



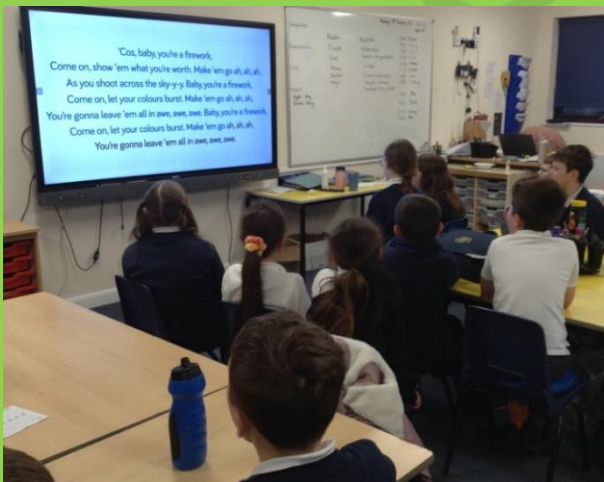
Newsletter No. 10

Pride in ourselves, pride in our school, pride in our community.
Friday 22nd November



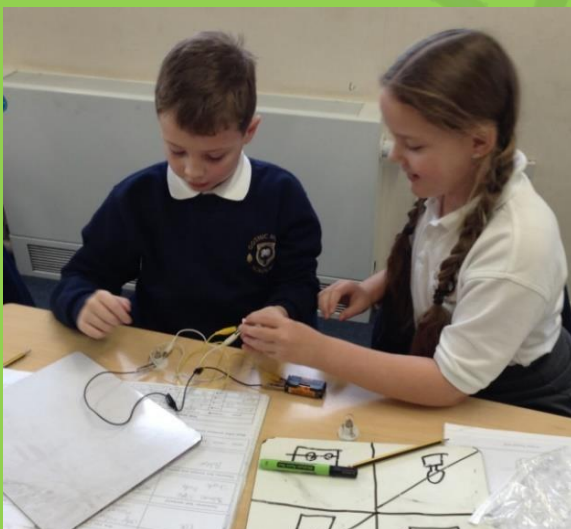
YOUNG VOICES CHOIR

The Young Voices choir are having a fantastic time learning all the songs for the concert in January. Don't forget to sign your child up to the music room on the Young Voices website so that they can learn the songs and dances at home too!



YEAR FOUR

Year four have had great fun learning about circuits in Science. We have been finding out what components are needed to make a circuit work and using our knowledge to predict if a light bulb will light up. The children have enjoyed building and testing these to find out if their predictions were correct. They have also learnt about switches and why they are so important to circuits.



ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

Some kind reminders regarding children's absence from school:

- If your child has a medical appointment, please can you advise the school via email or the ParentMail app and provide proof either via email or showing a staff member the text message/confirmation letter before the appointment please.
- If you plan to take your child out of school for any other reason we do require a '**Absence during term time form**' to be completed, ideally 6 weeks before and handed into the school office. This form can be found on our website under the parent's tab or via this link – [Forms](#)
- Please also be mindful that the rules around absences have been updated from the 19th August 2024 which are explained in the poster below.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY MATTERS



Penalty Notice Fines for absence from school are changing

From 19th August 2024 Penalty Notice fines increase to £160 for each parent, for each child.



You can be fined if your child has a total of 5 days of unauthorised absences in 10 school weeks, for things like:

- being late after the register has closed
- truancy
- taking a holiday without permission from the school
- or if a headteacher isn't satisfied for the reason for missing school

Over a rolling 3-year period the sanctions are:

- 1st offence – £160 reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days
- 2nd offence – £160
- 3rd offence – Court hearing and up to £2,500 fine, or up to 3 months in prison and a criminal record



For more information go to:
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/missing-school



MOVIE NIGHT

We are holding a festive movie night on Friday 29th November, straight after school, showing the kids Christmas classic, Arthur Christmas! This is for children in Reception – Year 4.

Payment should be made via Parentmail and costs £3.50 per child, which includes entry to the movie and a bag of popcorn. Payment will secure your child's place. There will also be a tuck shop where children can purchase a variety of items for 50p each.

Pick up from school will be at approximately 5.15pm. Children are invited to bring a cushion to sit on and/or a teddy to snuggle up with.

WINTER WONDERLAND CANVAS COMPETITION

Our Winter Canvas Competition is here! Children can create a winter wonderland scene of their choice using any medium to create their picture (e.g. pastels, paint, felt tip etc.) All entries will then be displayed in school and a winner will be selected from each year group.

Canvases need to be purchased via ParentMail at a cost of £2.50 each.
One canvas per child only.
Please make sure that completed canvases are returned to school by Friday 13th December.



CONKER ROOM

This week Conker Room have had a wonderful addition to their new sensory room, a bubble light. As you can see, the children are really enjoying spending time in their new space. If you are having a clear out ahead of Christmas, Conker Room would really appreciate any donations of dressing up clothes, small world figures and peg puzzles. **Thank you!**

GMA CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We are excited to announce our Christmas Hamper Raffle! We have two beautifully arranged hampers filled with festive treats up for grabs.

If you would like to purchase tickets, please put the correct money in an envelope with your child's name and class and ask them to hand it to the school office.

The winners of the raffle will be drawn on the week commencing 16th Dec.

£2 Per Strip

HAPPY SCHOOL BAG

Thank you to those who donated filled bags to the latest Happy School Bag collection last week. We raised £90 on this occasion. Our next collection is in March 2025, so please hold on to any clothes you may be planning to donate elsewhere until then. We have spare donation bags at the school front office should you need them.

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	Arlo for his fantastic contributions in maths. Arlo is able to explain his answers, reason about problems and use stem sentences.
Oak	Demirai for being a responsible learner. Demirai has been taking on extra challenges during discovery time.
Beech	Eddie for working really hard in phonics when sounding out and writing down words.
Elm	Leo Worrell for working hard in maths to develop his number bond knowledge. Leo has been applying this when completing number sentences.
Willow	Giovanni for his hard work in writing last week, he wrote some brilliant sentences about Neil Armstrong and even made his own book about him!
Maple	Hallie for her increased effort to practise her reading at home more regularly.
Chestnut	Harvey for determination and hard work in our maths addition and subtraction unit of work.
Sycamore	Reagan for his effort and concentration in mathematics lessons.
Birch	Willow for the valuable contributions she makes to classroom learning and the wider school community.
Hazel	Evan for his super effort using the lenses in English to construct interesting sentences; creating an imaginative story.



OTHER AWARDS TO MENTION

- Arlo in Beech has achieved red belt in Tai Boxing! WELL DONE ARLO!



CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE DATES

Monday 9th December
Tuesday 10th December
Wednesday 11th December
Thursday 12th December
Friday 13th December

Acorn A and Reception performance at 2pm
Yr 1 & Yr 2 performance at 2pm
Yr 3 Christmas performance at 2pm
Acorn B and Reception performance at 2pm
Yr 1 & Yr 2 performance at 2pm

More information to follow next week on how to book tickets.



Web Site: www.gothicmede.org.uk

Email: GMA-Office@bestacademies.org.uk

Facebook: [@gothicmede](https://www.facebook.com/gothicmede)

Twitter: [@GothicMede](https://twitter.com/GothicMede)