

SPRING TERM 2019

NEWSLETTER NO. 1

Friday 11th January

Our value for this month is: Caring



Welcome back!

It's been great to have everyone back at school this week and last and see around school and on Facebook what the children have already been getting up to! We have an exciting term ahead including science week, world book day, movie nights and mothers' day breakfasts.

I'd like to welcome some adults to the school this term who will be working in different areas of the school with your children. Miss Smith is now teaching in Sycamore Class on Mondays and Tuesdays and has already wowed the children with a lesson involving skis and a snowboard (I don't think they left the country!), Mrs Holland joins the teaching team in Hazel Class as a trainee teacher and will be working with Mrs Gallie to increase the adult support and available teachers that are available to pupils in Year 4 as a whole, and Mr Brooke has joined Elm Class as a trainee teacher and will be working with Mrs Oestreicher to increase the provision for pupils across Year 1. We wish them all a warm welcome to Gothic Mede.

Our value for this month is: caring

Displaying kindness and concern for others. At school we will be thinking about the importance of being a caring person. Children will discuss who cares for them and why it is important to care for others. We will emphasise the importance of caring for each other both at school and at home. We will also discuss how living with the value of 'caring' will mean that they are also living others values such as 'friendship' and 'love'.

At home you may wish to discuss the following questions:

- What can we do to show we care?
- What makes a caring person?
- How do we care for ourselves?
- Who/what do we enjoy caring for?
- How does it make us feel?
- What happens when we don't care for others/ourselves?
- How can we help others to care?
- What does caring look like?

Labelling Uniform

A reminder please to label all Uniform and PE wear. This makes getting changed easier for the Child and the Staff. Many thanks

PFGM Movie Night

The PFGM are holding a movie night on Friday 18th January after school. Full details have been sent out on Parentmail. Spaces are limited so to secure a place you will need to get in quick.

Introducing Gothic Mede's Great Staff!

This week Anna and Max from Sycamore class decided to speak with Mrs Gallie.



What is your Job Title? I am a teacher in Year 4

What do you do at school? I teach year 4 and look after English and Science in school. I also help to get children ready for middle school.

What do you like to do out of school? I enjoy holidays, exercise, eating out, family time and walking the dog.

School Councillors



The School Councillors this week had a meeting and Macy reported back on the content of the meeting.

In this meeting we were choosing our roles. Mrs Roberts talked about what the roles involved. Then the councillors decided which roles they'd like. Then it came to Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, Elliot was chosen as chairperson. As lots of people wanted to be vice chairperson the most democratic option was to write names and put them in a cup and Marco was chosen.

I as the secretary (the person who writes what goes on in the meetings) will keep you updated from future meetings.

Macy
Secretary

Contacting the school with concerns

I would like to take the opportunity of a new calendar year to remind parents that we are an open school who values parental contact highly. We love to speak to parents about success stories but we are equally keen to speak to any parent who has a concern or question about something that happens or has happened at Gothic Mede. The first contact should be your child's class teacher (they will know the details of any event) but, if you have a wider concern or still have concerns having spoken to your child's teacher, I am available to speak to, either on the gate in the morning or by making an appointment through the office. If we know of any concerns you may have, we will be in a position to act, should that be necessary. Discussions on Facebook and the playground are much less effective at changing what we do at Gothic Mede!

Absences

If your child is off sick or not attending school for any other reason, please can you call the school office and leave a voicemail, log it on Parentmail under absences or email GMA-Office@bestacademies.org.uk by 10.00am every day that your child is off. If we do not receive any of the above, an unauthorised absence mark will be entered until we have a reason for absence. As some of you will have noted in our reviewed absence policy – our previous policy of 2 clear days absence for diarrhoea and vomiting has replaced to align with public health guidance of 48 hours off school. It is also our policy that pupils should not attend extra-curricular activities or events on days when they have had any sickness-related absence.

Appointments

Please can you make any appointments for your child out of school hours so that their learning is not disrupted. If you do need to make an appointment in school hours please can this be done once your child has been marked in for either the morning or afternoon sessions (after 9.00 or after 1.20). This will prevent the absence from having an impact on their attendance rate (and the school's).

Music Lessons

We are delighted to have so many responses and interest in music lessons. We will get back to you all as soon as we can with further information if we have not already done so. Violin lessons started at GMA today and the children had great fun learning.



Disco ducks

It is great to see the return of Disco Duck to Gothic Mede this week. Our Reception children had a great time whilst developing their coordination, fitness and rhythm.



Our week in pictures!



Golden Book

Children are nominated by Teaching Assistants and Teachers for a Head Teacher'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	Daniel	For his continued confidence and friendliness in class
Oak	Jake	For his effort in reading the developing in confidence
Beech	Rhys	For showing fantastic effort in his reading and speaking during lessons
Elm	Beau	For showing kindness and positive behaviour towards other children in the playground and in the classroom
Maple	Charlie	For his helpfulness in class, always being trusted to carry out jobs responsibly
Willow	Mia	For challenging herself during completing a reading comprehension moving from spicy to hot
Chestnut	Emily	For her helpfulness in tidying our class room and for her eagerness to learn
Sycamore	Oliver	For his creativity and hard work in DT
Hazel	Milo	For his enthusiasm and ambitious language choices when writing poetry
Birch	Charlie	For his super enthusiasm and engagement in our science learning

Celebrations Assembly



Football

Girl of the game Stotfold girls under 9s Darci
Stotfold juniors competition event 1 Amelia
Stotfold juniors competition event 1 Darci

Dance

Freestyle competition under 8s Phoebe
3rd place solo freestyle dance Phoebe

This week Tidy Ted goes to WILLOW class



Platinum Award

The School has been awarded The Platinum school games award for 2017/18-2019 from Redbourne sports events. This is great news!

