



Newsletter No. 6

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

Friday 13th February



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we head into the half-term break, I wanted to take a moment to say a huge thank you to you all. I am so incredibly proud of our children; they have worked so hard and truly lived our school values every single day. A massive thank you also goes to our wonderful staff for their dedication, and to you, our parents and community, for your continued support and partnership. It really does take a village, and we appreciate everything you do.

Wishing you all a wonderful, relaxing half-term! Mrs Smith

KITCHEN UPDATE

Following feedback from parents, we are pleased to be introducing more daily options on our school menu. In addition to the main menu, children will now also be able to choose from jacket potatoes, tomato pasta, and a selection of sandwiches each day.

We're also excited to share our new and improved menu, which will be launching after Easter. More details coming soon! Please use this form to express your interest for more dinner options and to provide further comments - <https://forms.gle/nGyi75TbLG1qxwa8A>

SAFER INTERNET DAY

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day, and we marked the occasion with a very informative assembly led by Mr Warlow. The assembly involved some of our Year 4 pupils and focused on the important topic of AI and staying safe online.

The children listened brilliantly and asked thoughtful questions. If you would like to learn more about how to use technology responsibly and safely, please click on the link below.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>



YEAR 2

Year 2 have been busy designing and making their own castle tiles using a range of creative skills and techniques. The children started by drawing their castle designs and planning how to create the key features using clay.

They learned how to roll a smooth tile surface, join clay shapes, and make marks in the clay to create interesting patterns and textures.

The results are fantastic, and the children should be very proud of their hard work and creativity!



GMA GOOD NEWS STORY

We were so pleased that so many of you were able to join us for our coffee morning on Tuesday. It was lovely to welcome parents and carers into school and to have the Community Mental Health Support Team with us to offer advice and guidance.

This session focused on emotional regulation, and we hope those who attended found it helpful and informative. Thank you for taking the time to come along, and please keep an eye out for details of our next coffee morning.

YEAR 1

This week in English, Year 1 explored writing instructions by learning how to make a chocolate mug cake. The children carefully wrote out their step-by-step instructions and then had a go at following them to make their own cakes. Of course, the best part was tasting their finished creations, which the children described as “scrumptious!”

This week’s staff interview features Mrs Smith, our Head of School. Our School Councillors really enjoyed taking the lead and asking her questions about her role.

Name: Mrs Steph Smith

Job title: Head of School

How long have you worked at GMA? Since January 2026

What do you love about working at GMA? How friendly everyone is. It is always hard starting somewhere new but everyone has been so helpful and welcoming.

What’s the best thing about GMA? It is so hard to pick one thing. The best part of my role is walking the school and hearing about all the fantastic learning that is going on. The teachers are just as enthusiastic and keen to tell you about what they are teaching as the pupils are to tell you what they have learnt.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work? Spending time with family and friends. In the warmer months I like to run but not in the cold!

What is your favourite book? I don't have a favourite book but my favourite genre is definitely a thriller.

Favourite Movie? It's so hard to choose! Maybe one of the Marvel films - Captain Marvel had a good soundtrack.

Favourite Sport? Depends if it's watching or playing. I enjoy watching rugby but playing would probably be netball.

The **PFGM** are excited to announce that we will be running a Golden Ticket competition in conjunction with World Book Day on Thursday 5th March!

We are inviting children/adults to purchase a GMA Chocolate Bar with the chance to win some fabulous prizes via a golden ticket. Not all chocolate bars have a prize, it really is the luck of the draw! Prizes include cinema tickets, Shepreth Wildlife Park entry, 360 play entry and much more!

Each bar costs £2.50 and is available to purchase via MCAS. Please make us aware of any allergies at the point of purchase by emailing – GMA-office@bestacademies.org.uk

Bars will be distributed on Thursday March 5th, but on Wednesday March 4th for Acorn A, there will also be a chance to buy bars on the playground after school on March 5th! Will you find a Golden Ticket?

A quick reminder to our school community that **Simon Nutall** is our designated **Safeguarding Governor**. Simon works closely with our leadership team to oversee school policies and ensure that the safety and wellbeing of every child remain our top priority.

If you have any questions regarding our safeguarding culture or welfare procedures, please feel free to reach out via the school office.



Maths Trophy – Keeley (Sycamore)

Keeley has worked really hard in maths at school and at home. Her understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division has improved greatly and she uses equipment sensibly to support her calculations. Keeley loves maths fluency and her quick recall of number facts is really helping her with her other calculations. Keeley never gives up and always does her best.

Values Ambassador Awards

Acorn A – Nikola - Nikola is a quiet and polite member of Acorn class. She is always willing to help and is always ready to learn.

Acorn B – Orla - Orla is a happy and cheerful member of Acorn class. She is a kind friend and an excellent role model to those around her.

Ash – Harper - Harper has such a positive, fantastic attitude to school. She consistently lives all of our school values and is a fantastic role model to her peers. Harper is caring and compassionate and displays kindness and empathy towards her friends. She always tires extremely hard and demonstrates pride in all of her efforts and actions.

Oak – Ava - Ava is a kind and compassionate member of our class. She is caring and shows empathy towards others. Ava also lives our values of pride and responsibility, taking care over her work and helping to keep our classroom tidy. Well done Ava!

Elm – Flo - Flo has been a role-model since her first day in Elm class, demonstrating excellent behaviour and living by the school values. She is so helpful to all the adults in Elm, always offering her assistance to tidy up and organise the classroom. Flo is such a dedicated learner and always works hard. She understands the rules and routines of school and has made amazing progress this year.

Beech – Mihail - Mihail is an incredibly kind and compassionate member of the class who always shows respect to adults and his peers. Mihail is taking real responsibility for his learning and is making good progress as a result of this.

Willow – Noah - Noah has been given the Values Ambassador Award because he has shown real determination to make positive choices and demonstrate the school's core values. Since joining Year 2, he has worked hard to be responsible and respectful, listening carefully to adults and trying his best in lessons. He is also showing compassion by being a kind friend and making thoughtful choices around school.

Maple – Rosie - Rosie has a positive, can do approach to her learning. She always gives her very best and is keen to continue to improve her skills and knowledge while living the Gothic Mede values. since becoming a Year 2 pupil.

Chestnut – Casey - Casey is an extremely kind and compassionate member of our class. She brings out the best in everybody and is an excellent role model of our school values.

Sycamore – Hallie - Hallie always shows a positive attitude to her learning and to school. She is an enthusiastic learner and is starting to show compassion towards other children in the playground.

Rowan – Reagan - Reagan has developed a fantastic attitude to his education and to school in general. Although he sometimes finds coming into school tricky on some days, he soon settles and takes increasing responsibility for his learning and pride in work. Reagan is a kind friend to his classmates and is eager to demonstrate that he can make excellent choices when on the playground.



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	Sara for the effort she is putting into learning her sounds in phonics.
Oak	Tilly for making fantastic progress in every area of learning.
Beech	Carter for the excellent effort he puts into every phonics lesson and for the improvements to his handwriting.
Elm	Aria for always trying her best in all aspects of learning. Aria works so hard and actively takes on feedback to improve her work.
Willow	Atlas for taking pride in his work and trying hard to improve his handwriting.
Maple	Martin for settling into a new school and class really well and making new friends.
Chestnut	Casey for her continued commitment to her reading and demonstrating a positive mindset in all that she does.
Sycamore	Vincent for his excellent focus and participation in Geography when learning about the International Date Line and time differences around the world.
Rowan	Lola for her effort, determination and resilience when calculating perimeter in mathematics.

CELEBRATIONS

- Harper (Maple) competed in a Dance competition at the weekend, she was awarded 1st in 2 of her dances and 2nd in another!
- Archie (Beech) awarded Star Player from his team, Stotfold Jr FC
- Hallie (Sycamore) awarded a Star Award at BX Dance Club
- Maisie (Acorn) has moved up to stage 2 in her swimming class

UPCOMING EVENTS

MON 23RD FEB	Young Voices Concert
24TH & 26TH FEB	Parent Consultations
TUES 24TH FEB	Y2 Fire Service Visit

FROM THE KITCHEN

Please click on the link to view the dinner menu.

<https://www.gothicmede.org.uk/schoolmeals>

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