk and look at the amount of rubbish he cleared!! Well done Jackson.

Isabella from Willow Class
Player of the week - Stotfold Football Club

Ellie from Sycamore class - Learn to Swim level 3

Parking

Parking in the mornings is really difficult!

Unfortunately, the school wasn't built in a position to allow sufficient vehicular access, nor parking! This does mean that, until we move to our new site, there will always be problems with getting to school if you drive your child to school.

On the north side of our site there is an access road (by BEST Nursery) which belongs to the school and which leads to staff car parking only. No parents should drive up this road at drop off or pick up.

On the south side, there is an access road which goes up to the field and the MUGA. Kindly, the council allow us to use this parking for drop off and pick up. The exception to this is at the start of the road where there are bays marked 'Staff parking' and 'Disabled parking'. These are for the surgery and the Town Council. Please do not use these for parking and please do not block them!