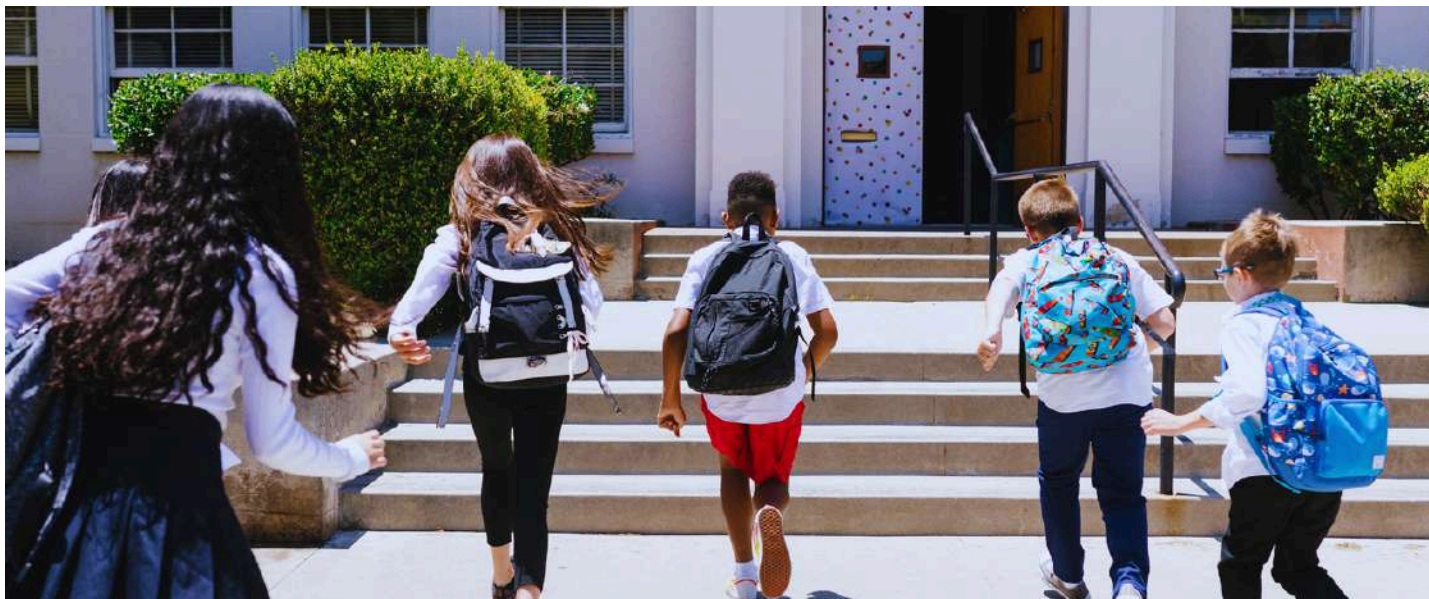


7th June 2024

# NEWSLETTER

Be the best we can be



## Deputy Head's Lines

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have the pleasure of writing this week's newsletter from sunny Swanage with a view of Corfe Castle!

I am joined by the Year 6 children who have had a wonderful week away and it has been a pleasure to be surrounded by such enthusiastic children and dedicated staff members. Activities included an inflatable themed water park, paddle boarding, fire lighting, den building, night hiking and much more. Meanwhile, there were lots of exciting activities planned for the children at school which included tenpin bowling and cooking! Well done to the children involved and thank you to everyone involved in the extensive planning and for generously giving up their time this week to make the trip possible. I know a more detailed recount of the trip will be provided!

While school has been slightly quieter without all of Year 6, there has still been a huge amount of activity!

Firstly, I was disappointed to miss the Badgers Class Assembly which I heard was superb! The children spoke confidently and passed on lots of dinosaur facts. There was even time for a dinosaur rap!

Our Year 4 children have started completing their annual multiplication assessments and made a brilliant start. Their determination and resilience has helped them make huge progress this year and they should be very proud.

Year 5 returned after half term with some excellent Aztec Projects which they showcased to each other. This has kickstarted their half term with enthusiasm, excitement and extra knowledges!

Meanwhile, children in Dolphins Class enjoyed a trip to a local farm this week. The children returned inspired by what they saw and learnt. Most importantly, the children were commended for the behaviour and high levels of engagement.

Finally, I wanted to share that Jacob in Year 6 showed all of our Goldsworth Values in abundance over half term. After growing his hair to the required length, Jacob had his hair cut and donated to the Little Princess Trust. The charity funds cancer research projects and will use Jacob's hair to make wigs for children who have lost their hair through cancer treatment. Jacob did this in honour and memory of his friend, Callum.

We are all incredibly proud of Jacob and I know this will mean such a huge amount to so many people.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

*David Gunning*

Deputy Headteacher

[dgunning@goldsworthprimary.co.uk](mailto:dgunning@goldsworthprimary.co.uk)

## IMPORTANT NOTICES AND TERM DATES

Please ensure you have the term dates in your diary. The school will not be able to authorise any term time holidays, so please ensure you book within holiday periods.

**ABSENCES:** If they are likely to be absent on any day, or part of the day, please report the absence by 8:30am

Telephone: **01483 771 321**, select option 1 for absences or email:

[absences@goldsworthprimary.co.uk](mailto:absences@goldsworthprimary.co.uk)

You **must** provide brief details of the illness and if your child has had any vomiting or diarrhoea, please state this clearly.

Absences for Medical/Dental appointments should also be reported well in advance by emailing [absences@goldsworthprimary.co.uk](mailto:absences@goldsworthprimary.co.uk) providing confirmation of the appointment i.e. an email/SMS/screenshot.



# Weekly Reminders...

8.30 GATES OPEN (PLEASE DO NOT DROP CHILDREN OFF ANY EARLIER)

8.40 CHILDREN SHOULD BE IN CLASS FOR REGISTRATION

15.15 GATES OPEN

15.20 SCHOOL FINISHES

15.30 GATES ARE LOCKED

## CAR PARK SAFETY

PLEASE CAN WE REMIND YOU OF THE IMPORTANCE OF WALKING THROUGH THE CAR PARK SAFELY. PARENT'S WHO HAVE COLLECTED CHILDREN FROM CLUBS/WISE OWL ARE STILL WALKING WHERE THE BARRIER IS AND THIS IS OFTEN WITH THEIR CHILDREN NEXT TO THEM. THERE HAVE BEEN A FEW INSTANCES NOW WHERE CHILDREN AND PARENTS WALK RIGHT IN FRONT OF CARS AS THEY ARE DRIVING AROUND THE CAR PARK. PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR ENGINES OFF WHEN PARKED.

PLEASE CAN WE REMIND ALL PARENTS TO MAKE SURE CHILDREN HAVE A HAT, SUNSCREEN ON AND A NAMED WATER BOTTLE IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

## RECEPTION

A POLITE REMINDER THAT 'OUR OUTDOOR CLASSROOM' SHOULD NOT BE USED AT DROP OFF OR PICK UP. IF YOUR CHILD DOES TOUCH ANY OF THE RESOURCES, PLEASE ENCOURAGE THEM TO TIDY THEM AWAY. SCOOTERS AND BIKES SHOULD NOT BE USED EITHER. THANKS FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

W/C 10TH JUNE HEDGEHOGS CLASS WILL BE SWIMMING, PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR SWIMMING KIT AND AN EXTRA SNACK!

W/C 17TH JUNE MICE CLASS WILL BE SWIMMING, PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR SWIMMING KIT AND AN EXTRA SNACK!

## YEAR 1

W/C 10TH JUNE OWLS CLASS WILL BE SWIMMING, PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR SWIMMING KIT AND AN EXTRA SNACK!

## YEAR 2

NO REMINDERS

## YEAR 3

NO REMINDERS

## YEAR 4

NO REMINDERS

## YEAR 5

NO REMINDERS

## YEAR 6

NO REMINDERS

**ATTENTION**

## Penalty Notice Reminder

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), they will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court.

Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices. Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

# IMPORTANT NOTE!!

**8.30 GATES OPEN**

**8.40 REGISTRATION**

**8:50 GATES CLOSE**

after the gates close your child is late and is missing important learning.

Children should be supervised at all times. Please **DO NOT** drop children off any earlier.

Thank you



# Class Assemblies...

## Thursday Class/Year Group Assemblies (9:00-9:30)

Parents/carers are invited to attend their child/ren Class/Year Group Assemblies.  
ALL up and coming dates are highlighted below.

Thursday	Class/Year Group	Thursday	Class/Year Group
<b>Year 1</b>		<b>Year 2</b>	
<del>09.11.23</del>	<del>Year 1</del>	<del>18.01.24</del>	<del>Bats</del>
<del>29.02.24</del>	<del>Otters</del>	<del>02.05.24</del>	<del>Rabbits</del>
<del>07.03.24</del>	<del>Owls</del>	06.06.24	Badgers
<del>21.03.24</del>	<del>Foxes</del>	No Year Group assembly	
<b>Year 3</b>		<b>Year 4</b>	
<del>23.11.23</del>	<del>3B</del>	<del>30.11.23</del>	<del>4HD</del>
<del>13.12.23</del>	<del>3C</del>	<del>25.01.24</del>	<del>4C</del>
<del>28.03.24</del>	<del>3H</del>	<del>08.02.24</del>	<del>4E</del>
27.06.24	Year 3	<del>25.04.24</del>	<del>Year 4</del>
<b>Year 5</b>		<b>Year 6</b>	
<del>14.03.24</del>	<del>Year 5</del>	<del>07.12.23</del>	<del>6H</del>
<del>09.05.24</del>	5C	New date TBA	6P
<del>23.05.24</del>	5J	20.06.24	6DF
13.06.24	5G	No Year Group assembly	

Please note Reception have THREE performances a year, dates will be confirmed in due course.

# Key dates for spring term...

Date	Event	Year Group	Community Participation
<b>June 2024</b>			
Monday 10th June - Wednesday 12th June	FoG Fathers Day gift shop	ALL	Main hall from from 3.20pm
Friday 14th June	Year 3 Sleepover	Year 3	
Friday 21st June	Marwell Zoo Trip (8.30am - 2.30pm)	Year 1	
Thursday 20th June	Aztec Day	Year 5	
Tuesday 25th June	Juniors Sport's Day AM - 9am – 10.30am	Years 3 - 6	Parents are invited to attend
Thursday 27th June	Infants Sport's Day AM - 9.15am – 10.45am	Years 1 and 2	Parents are invited to attend
<b>July 2024</b>			
Tuesday 2nd July	Woking High/Winston transition day	Year 6	
Wednesday 3rd July	Winston transition day	Year 6	
Sunday 7th July	FoG Summer Fayre	ALL	
Monday 8th July	Dress rehearsal & evening performance @ 6:00pm	Year 6	More information to follow
Tuesday 9th July	Year 6 production afternoon performance @ 2:00pm	Year 6	More information to follow
Tuesday 9th July	Reception Sports Day - 9.15 - 10.15	Year R	Parents are invited to attend
Wednesday 10th July	Year 6 production evening performance @ 6:00pm	Year 6	More information to follow
Tuesday 16th July	Wear it Wild day	Year 1	

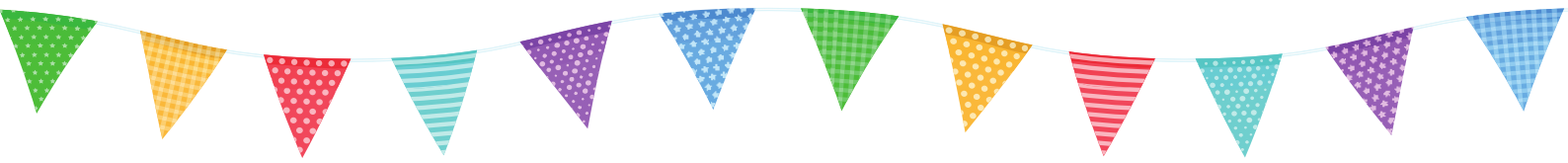
## Medication/Antibiotics and sickness...

We appreciate that many children are suffering with illnesses at this time of year and often they are easily treated with calpol, **If your child requires antibiotics they must have had at least 24 hour's worth of antibiotics before they can come in to school.** This is in case of allergic reaction to the medication and to reduce the spread of infection. If in doubt, please call the office.



Illness	Recommended period to be kept away from school	Comments
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea	
Slap Cheek	None once rash has developed	High temperature, runny nose sore throat and headache
Conjunctivitis	None	
Head Lice	None	Treat whole family as soon as you spot them

# Friends of Goldworth News



## Freeze Pop Fridays

Fridays after half term are Freeze Pop Fridays! In the second half of the summer term freeze pops will be sold after school, and we ask that each year group please organises volunteers according to the dates below:

Friday, 7th June (today!) – Year 5

Friday, 14th June – Year 6

Friday, 21st June – Year 4

Friday, 28th June – Year 3

Friday, 5th July – Year 2

Friday, 12th July – Year 1

Friday, 19th July – Reception

If you would like to help out (the kids can of course join you!), please let your class rep know.

## Monday 10th - Wednesday 12th June – No Adults Allowed Gift Shop

Our No Adults Allowed Gift Shop returns next week, giving your children the chance to choose a secret gift for someone special on Father's Day.

For your child to take part, you need to purchase a £3 gift voucher (one voucher per gift), then bring your child to the gift shop after school on the day you have selected and wait outside while they exchange the voucher for a gift of their choice.

Vouchers are available to buy from [www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofgoldsworth](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofgoldsworth). If you are available to help out, please register as a volunteer on our website.

## Friday, 28th June – Happy School Bags

Start saving up your good quality, used clothes! This is a great way to raise money for our school, while helping the environment by ensuring that old clothes are recycled rather than ending up in landfill. Bags will be handed out to the children soon, but any plastic bag will do.

## Thursday, 4th July – Non-uniform day

On 4th July pupils can come to school in non-uniform in exchange for a Jolly Jar and a bottle of alcoholic or non-alcoholic drink for the tombola stand at our Summer Fayre.

### What is a Jolly Jar?

Jolly Jars are jars filled with a variety of goodies, such as sweets, chocolates, small toys, stickers, pencils and so on.

If you want, you can decorate them too! They will then be available to win at the Summer Fayre. So start saving your clean, used jars now!

## Sunday, 7th July – Summer Fayre

Don't forget to save the date for our Summer Fayre!

Can you display an Estate Agent Board promoting the Fayre?

We still need a few more volunteers to allow an advertising board for our summer fayre to be displayed on their property.

The boards will be put up approximately three weeks before the fayre, and removed after the event.

This is a fantastic opportunity to raise a significant amount of money for the school with a minimum amount of effort, so we would really appreciate the help of anyone who has space outside their home.



If you or your friends and family can display a board at your property, then please let us know ASAP by emailing us at [chair@goldsworthfriends.org.uk](mailto:chair@goldsworthfriends.org.uk) with the following details:

Name

Address

Telephone number

Email address

Any special request as to where to place the board

#### Committee News

The Friends of Goldsworth is currently led by two co-chairs who, supported by a small committee of other parent volunteers, organise our PTA events and decide how the funds we raise are spent. One of our co-chairs will be leaving us this summer, so we will need someone to fill this role from September (this could be more than one person, with the role of chair split between them).

Volunteering for the Friends of Goldsworth is a great way to become more involved in school life, getting to know the staff, pupils and other parents, while helping to raise money to enhance our children's school experience. If you are interested in finding out more about joining our friendly team, please email [info@goldsworthfriends.org.uk](mailto:info@goldsworthfriends.org.uk) or speak to a member of our committee.

Keep Updated Remember to follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/friendsofgoldsworth](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofgoldsworth) and Instagram [www.instagram.com/friendsofgoldsworth](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofgoldsworth) for updates and reminders. We also have a costume swap group on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2057262757820608>, where you can find second hand costumes for class performances and other school dress up days.



# School Lunches...



## School Lunches

School lunches are still available to order for after half term until the end of the academic year. If you wish your child to have school lunches please order on the Arbor app or website, bearing in mind the 5 day cut off. If there are any days that you are unable to order for please provide a packed lunch from home for your child on those days.

**Please also check your Arbor meals account balance and top it up if it is running low, this is particularly important if your child is in Year 6.**

Thank you for helping us to reduce food wastage by cancelling pre-ordered school lunches either on Arbor or by email to [lunches@goldsworthprimary.co.uk](mailto:lunches@goldsworthprimary.co.uk) if your child prefers to bring a packed lunch from home on any day.

## Packed Lunches

Having a nutritious lunch can positively affect children's behaviour in the classroom thereby making learning easier. We believe it is our joint responsibility to teach our children about healthy eating habits and as such please see below a simple visual guide outlining the sort of things we would hope to see in your child's packed lunch.

As we are a nut free school please ensure foods containing nuts are NOT brought into school at all, either as part of a packed lunch or snack.

Thank you for your co-operation, if you have any queries or require further information please email [lunches@goldsworthprimary.co.uk](mailto:lunches@goldsworthprimary.co.uk).

## What goes in my lunch box

Fruit (2 pieces)
Sandwich , wrap or alternative
Dairy
Vegetables (2 pieces)
Fibre/Grains (Wholegrains)
Water



This is an example of what your child's packed lunch could contain, we are not expecting children to have all of these in their lunch box.



# Swimming...



Week commencing		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10th June	AM	OWLS	OWLS	6DF	FREE
	PM	HEDGEHOGS	HEDGEHOGS	HEDGEHOGS	HEDGEHOGS
17th June	AM	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
	PM	MICE	MICE	MICE	MICE



## Library Books

**As we enter the second part of the summer term the children will no longer be able to borrow books.**

**This is a chance for us to gather in all current and overdue loans. Please can you encourage your child to scan back in any of the library books that they currently have at home.**

**If your child is unsure of which books they currently have out, then ask them to check with their class teacher who has a list of the outstanding books.**

# The Year 3 SLEEPOVER - Friday 14th June 2024

(£10 per child -please make your payment on Arbor in the School Shop section)

## Things to pack:

Medication – please complete a form prior to the sleepover (request the form from Miss Grainger) and make sure any dosage is clearly labelled on any medication that your child will need.

Toothbrush and toothpaste.

Bottle of water.

Plate, bowl, cup and spoon in a plastic bag

Pyjamas, slippers and a dressing gown

A book

ONE cuddly toy!

Pillow, sleeping bag or duvet

A sleeping mat – if you have one.

**NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES PLEASE**

## Drop off

Please arrive in comfy clothes suitable for forest school (including coat for outside activities).

Make sure the children have had their dinner at home before arriving at school at 6.15pm.

Please drop your children off via the Year 5 side gate to the Sports Hall.

## Timetable of activities

6.15pm: Arrival, adults to drop off in the Sports Hall.

Health and Safety talk

6.30pm: Carousel of activities including t-shirt designing, flowerpot decorating, forest school campfire (with marshmallows) and rounders.

9.00pm: Film and bed!

7.00am: Breakfast

8.00am: Collection. Please come round via the Year 5 gate to the Sports Hall to collect. Please be prompt!

## Food

Evening: Hot chocolate, squash, marshmallows, fruit.

Morning: Fruit juice, milk, and cereal.

Safety and expectations for behaviour

School will be locked during the night.

Medication will be kept in the relevant classroom overnight so that it can be easily accessed if needed. If your child has specific food allergies and is unable to eat breakfast, please provide alternative food in a named plastic container.

Please complete the medical forms if necessary.

On the evening, please hand named medication to your child's teacher.



# Goldsworth's Got Talent 2024

Everyone enjoyed a morning full of talent and entertainment on Friday 24th May watching this year's Goldsworth's Got Talent hosted by Pupil Parliament, School Council and Mrs Dutton.

We are proud of all the children who auditioned and who made it to the final for their key stage – we are lucky to have such a variety of talents to showcase and inspire others!

## Congratulations to our winners:

**KS1: 1st Tanaya (Y2), 2nd Atheeth (Y2) and 3rd Prisa (Y2).**

**KS2: 1st Scarlett (Y6), 2nd Elsie, Amy and Matthew (Y6)  
and 3rd Austen (Y5).**



Our finalists! Thank you to the Pupil Parliament photographers.



# KS1 trip to the Mini-Farm at ACS Egham

Children from Dolphins Class and Years 1 and 2 were very excited to be heading back to the mini-farm set up by ACS Egham, with the promise that this year there would be reptiles!

After a short coach journey, we were greeted by all sorts of incredible creatures: giant tortoises, geckos, chameleons, snakes, bearded dragons, giant snails, and tarantulas. The children were so brave, handling and stroking all these amazing creatures with such care — not everyone was as keen on the tarantulas! As well as the children, Mrs. Knight also showed a lot of courage by holding an enormous snake!

After we had visited the reptile tent, we moved on to the field where we saw even more wonderful animals, this time of the less-scaly variety: lambs, a donkey, ducks, guinea pigs, chicks, rabbits, a Shetland pony, and chickens, who very kindly laid an egg for us as we were saying goodbye. The children were a shining example to other schools, with fantastic behavior and great manners.





# YEAR 6 ACTIVITIES

A few of our year 6 pupils enjoyed a fun filled week of activities including

## BOWLING



## Swimming



*Films & popcorn*



## COOKING



# GAMES



# School Clubs...

Clubs for the summer term have now started, there is no requirement to sign up for any of the lunch time clubs for your child to attend.

All the teacher-led after school clubs are now **FULL**.  
We will open the clubs up on Arbor as and when spaces become available.

For any of the external clubs, please book directly with the providers.

## Monday

Library - Lunchtime club with Mrs Read  
Times Table Rock stars (Years 5 and 6) - Lunchtime club with Mrs Cox  
Art and Creativity (Years 3 - 6) - Lunchtime club with Mrs Knight  
**Chess club (Years 4 and 5) - After school club (applications have already closed)**

## Tuesday

Library - Lunchtime club with Mrs Read  
**Love to Write - After school club with Miss Grainger (3:20 - 4:20pm)**  
**Rounders (Years 5-6) - After school club with Miss Pether and Mr Gunning (3:20 - 4:20 pm)**  
Indoor cricket (Years 5 - 6) - Lunchtime club with Mr Gunning

## Wednesday

Choir (Years 3 - 6) - Lunchtime club with Miss Wishart

## Thursday

**Girls' Football (Years 4 - 6) - After school club with Miss Baird and Mr Funnell (3:20 - 4:30pm)**  
Times table rockstars (Years 3 and 4) - Lunchtime club with Mrs Dean  
Maths club (Years 4 - 6) - lunchtime club with Mrs Barrett  
Drama club (Years 3 - 6) - lunchtime club with Mis Edwards  
**Ukulele club (Years 3 - 6) - Morning club with Mrs Kozlowski (8 - 8:30 am)**

## Friday

Maths games (Year 1 and 2) - lunchtime club with Mrs Samuel  
Love to Write club (Year 1 and 2) - lunchtime club with Mrs Rickett  
Pokemon club (Year 3 - 6) - lunchtime club with Mrs Foley  
**Cooking club (Invitation by Pupil Parliament) - after school with Mrs Strang**

As well as the clubs on offer by our school staff, we also have the following clubs running by external providers: French, Spanish, Upskills football, Tennis with NT sports, Cricket with NT sports, Football with NT sports, Music with Surrey Arts, Rock steady, Mindfulness, Fencing, Dodgeball with NT sports and Taekwondo.





# SEPTEMBER 2024 SESSION AVAILABILITY



September 2024 session availability

We have sessions available for 2 year old children this September and some half day sessions available for 3 year old children.

We provide full day care, 50 weeks of the year for children aged 2 - 4 years.

We are open Monday to Friday  
from 7.30am to 6.30pm.

For further details or to request a registration pack  
please email [admin@goldenowlsnursery.co.uk](mailto:admin@goldenowlsnursery.co.uk) or call **01483 728276**

# Wise Owl club

The Club offers a wide variety of activities ranging from arts and crafts and forest school to multi-sports run by our experienced playworkers. There is a large range of resources to entertain the children. We also make use of the school halls, the playgrounds and climbing structures (weather and light permitting) and our environmental area for forest school. A varied menu is available ranging from hot and cold snacks. The After School Club runs from the end of school day to 6.00pm (except on the last day of term when it closes at 4.30pm as school also finishes early).

[wiseowl@goldsworthprimary.co.uk](mailto:wiseowl@goldsworthprimary.co.uk)

**From the Wise Owl team**



**Goldsworth Primary School,  
Bridge Barn Lane, Woking  
Surrey. GU21 6NL**

**01483 771321 [office@goldsworthprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@goldsworthprimary.co.uk)**

**<https://goldsworthprimary.co.uk>**





Winning the gold medal for children's sports classes

We take what children love to do the most (running super fast, jumping high and throwing far) and mix it with imaginative themes, learning to follow instructions, making friends, developing skills and burning energy!



**Teeny Athletes**  
Walking - 2 Years

**Didee Athletes**  
2 - 3½ Years



**Little Athletes**  
3½ - 5 Years

**Mini Athletes**  
5 - 7 Years



**Classes Launching in Woking, July!**

Scan the QR code below to sign up for more info.



[www.miniathletics.com](http://www.miniathletics.com)

Mini Athletics West Surrey



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients; not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

### FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original ... and might not be entirely factual, either.

### 'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

### CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

### VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

## Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

### EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

### THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

### ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval; you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except ...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

### CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



...HEY  
OS#WakeUp  
Wednesday

The National College



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FAMILY  
LEARNING

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...or scan here

## Courses available

- **Parenting** Help understand your children and teenagers' behaviour, anxiety and mental health.
- **English as an Additional Language** Support for you and your child with English and how education in England works.
- **Maths** Learn about methods used in schools today.
- **Literacy** Learn about how English is taught in schools today.
- **Cookery** Be inspired and cook healthy family dishes together.



SURREY  
ADULT  
LEARNING

