



Newsletter No. 7

Pride in ourselves, pride in our school, pride in our community.
Friday 3rd November 2023



A Morning of Maths



This morning, Mrs Undrell delivered a fantastic session in the hall to our Year 2 parents and children. This was to explain how we deliver maths at GMA and what to expect to see in a typical maths lesson. This was a fantastic opportunity to see some of the strategies and resources that we use in school and to help parents and carers further support with their child at home.



Superworm

Year 1 have been writing stories based on Superworm by Julia Donaldson. This week we have been practising writing questions to try to find out more about Crow's evil plan. We have also enjoyed reading a book about questions to do with the world around us. Do you know why the sky is blue?



Meet the Teacher

This week we meet our amazing Year 1 teachers. Mrs Oestreicher is the teacher in Beech Class.



What is your favourite memory from teaching at Gothic Mede Academy?

My favourite memory is definitely the Great Gothic Mede Waterfight of July 2022. It was absolutely brilliant! It was a really hot day so at morning break everyone went out on the playground with their water guns and spent the next half hour completely soaking each other. My only problem was that I forgot to bring in any spare clothes and had to sit dripping in a meeting for the rest of the morning.

What do you like doing outside of school?

I really enjoy sport – both watching and playing. My favourite sport is tennis and I play a couple of times a week up at Langford tennis club. It's a really friendly club and there is always someone who wants to play a few games. When I'm not playing tennis I like to be out on my bike or kayaking down a river- being out in the fresh air and noticing wildlife around me makes me happy.

What is an interesting fact about you?

I once went on an amazing trip to the Antarctic. While I was there, I ran a half marathon alongside penguins and skuas, and saw walrus, leopard seals, humpback whales and lots and lots of icebergs! On our return journey we were caught in a horrendous hurricane in the Drake Passage (the stretch of water between Antarctica and South America) but luckily we eventually made it back safely. Such an adventure!

We also meet Miss O’Gorman, our class teacher for Elm.



What made you want to teach at Gothic Mede Academy?

After teaching in London for a few years, I relocated to Hertfordshire and was on the lookout for a new challenge. I came to visit Gothic Mede and knew it was the right school and I liked how friendly and welcoming the staff were. The school was nurturing, creative and innovative and I could see it would be a fantastic place to teach.

What is your favourite subject to teach and why?

My favourite subject to teach has to be English because I love how imaginative the children can be. I like to teach children how to change the ending of stories, write their own and most importantly, read all their creative pieces!

What is an interesting fact about you?

I am Portuguese! My mum is from Portugal and my Dad is from Ireland. I visit Portugal a few times in a year as I have lots of family over there and love the culture, food and weather. As a child, I would spend every Easter there with my Nan, celebrating with the traditional food and customs.

Items from the Past

This week in Year 1 we explored items from the past for history. Miss O’Gorman brought in her old Paddington toy and we compared it to our newer soft toys in class. We are excited to explore being historians this term!



Children in Need

14.11.23 CHILDREN IN NEED – ACORN A
17.11.23 CHILDREN IN NEED – ACORN B & RECEPTION – YEAR 4

CHILDREN IN NEED

NON-UNIFORM DAY TO INCLUDE EITHER
SOMETHING YELLOW
SOMETHING SPOTTY
OR SOMETHING WITH PUDSEY ON!

£1 VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION, THROUGH PARENMAIL SHOP.

Upcoming Diary Dates

07.11.23	Parent Consultations / SEND Reviews	4:00–7:00pm
09.11.23	Parent Consultations / SEND Reviews	4:00–7:00pm
13.11.23 – 17.11.23	Anti-Bullying Week	
14.11.23	Children in Need – Acorn A	
15.11.23	Phonics information session for parents	9.00-10.00am or 4.30-5.30pm
17.11.23	Children In Need - Acorn B & Reception to Year 4	
11.12.23	Acorn A and Reception Christmas Performance	2.00pm
12.12.23	Year 3 Christmas Performance	9.30am and 2.00pm
14.12.23	Acorn B and Reception Christmas Performance	2.00pm
15.12.23	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Performances	9.30am and 2.00pm
20.12.23	Christmas Lunch, Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Parties	
22.12.23	Carol Service in School (staff & children only)	10.30am
22.12.23	End of Term	



GMA Preschool Acorn Class Open Morning



Including a welcome from the Early Years Lead and Head of School, a tour of the setting and our beautiful Forest School

For prospective parents of children starting our Acorn preschool in Sept 2024
(Children born 1st Sept 2020 to 31st Aug 2021)

Tuesday 7th November 2023 @ 9.00am

We look forward to meeting you

To book call the School Office: 01462 732002

Email: GMA-Office@bestacademies.org.uk



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	Ashley	for being such a kind, caring and considerate member of Ash class.
Oak	Peyton	for showing a really positive attitude towards learning and trying her best to join in.
Beech	Grace	for her creativity and imagination when working as a group at Forest School. Grace has such wonderful ideas and involves other children well in making her ideas happen.
Elm	Roseanna	for being so helpful to others. She is a great role model and upholds the school values every day.
Maple Willow	Tugrahan Elara	for producing some incredible writing in English this week. for her brilliant effort in poetry writing. Elara had fantastic ideas and carefully created her own 'If I were in charge' poem.
Chestnut	Henry	for his consistent engagement and positivity in all aspects of school life.
Sycamore	William	for his consistently superb effort in English, as he seeks to use adventurous new vocabulary.
Hazel	Penny	for always being committed to her learning and tackling challengers in maths with determination.
Birch	Islagh-Belle	for her go get it attitude and hard work in maths lessons. She is always keen to share her ideas and challenge herself.



Other awards to mention

Tidy Ted

Birch Class for keeping floor rubbish to a minimum and having tidy desks.

Well done to Isabella from Chestnut class. Isabella competed in the A1 Judo competition in East Ham on Sunday 22nd October and came away with the silver medal in her category.