



Newsletter No. 9

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

Friday 17th November 2023



Children in Need

It was great seeing the children in their yellow, spotty or Pudsey themed clothes. We were especially impressed with this amazing home-made hat. Well done Oakley! Thank you to parents and carers for your donations for Children in Need.



The Bear and The Piano

Year 1 welcomed ex-pupil Adelaide back to Gothic Mede Academy this week. As part of their Experience Day for their new English unit based on the book *The Bear and the Piano*, the children listened to Adelaide playing the piano and the flute. "I just loved listening to the music" (Clara)



Archaeological Dig

In history the year 1 children took part in a mock archaeological dig to discover clues about The Gunpowder Plot. They are now really keen to find out exactly what went on in this historical event.



Phonics Session

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the phonics and early reading sessions this week. It was great to see so many of you there. A copy of the presentation given by Mrs Oestreicher and Mrs Lewis can be found on the phonics section of the school website (click Learning-Curriculum-English-Phonics).



We will Remember Them.

Thank you to Mr Warlow and some of our School Councillors for representing Gothic Mede at The Arlesey Memorial Service. As well as taking part in the parade, they also laid a wreath on behalf of Gothic Mede.



Junior Duke

This week our Year 4 Junior Dukes had a session in the kitchen learning how to make soup. A big thank you to Mrs Nieli and Mrs Power who worked with the children. The children not only made soup, but learnt about kitchen safety and designed their own recipe.



Odd Socks Day

Thank you to all the pupils and staff who wore odd socks on Monday. Odd Socks Day is an opportunity to have fun, be yourself and spread awareness of the core values Anti-Bullying Week promotes.



Family Support Worker

Some of you will be aware that our Family Support Worker and Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Jennie Clarke (formerly Milligan), had her last day at Gothic Mede Academy today. Since her start, Mrs Clarke has performed the role with competence and passion. She has revolutionised the support of the school's most vulnerable children and has regularly been praised by professionals, including improvement advisors, IQM assessors and Ofsted inspectors. She is now moving to take up a permanent position as the safeguarding lead for a trust of schools in Hertfordshire. We are very sorry to say goodbye to her but wish her the very best for the future.

Fortunately, Mrs Clarke is part of a team of five safeguarding leads at Gothic Mede (points for knowing the other four!). The rest of the team (Mr Clarke, Mrs Davis, Mrs Sugden and Mrs Undrell) will ensure continuity and coverage for the families and children who Mrs Clarke has been supporting.

I am also delighted to announce that we have appointed a new Family Support Worker from a large field of high quality and highly competent candidates. Mrs Claire Anderson will be taking up her position as Family Support Worker and member of the safeguarding team for Gothic Mede Academy at the start of next week. Many of you will know her as our current Forest School Lead (which she will be continuing) and cover supervisor. We are very lucky to have such a capable person to be stepping into this position.

If you have any questions about this, please contact the school office. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact CBC Children's Services on 0300 300 8585, the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 or, if you think that a child is at immediate risk of harm, the Police on 999.



Upcoming Diary Dates

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	

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	Isaac	for consistently living our school values and being a wonderful role model to his peers.
Oak	Heath	for being a kind friend to his peers and engaging fully in whole class learning.
Beech	Corey	for his wonderful story based on Superworm. Corey took care with his handwriting and wrote a really exciting story.
Elm	Nevaeh-Mae	for showing more independence during maths learning time.
Willow	Araiya-Mai	for her enthusiasm and engagement during English and maths lessons and being keen to share her ideas with the class.
Maple	Leon	for working really hard over the past few weeks and asking some fantastic questions during the firefighter's visit.
Sycamore	Dylan	for his amazing application and wonderful word choices when crafting his creative composition in English.
Chestnut	Ayyub	for sharing his knowledge and experience of the French language to help the class during French lessons.
Hazel	Blake	for modelling the school values and participating positively in Junior Duke. Blake shows interest, enthusiasm and focuses on the task at hand.
Birch	Freddie	for his positive attitude and hard work across all lessons.



Other awards to mention

Tidy Ted

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

Pen licenses:

Kimberley	Birch Class
Dylan	Birch Class
Chloe	Birch Class
Lexi- May	Birch Class

Teddy and George from Hazel and George from Birch were given the opportunity to play a football tournament at Manchester City Academy against the Manchester City youth teams. They travelled down as a team and took part in the tournament yesterday. This was a fantastic opportunity for them and they made parents and the club very proud. They won their first game against Man City, drew the 2nd, lost the 3rd and drew the 4th. They also were lucky enough to meet England's goal keeper Jordan Pickford who took the time to speak to them and have his photo taken with them.

Tag Rugby Certificates:

Hazel Class – Penny, Layla, Jesse, Mia, Blake, Teddy, Rosie-Mae, Finley, Oliver, Harry,
Birch Class – Elizabeth, Phoebe, Dylan, Ellie, Islagh-Belle, Vinnie, Oliver, Freddie, Joseph, Denys

Dylan from Sycamore Class - Learn to Swim Level 1

Harper from Hazel Class - Eduro Race - 5th place

Sienna from Birch Class - Man of the Match - Letchworth Eagles

Ella from Hazel - Gymnastics Level 1

Zorawar from Hazel - Number Works - Place Value

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