



**Learning Powers**  
 Thinking Determination  
 Independence Motivation  
 Creativity Collaboration Tolerance

### Newsletter 3 – November 2020

**GO GOMER!** The GFM 2020 Awards was live streamed on Thursday 22 October. If you missed the event, you can watch the recording online. Congratulations to all of our GFM Award Finalists: Ashley Dickson, Daisy Charlesworth, Elsie-May Stables, Evie Frampton, Fiona Paterson, Iona Hamilton, Jack Fitzpatrick, Jacob Willis, Jessica Cox, Kiki Tautz, Kohby Lee, Liam Powell, Megan Draper, Nicole Brown, Ruben Fishwick, Sammie Stubbs and Tom Niessen Jnr.

A particular well done to **ASHLEY DICKSON** and former Y6 pupils **ELSIE-MAY STABLES** for winning their category.

*We love to hear about your children’s success outside school. Please inform us so that we can record them here.*

**DATES FOR NOVEMBER** The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change.

Ongoing	Arrival	Departure
	Y3 - 8.55 am Y4 - 8.50 am Y5 - 8.45 am Y6 - 8.45am	Y3 - 3.15 pm Y4 - 3.10 pm Y5 - 3.05 pm Y6 - 3.05 pm
<b>Monday 02 Nov</b>	INSET – School closed to pupils GClub – INSET session available if numbers permit: 8.00 – 5.	
<b>Tuesday 03 Nov</b>	Love in a Shoebox to be returned (this is an extension from the first date you were given)	
<b>Tue 03 → Fri 06</b>	Y5 Bikeability	
<b>Tuesday 10</b>	Y4 Roman Experience Dress-up Day – Pupils to come in wearing Roman outfits as they wish and will take part in a number of different hands-on activities.	
<b>Wednesday 11</b>	Remembrance Day	
<b>Monday 23</b>	School Photos - individual shots: 9am – 12noon	

**ADVENT CALENDAR COLLECTION** starts. If you would like to donate an Advent calendar we will have these donated to Crisis Food for Gosport so that they can be added to food parcels for the start of advent. We would be happy to received ‘treat’ items too for Christmas Hampers.

**BIKEABILITY** starts after half-term. Please ensure you spend some time in half term ensuring your child’s bicycle and bicycle helmet is ready. Please refer to the detailed letters about this activity.

**COLD AND WET WEATHER** sees children needing a coat. Please ensure that you send your child to school wearing their coat please. At drizzly breaks-times we still like children to have some time outside and without a coat, this is not possible.

**KEEP Hampshire Safe this Half Term!** Hampshire County Council has asked us to share the following important public health message with you all:

- *Coronavirus infections are continuing to rise, and Hampshire is on ‘Medium’ COVID alert level.*
- *We need **your help** to stop the spread of the virus, so please continue following national public health guidance this half term.*
- *Remember ‘hands, face, space’ and the Rule of 6: which means no large gatherings indoors or outdoors.*
- *Let’s all work together to Keep Hampshire Safe.*

**LOVE IN A SHOE BOX** collection has been extended to **Tuesday 3 November**. Please ensure the completed shoeboxes have a £1 coin attached to the lid. We recognise that these gifts can be costly to accumulate. Therefore, complete boxes welcomed, as are donations, so that the children can make up boxes together. Items that would be useful to send in include, toiletries, games, colouring items, socks etc. Thank you.

**READING** is important. As a whole school we need to be better at our inference skills (reading between the lines) and reading with expression. Please, please, please ensure your child is reading at least 5 times a week and where appropriate, to you. We have systems in place to encourage children to choose a variety of genres in addition to their banded book.

**REMEMBRANCE** is upon us. If children would like to purchase a poppy or poppy merchandise, please do send them to school with monies. The suggested donation list will be placed on website, after half-term, once we have received it and we'll make the merchandise available safely in the children's Bubbles. All proceeds will support the Royal British Legion. We hope that children across the school will wear a poppy and in particular on **Wednesday 11 November** for our whole school period of silence outside. Children are welcome to wear the uniform of any military cadets, brownies, scouts etc that day.

**ROCKSTEADY** Music School is back teaching in-school rock and pop band lessons. It's an amazing opportunity for the children to join their very own rock band and learn to play the songs they love on either drums, guitar, keyboard or vocals (no experience necessary). Places are limited and available on a first come first served basis! If you would like to book your child's place sign up as soon as you can. Sign up online at [www.rocksteadymusicschool.com](http://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com) or call 0330 113 0330 (Mon–Fri 8am–5pm local rate) for more information.

**ROMAN DRESS-UP DAY IN YEAR 4** is scheduled for Tuesday 10 November. Anything goes! Roman Centurion – Roman Slave – Roman Scholar – Roman Soldier – Roman Goddess... The children will be immersed in a day of creative history learning and are encouraged to come to school in Roman dress-up. Please do not go to expense to provide for the day. Please make use of items you have at home and perhaps use the half-term to make an accessory or two. We are aware that some children are not keen on dressing up. In this instance accessories would really help them feel part of the day.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING** is important to help keep the community safe and distancing should be maintained just outside school and on the playgrounds before and after school. We have noticed a few families mingling in small groups, or adults standing too close to children not in their family Bubble - especially at the end of the school day. To protect our school community, please be mindful of this – thank you.

**SCHOOL CAR PARK** is for authorised visitors only. Speed awareness has been brought to our attention recently. To ensure the safety of our community please reduce your speed when entering and leaving the school site. In the event you are using the car park out of school hours e.g. GClub please ensure that you chaperone your child across the car park. We prefer GClub attendees to be dropped by their adult to ensure that they have made safe passage to hall. The minimal time this adds to your day is well spent if the children are safe.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM** should now be of the winter variety until the Summer Term 2021. Thank you for your support with this. With the darker days ahead of us, we also encourage children to have an item of 'reflective glow' attached to their bag or coat if not already attached, to ensure they are visible when walking to school and home again. Additionally, bicycle lights should be considered for all children.

**TEXT/SMS MESSAGES** to contact school – please do not send messages to school via texts as the facility is not accessed regularly. Thank you.

**THANK YOU** for your understanding of the safety measures we have put in place at school. We are aware that reduce reducing your access to the school site and Team Gomer. However, as a school, we have continued to be creative with how we adapt to operating in a pandemic. The on-line Learning Reviews were very successful and where we have a few technical issues we overcame these. The Arbor Report cards were received very well too. The on-line GFM Awards worked very well and were a big hit. The FROGJS have a Christmas treat planned for the children next month and you can still look forward to Gomer festivities.

**WELLIES** are now welcomed in school if they are clearly named/identifiable. Wellies will be stored on the racks outside during the day but stowed inside overnight. When the field is not too saturated in the wetter and wintry months, children with wellies will be able to play on the field. You may also like to send your child to school with a coat you don't mind getting a little muddy if you have a child who is enjoying our 'mud kitchen'.

**YOU SAID/WE DID** Following the changes to the staggered times, you said it was too crowded at the Bury Hall Lane gate. To address this, we opened the gate earlier to allow people to filter onto the playground and stand behind the Bubble cones. In the morning, children entering the school site ahead of 8.40am must be accompanied by an adult due to Team Gomer not being on the playground.