



# Newsletter No. 11

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

Friday 24th March 2023



## Ofsted Inspection

As you were informed on Monday, there was an inspection of our school on Tuesday and Wednesday.

I would like to start by saying a thank you of infinite proportions to the amazing team of staff that I am proud to be a part of, at Gothic Mede Academy. I started Tuesday by telling the inspector that I was the luckiest headteacher in the country because of the adults who I work with and, by the end of Wednesday, she admitted that she had to agree with me. I was also very grateful for the support that we received from our Trust, BEST, and our local governing body during the inspection.

She also spoke very highly of our children. She saw that they were polite and compassionate and heard them speak confidently about their learning. They were an absolute credit to themselves, showing pride in everything that they did.

I'm also very grateful for the honest feedback that you gave to Ofsted during this period. Although it was anonymous, the inspector told me of feedback that we should celebrate, and areas that we can work on. I am determined to act on this feedback and will discuss this with you in due course.

As with all inspections, the outcome of the inspection will not be finalised and published for a little while. There is a significant quality assurance process that the report needs to go through before it will be sent to the school to share with parents and carers.

However, whatever is in this report, I have been given a fresh reminder of how proud I am to work with your wonderful children, and just how lucky Arlesey is to have such a committed and skilful team of staff serving those children.

## A Sandwich anyone?

Our Year 2 Dukes have been busy making a sandwich. Most importantly they have been learning the skill of being safe whilst preparing food. They then had the challenge of writing up how they made their sandwich in their logs.



## Year 3 Star Challenges

We have had some amazing Star Challenges this term, with pupils really enthused about our volcanoes and earthquakes learning and keen to share their knowledge with a variety of fantastic models and facts, brilliantly supported by their adults at home, of course!



## Year 2 DT

This half term, the children in Year 2 have been designing and making vehicles. We were lucky enough to have Colin, a joiner from the Chilfen Group, to come and assist the children with the woodwork element. The children had to saw the wood that would be used to make the chassis and the axles for the vehicle. The children were great at following the safety rules in order to keep themselves safe.



## 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	Maverick	for his fantastic contributions and inquisitiveness in maths lessons.
Oak	Hallie	for a big improvement in her confidence and contributing in class discussions.
Beech	Tess	for her enthusiasm for Science Week activities and her use of scientific vocabulary during our investigations into materials
Elm	Evie	for her motivation and enthusiasm during Science Week activities and her excellent suggestions in class discussions.
Maple	Evan	for his enthusiasm and participation in maths lessons and the progress he is making in his mathematical learning.
Willow	Ethan	for learning when to use capital letters without prompting and for an amazing improvement in his handwriting.
Chestnut Sycamore	Blake Elliot	for fantastic class contributions and effort in writing. for always seeking to 'deepen the moment' in his writing using descriptive language and expressing the character's feelings.
Hazel	Evelyn	for her infectious optimism, attitude to learning and caring for other children.
Birch	Lily	for her perseverance and determination in learning a new skill of badminton.



## Other awards to mention

### Tidy Ted

Willow Class for neatly stacking their chairs and keeping a tidy classroom.

### Other awards to mention

Huge well done to Beth from Hazel and Dottie from Birch who both received Gold in Eastern counties Gymnastics Competition and are now off to the nationals.  
Amazing!

## Year 1 Assembly

Well done to our Year 1 pupils for an amazing assembly.

It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers join us to watch the children. The message was very clear that Year 1 loves to read!



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