



Newsletter No. 1

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

Friday 13th September



WELCOME BACK!

We hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. The children have settled into their classes well, ready to embark on an exciting school year ahead.

If you have any questions or concerns as we begin the new school year, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the school office. We will also be sending newsletters and updates, so please check your Parent Mail regularly. I would like to kindly remind you, any absences during the school term must be requested by completing a 'request for absence' form. This does not include medical appointments, these can be communicated via the school office.

YEAR 2

Year 2 enjoyed an experience day as part of their English topic based around the book 'The Marvellous Fluffy Squishy Itty Bitty'. They found out about the role of a baker, with a visit from our school kitchen, and then tasted a selection of sweet and savoury bakery items. Well done Year 2 for coming up with some fantastic adjectives to describe the foods and for using them so well in your sentences the following day.

MINDFULNESS DAY

Yesterday was World Mindfulness Day, and to mark the occasion the Bedfordshire Schools Trust has launched a new film showing the impact the practice has had across its schools.

It's fantastic to see Gothic Mede pupils feature in the video. Filming took place in Mr Warlow's Year 3 class last year, with some also interviewed about what they liked about their mindfulness lessons.

The full video can be seen on YouTube - watch it here:

https://youtu.be/H12jaatyBz0?si=9T4VKiTD_kGUAqks



They've all seemed to have found some part of it that worked for them, that they could take forward and use.



FOREST SCHOOL

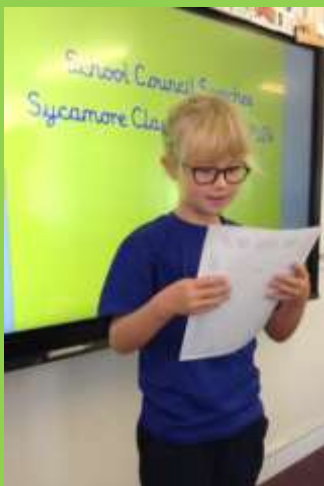
Call out for forest school helpers, would you like to...?

- Make a difference in the lives of children, helping them feel a sense of wonder and curiosity about the world around them
- Help children feel good about themselves. Forest School helps boost self-esteem and confidence and develops practical skills
- Experience your own increased wellbeing and improved physical and mental health through interaction with nature
- Try new things and develop your own skills e.g. tools, fires, native plants, cooking

We need forest schooler helpers for our Tuesday afternoon sessions. They run from 12.30pm - 3.30pm. If you are able to spare this time, we would love to have you join us. Please contact Mrs Anderson if you are interested.

YEAR 3

Year 3 have had a busy start to the new academic year. They have written and presented their school council speeches, started to study climate zones in geography, explored the human skeleton in science, enjoyed their first mindfulness session led by Will George and experimented creating their own 3D sculptures in art.



YEAR 1

Year 1 have been using different kinds of lines to create Making Waves artwork. They have been spotting horizontal, vertical and diagonal lines in Bridget Riley artwork.



ASDA CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

We've got some exciting news to share with you. Parentkind – a charity that supports school PTAs – have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative.

To support our school, all you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com.

Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024 – every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to Gothic Mede Academy. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support our school, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

It's as easy as 1,2,3

1. Download the Asda Rewards app, register and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools (make sure you have the latest version of the app installed)
2. Choose our Primary School – either searching by name or postcode
3. Shop instore across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com and start filling your Cashpot as you shop

Asda does the rest, all money raised will be donated to schools to spend on the things they need the most.

This initiative is on top of the existing Asda Rewards benefits you get as a shopper – so you won't lose out on any of your own earnings or Cashpot, so everyone is a winner!



DIARY DATES

2/10/24 – SEN Coffee Morning

4/10/24 – Harvest Festival
(Staff & children only)

9/10/24 – School Open Evening
5:00pm – 6:30pm

TERRACYCLE

Gothic Mede continues to recycle various items, which usually can't be recycled, through Terracycle in order to earn money for the school. We are excited that we have just started recycling Sistema and other reusable food storage containers and bottles, so if you have a clear-out of your non-matching bottles and containers, please pop it into the Terracycle boxes either just outside the school office or outside the Resource Centre. Please visit the Terracycle website for further details, <https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB>

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.

- Beech** Toby for living the value of Responsibility by going above and beyond to make sure our classroom is tidy.
- Elm** Remi-James for being a fantastic role model during his first week in Elm Class. Remi is so polite and helpful and a great asset to the class! Well done!
- Willow** Darcey for her excellent effort in writing, she came up with some brilliant ideas to describe what amazing cooks we had been.
- Maple** Roseanna for always being ready to learn and for being extremely polite. Roseanna is also such a happy girl who spreads joy in the classroom.
- Chestnut** Isla for taking great pride in her work from the very first day in Year 3 and for putting effort into everything she does.
- Sycamore** Hadley for a super start to Year 3 by being an excellent classmate and working hard.
- Birch** Riley for always being ready to learn and living the value of Respect in Birch class.
- Hazel** Ethan for a great start to Year 4, very helpful and polite, modelling responsibility and respect in class.

OTHER AWARDS TO MENTION

Well done to Alexa in Hazel, Nikol in Willow and Jensen in Ash class for taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge.



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