

NEWSLETTER NO 4

Friday 2nd October 2020

Our value for this month is: quality



Well done Teddy!

Teddy, completed his 25 laps in just under 2 hours! He did really well and had lots of support from his family and some of his school friends who came to watch him. He's now raised over £2000 for Hitchin FC beating his £500 target by miles! Well done Teddy, GMA are very proud!



Acorn class

It has been lovely to welcome our new littles Acorns over the past few weeks. As part of getting to know each other, we have enjoyed a variety of songs about our names and have been looking at our similarities and differences. Acorns have used a variety of materials and media to create pictures of faces and thier self-portraits.



Birch Class

In Birch Class, we have been making life size models of the digestive system.



Healthy Lunches

May I remind you that as part of our healthy school promotion we are asking for your co-operation with packed lunches. A healthy packed lunch should consist of a roll or sandwiches or something similar such as pitta bread filled with proteins such as meat, fish, cheese or eggs, a piece of fruit and/or raw vegetables or salad and a dessert such as yoghurt. We understand that some treats, including unhealthy processed foods (those high in sugar, salt and colourings) can be included **occasionally**. We always provide water to drink so you do not need to include one. If a drink is included then it should be water or fresh fruit juice.

We have started to notice children on the playground eating cakes, chocolate bars and crisps for their morning snacks. You may or may not be aware that we are a Healthy Living School. To help achieve this, we ask that children bring in healthy snacks such as those that only have natural sugars in them.

Information about healthier snacks can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts/healthier-snacks-for-kids> and information about natural vs 'free sugars' can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/how-does-sugar-in-our-diet-affect-our-health/>

We'll be talking to the children about these snack choices and will be making sure that only healthy snacks are eaten at break time. **Please remember to check that the snacks do not contain nuts.**

School Uniform

Recently there have been some questions about our dress code, in particular shoes, jumpers and hair accessories.

Our uniform policy can be found on our website and there is a summary here: <https://www.gothicmede.org.uk/uniform>

With regard to the items above, please can you note the following requirements.

- Plain black flat shoes (no trainers)
- Navy school logo sweatshirt or navy school logo cardigan
- Hair accessories should only be as large as necessary and preferably in sympathy with our school's colours (navy and gold) or neutral.

If you are facing financial barriers to your child complying with this policy, please contact the school office and we may be able to guide you to where you can find support in this area.

Children who qualify for Free School Meals (not Universal Infant Free School Meals) or those who have qualified for Free School Meals in the last six years will be eligible for a £20 uniform voucher each month. Please contact the school office if you have any questions about this.

We are going on a Phonics hunt!

Elm class have been busy in the hall doing a phonics hunt. They had great fun finding the right letters and sounds.



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	Max	for the amazing segmentation of words in his phonics lessons.
Oak	Melissa	for showing the golden rule of readiness and sitting beautifully on the carpet.
Elm	Elizabeth	for her amazing writing in English and always being ready to learn.
Beech	Blake	for showing the value of responsibility and ensuring that the classroom is always tidy.
Maple	Florence	for always being ready to listen, learn and contribute and for living the value of courage after breaking her wrist at the beginning of the week.
Willow	Minnie	for being an excellent role model to her peers. She is always following the golden rules, particularly the rule of readiness!
Sycamore	Max	for his positive attitude towards improving his story writing, which has led to much better use of punctuation.
Chestnut	Imogen	for following the three golden rules and always taking responsibility for keeping her place and the classroom clean and tidy!
Birch	Lucy	for her significantly increased confidence when contributing to our whole class learning in mathematics.
Hazel	Nicole	for her dedication and hard work in maths. She has completed additional challenges at home, showing her commitment to learning.



Celebrations Assembly

George	Beech	Man of the Match - Weds group
Charlotte	Maple	Man of the Match - Tues group
Lexi May	Elm	Theatretrain performer of the Week.
Gillies	Maple	Theatretrain performer of the week.
Darcey	Beech	Green stripe - Taekwondo
Mollie Mae	Chestnut	Winner of the week – rugby.

Tidy Ted

Well done to Ash class for tidying up well at tidying up time. Keep up the great work.

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