



Be the best we can be

Head's Lines

Dear Parents/Carers,

As previously mentioned we are currently promoting a love of reading. We are actively working to drive our reading culture across school. Research shows that regular reading improves brain connectivity, increases your vocabulary and comprehension and empowers you to empathise with other people. At the heart of our whole school strategy is our drive to foster a love of reading, enriching children's learning through carefully designed teaching activities that utilize imaginative story writing and thought provoking texts. Reading is a skill that enables children to develop their learning across the wider curriculum and lays the foundation for success in future lines of study and employment.



As we believe that reading is key to all learning, our children have the opportunity to enter the wide and magical world that reading opens them up to. As children develop their own interest in books, a deep love of literature across a range of genres and styles is enhanced. This, in turn, develops the writing skills, another part of our whole school strategy.

Please read the research on page 3 around reading and the recent information we have on the reading app 'Boom reader'.

Thank you those families who have already donated some pre-loved books to school. We are still taking any donations of high quality, good condition books outside my office. I am hoping that after Christmas we may have further donations!

To continue sharing best practice and celebrate our school successes, we welcome visitors, Governors and other local colleagues. Before Christmas we will be welcoming colleagues from the Bright Future Learning Trust and Elaine Cooper, a CEO from another local Trust to support and challenge Goldsworth senior leaders, ensuring that we are driving school forwards for the best for our children and staff. We look forward to sharing our developments with you in early spring when we share our school improvement priorities for the year.

Previously I have spoken to the children about 'random acts of kindness' and today I was delighted to see some of the children who had completed their random acts of kindness bingo as part of their homework. They shared with me the compliments they had given to their family and friends and the gifts they had made. Every week, in our celebration assembly, we celebrate how the children achieve House points. The children regularly demonstrate their commitment to the Goldsworth values and our shared rationale of GOLD: Growing together, Opportunities for All, Learning for life and Daring to dream.

Have a wonderful weekend; I may see some of you at the Santa Run on Sunday.

Caroline McLennan
Headteacher

Important Notices:

Tuesday 20th December 2022:
Whole school finishes at **1:15pm**
and the Wise Owl Club closes
early at **4:00pm**

Children return on **Wednesday
4th January 2023** at normal time.

School dates:

2022-2023 INSET DAYS:

Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Monday 20th February 2023
Friday 7th July 2023

2023-2024 INSET DAYS:

Friday 1st September 2023
Monday 4th September 2023
Tuesday 5th September 2023
Monday 30th October 2023
Tuesday 2nd January 2024
Monday 19th February 2024

Weekly Reminders

Whole School	<p>Santa Fun Run - Infants & Junior Choir: If your child is in the Junior or Infant Choir, they are invited to sing some Christmas carols at the finish line of the Santa Fun Run on Sunday 4th December at 1.30pm. Please arrive with your child and stay during the performance and then collect them from Miss Lethbridge and Mrs. Taylor at the end (please do not leave your child at the event).</p> <p>Please can your child meet Miss Lethbridge and Mrs. Taylor at the school finish line at 1.25pm (performance starts at 1.30pm).</p>																																																																
Reception	<p>All Tapestry activation codes have been resent. If you have not already logged in, please do so straight away otherwise the link will expire again.</p> <p>Please can you send in boxes for junk modelling. We will be making junk model houses so preferably smaller sized cubes and cuboids. Thank you!</p>																																																																
Year 1	<p>Owls are swimming Mon-Thurs: Please can the children not to wear jewellery - i.e. earrings & watches The children will need swimming hats - appropriate swimwear (no bikini's) & goggles (if required) Parent helpers please sign into the office for 9am.</p>																																																																
Year 2	No reminders.																																																																
Year 3	Please remember to do a payment for the Pantomime.																																																																
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Year 5	Please remember to pay the deposit for our Year 5 - Sayer Croft trip.																																																																
Year 6	We start our learning promptly at 8:50am and when children arrive at school late they are missing the start of this lesson.																																																																
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Thursday Class/Year Group Assemblies (9:00-9:30)	<p>Parents/Carers are invited to attend their child/ren Class/Year Group Assemblies:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Thursday</th> <th>Class/Year Group</th> <th>Thursday</th> <th>Class/Year Group</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="2">Year 1</td> <td colspan="2">Year 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19.01.23</td> <td>Owls</td> <td>03.11.22</td> <td>Badgers</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26.01.23</td> <td>Otters</td> <td>12.01.23</td> <td>Bats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23.03.23</td> <td>Foxes</td> <td>09.03.23</td> <td>Rabbits</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27.04.23</td> <td>Year 1</td> <td colspan="2">No Year Group assembly</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Year 3</td> <td colspan="2">Year 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10.11.22</td> <td>3B</td> <td>24.11.22</td> <td>4HD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>01.12.22</td> <td>3G</td> <td>02.03.23</td> <td>4W</td> </tr> <tr> <td>05.01.23</td> <td>3M</td> <td>20.04.23</td> <td>Year 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29.06.23</td> <td>Year 3</td> <td>04.05.23</td> <td>4H</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Year 5</td> <td colspan="2">Year 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16.03.23</td> <td>Year 5</td> <td>17.11.22</td> <td>6L</td> </tr> <tr> <td>08.06.23</td> <td>5J</td> <td>02.02.23</td> <td>6C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15.06.23</td> <td>5M</td> <td>23.02.23</td> <td>6MD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22.06.23</td> <td>5G</td> <td colspan="2">No Year Group assembly</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Thursday	Class/Year Group	Thursday	Class/Year Group	Year 1		Year 2		19.01.23	Owls	03.11.22	Badgers	26.01.23	Otters	12.01.23	Bats	23.03.23	Foxes	09.03.23	Rabbits	27.04.23	Year 1	No Year Group assembly		Year 3		Year 4		10.11.22	3B	24.11.22	4HD	01.12.22	3G	02.03.23	4W	05.01.23	3M	20.04.23	Year 4	29.06.23	Year 3	04.05.23	4H	Year 5		Year 6		16.03.23	Year 5	17.11.22	6L	08.06.23	5J	02.02.23	6C	15.06.23	5M	23.02.23	6MD	22.06.23	5G	No Year Group assembly	
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Volunteers needed

We would love to ask for parent helpers for the church services on Monday 19.12.22 and Tuesday 20.12.22.

Please contact your Class Rep or Class teacher to offer help with walking to and from the church; you are also welcome to stay for the service if you are a helper.

Research on Reading

Research from the department for Education's Reading Framework shows how many words children would learn by the time they were 5 years old:

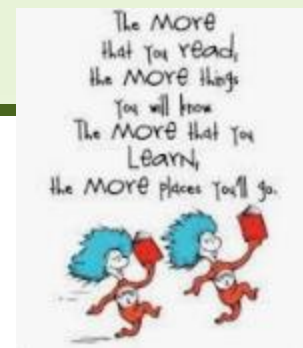
- Never read to – 4662 words
- 1-2 times per week – 63,570 words
- 3-5 times per week – 163,520 words
- Daily – 296,660 words
- Five books a day – 1,483,300 words

Research also shows that reading for pleasure can promote better health and wellbeing, aids in building social connections and relationships with others and is associated with a range of factors that increase the chances of social mobility.

Reading for pleasure: is more important for children's cognitive development than their parent's level of education and is a more powerful factor later in life than socio-economic background.

Having books in the home is associated with both reading enjoyment and confidence. Of children who report fewer than 10 books in their homes, 42% say they do not like reading and only 32% say they are 'very confident' readers. For children who report having over 200 books at home, only 12% they do not like reading and 73% consider themselves 'very confident' readers.

Children who read books often at age 10 and more than once a week at age 16 gain higher results in maths, vocabulary and spelling tests at age 16 than those who read less regularly.



Boom Reader

Well done Goldsworth, this week we have read **1,246** times! We have many avid readers across the school but the class who have read the most this week is Moles class, followed by 6C and then Hedgehogs. Well done 6C you are the most improved class with a whopping 142 reads recorded this week.

Well done in particular to the following children who have recorded the most amount of reads this week:

- Fletcher in Hedgehogs with 27 reads
- Taylia in 6C with 25 reads
- Ada in Moles with 23 reads

Huge well done to all who are reading at home and at school, we are really keen for all children to record when they are reading. At the moment Reception are reading the most, then Year 6 and then Year 3 ... let's see what will happen next week. Try and challenge yourself to read more, whether it be another page of a chapter book, another 5 minutes ... remember those marginal gains of 1% we talk about. Keep reading!

Staffing update

In a school our size there are unavoidable changes to staffing and whilst this is usually at the end of the academic year, sometimes it is also during the year. Unfortunately, some of our staff will be leaving Goldsworth at Christmas on Tuesday 20th December. Amongst our teaching staff this includes Mrs Taylor who has worked here for 18 years. We would like to thank Mrs Taylor for her dedication to Goldsworth and the families and to wish her the very best of luck in her future teaching journey much closer to home. Many of you may remember Mrs Davey who is currently on maternity leave. Mrs Davey has decided not to return at this time and we would like to wish her and her family every happiness for the future. We are also saying goodbye to a member of our support staff, Mrs Sharpe who is leaving to pursue an admin career path. Good luck Mrs Sharpe in your new venture.

I am delighted to welcome some new staff joining us in January; Mr Freeth will be teaching Rabbits class and Miss Ferris will be teaching part-time in 3M. We would like to welcome both to our teaching staff.

A message from Mrs Taylor

It is with great sadness that I write to tell you that I will be leaving Goldsworth at Christmas to take up a Reception teaching post in a school close to home.

It has been such a privilege to have had the opportunity to work here for 18 incredible years. My colleagues, the families and amazing children are what make Goldsworth such a special place to be and I will miss you all greatly! I have been lucky enough to have been the teacher to an amazing 540 children during my time here and have had the privilege to get to know many more through my various roles. I have felt part of so many families, which has been so special to me!

Many highlights have included; sharing my passion for singing through many events and experiences, helping set up Golden Owls Nursey, being part of many school plays, enjoying team building events with staff, getting involved with many FoG opportunities and providing different enrichment activities for children. Best of all, I have just loved being in class, getting to know each child as an individual and watching them learn, develop and grow into amazing young adults. I have made memories and friends for a lifetime!

I want to take this opportunity to send my love, best wishes and heartfelt thanks to you all. I know that 2023 is going to bring many new challenges for me. I will always look back on my time at Goldsworth with great fondness and will take forward what I have learnt from working here. I will miss you!

I wish you all the very best for the future.

With love and thanks,

Mrs Jen Taylor xxx

Class assembly

What a simply wonderful assembly we had on Thursday. 3G transported us back to Victorian times where we learnt how different school was and how many important things were invented at this time.

The children were informative, spoke with confidence and pride about their learning and rounded it all off with their joyful singing. Well done 3G, you are all superstars!

Curriculum Swimming

Payments towards curriculum swimming lessons can now be made on ParentMail. Reception children will receive 8 lessons during the course of the year whilst the rest of the school will receive 12 lessons.

The Curriculum swimming lessons are a great way of introducing children to swimming (and hopefully starting a life-long love of swimming) as well as allowing more experienced swimmers to hone their technique. However, we would encourage all children to have additional lessons beyond those provided during the school day. As well as Woking's lessons at Pool in the Park, there are a number of private swim schools in the area and we also run after school lessons during term time.

The Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service

An out-of-hours phone line provides advice to parents and carers who are struggling with behaviours or difficulties which could be related to neurodevelopmental need, such as autism or ADHD.

Our skilled and friendly advisers will talk carers and families through ways of calming down difficult situations and remind them of their coping strategies.

It runs from 5pm until 11pm, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Please call 0300 222 5755.

Key Dates for Autumn Term

Please check this weekly as new dates may be published. We will indicate these in red.

Date	Event	Year Group	Community Participation
December			
Friday 02.12.22	FoG School Disco: YR – 3:30 to 4:30pm Y1 & Y2 – 4:45 to 5:45pm Y3 & Y4 – 6:00 to 7:00pm Y5 & Y6 – 7:15 to 8:30pm	YR – Y6	YR – Y6. Please refer to the FoG newsletter for more details.
Sunday 04.12.22	FoG annual Santa run, gift shop and refreshments (1– 3pm)	YR – Y6	Friends, family and classmates all welcome. Refer to FoG newsletter.
Tuesday 06.12.22 Wednesday 07.12.22 Thursday 08.12.22	Walk to the local postbox (1 – 3pm)	YR	06.10.22 – Hedgehogs class 07.10.22 – Mice class 08.10.22 – Moles class
Friday 09.12.22	Carol Service (2:15-3:15pm)	Y1	Year 1 Parents/Carers invited to attend
Wednesday 07.12.22	Pantomime visit	Y3	Year 3 children
Wednesday 14.12.22	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas school lunch	YR – Y6	All children to wear school uniform and a Christmas jumper/item of clothing
Monday 12.12.22 Tuesday 13.12.22	Nativity (2-3pm) Nativity (9-10am)	Y2	Year 2 children. Year 2 Parents/Carers invited to attend
Monday 12.12.22 Tuesday 13.12.22 Wednesday 14.12.22	Hedgehogs Nativity (9-10am) Mice Nativity (9-10am) Moles Nativity (9-10am)	YR	Reception Parents/Carers invited to attend
Monday 19.12.22	Church Service (9-11am)	Y1 - Y2	Year 1 and Year 2 children and Parent / Carer Helpers will attend the service.
Monday 19.12.22	Christingle Service (2-3pm)	Y6	Year 6 children. Year 6 Parents/Carers invited to attend
Tuesday 20.12.22	Church Service (9-11am)	Juniors (Y3 - Y6)	Junior children & Parent/Carer Helpers
Tuesday 20.12.22	End of Term – school closes at 1:15pm for the children Wise Owl closes at 4pm.	Whole School	
21.12.22 to 02.01.23 – school closed for Christmas holidays			