



GO GOMER! Well done to **TEDDY BOWMAN** who raised £820 for children in need in November by cycling 21 laps round the park (in the wind and rain)! Well done also to **SAMUEL BIGGS, BETHANY FOICE, JAMES HELBERT, EVANGELINE JALBAN, MARY MARTYN, JONAH ROYAL, EDWARD STOCKHAM** and **CHLOE THOMPSON** who all took part in the Summer Reading challenge, despite schools and libraries being closed.

DATES FOR DECEMBER The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change. Please see letter sent home on Friday 20 November with further details.

Ongoing	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Departure</u> (except for last day of term – please see below)
	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
Tuesday 01	Bubble Christmas Card Post Boxes Open – Please see letter sent 20 Nov (Stick, don't lick!)	
Friday 04	FROGJS - Christmas Gift Sales: Lower School Pupils - All gifts £3 & 50p Lucky Dip available	
Friday 11	ELF DAY! Dress up as an elf or 'elforise' school uniform to support Alzheimers Society – suggested £1 donation	
Friday 11	FROGJS Christmas Raffle	
Friday 11	Last day to order ice cream (£1) via Arbor for Christmas panto	
Monday 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas/Festive colour Jumper Day: Children invited to wear Christmas jumpers/festive coloured jumpers in place of their school jumper with white school polo top and school skirts/trousers. • Live streamed whole school nativity: 1.45-2.45pm – this is new for us. More information to follow. 	
Tuesday 15	Y3 Jólábókaflóð – Children to come to school in their onesies and/or pjs as per letter 20 Nov	
Tuesday 15	Y4 Christingle for Children's Society - at school. Spare change envelopes to be sent home.	
Wednesday 16	Y3 & Y4 Christmas lunch with Christmas jumpers welcomed with white school polo top and school skirts/trousers.	
Thursday 17	Y5 & Y6 Christmas lunch. Christmas jumpers welcomed with white school polo top and school skirts/trousers.	
Friday 18	Kings Theatre Panto and Ice-cream: Dick Whittington (in classes): 9.00am – 12.00pm	
Friday 18	Last day of term – children to be collected at the following times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y6 – 1.45pm • Y5 – 1.50pm • Y4 – 1.55pm • Y3 – 2.00pm PLEASE NOTE: NO GClub at the end of the day – breakfast ONLY.	
January		
Monday 04	Children back to school for start of Spring Term 2021	
Thursday 07	Be Bright Be Seen Day – working with our JRSOs around awareness of being safe whilst out and about, children are invited to accessorise their uniform with 'glo' e.g. reflective slap-bands.	

ADVENT CALENDAR COLLECTION was a big success. A really big THANK YOU to those of you who donated Advent Calendars for Crisis Food Gosport. We collected 102 and they were distributed in food hampers on Friday 27 November in order that children had the calendars on 1 December. The charity is really grateful.

BE BRIGHT BE DAY SEEN DAY invites children to accessorize their uniform with 'glo'. Such items make for Christmas gift ideas.

HELLO YELLOW DAY was a big success. The children had the opportunity to learn about mental health and the importance of looking after their own mental health and the awareness of others. Furthermore, we raised a super £270.50 through non-uniform donations and donations on our Just Giving page. Thank you.

HOME LEARNING will be sent home for the last time this term on Friday 4 December. Ahead of this, and after too, please spend time learning the songs for the school Christmas production. No formal learning tasks will be sent home for any year group over the Christmas holiday but children can access the dashboard in their Google Classroom apps.

LIBRARY It would be lovely if you could send in a photo of your child enjoying their current library book, especially if they have made something from one of them e.g. baking a cake from a recipe book, teaching a dog a new trick, making an origami object, doing a magic trick, painting a picture, knitting a pattern, sewing some clothes, drawing, making crafts or just curled up reading in their favourite place etc. We are looking to update our book reviews corner, so we can add them here. Please email our librarian mkidd@gomer.gfmat.org We look forward to receiving and displaying them.

PARKING SAFELY & WITH COURTESY helps the whole community. We are aware that it can be tricky to park around the school site. Wherever possible, please encourage children to walk, cycle or scoot to school. If it is not possible to walk or scoot all the way, please consider leaving home a little earlier so you can park a small distance away from school. Need somewhere to park? You can use the 'Park & Stride' facility at the Seahorse Pub if you are unable to find somewhere else. Parking and striding helps to reduce congestion which makes it safer around the school site and helps our neighbours. It has recently been reported that some of our neighbours are struggling with school related traffic at drop-off and collection time. Some parents/carers have also shared that it feels too busy outside the school gates. We would be grateful if you could show consideration to our neighbours when parking and travelling to school. Drives should not be parked over – especially for those who require medical access. Furthermore, parking and striding is great to help with social distancing.

PUNCTUALITY to the start of the school day is really important in order that children can access the full curriculum and not feel flustered due to being late. Late arrivals at school must report to the main reception. Persistent lateness to school and lateness without permission after registration has closed, is recorded as unauthorised absence and may lead to a penalty notice being issued when the 10 session threshold has been reached.

SAFETY MATTERS and we are grateful to you for respecting and adhering to our safety protocols e.g. staggered start and departure times, social distancing around the school site, supporting good hand hygiene, not coming too close to the building, wearing masks and keeping us informed of family health matters. Please continue being as safe and sensible off the school site as on by adhering to the local 'tier rules' to ensure we can stay fit and healthy as a school community. Your commitment to safety matters keeps the staff and children COVID free which enables the vast majority of us all to learn together onsite. We are aware that we are wanting to be with our families over the Christmas period. Continued adherence to safety measures will help us to keep all our Bubbles open in the New Year.

SHOE BOX GIFTS were gratefully received by our local Gosport Charity last month. We were delighted to have collected 43 boxes which will bring much love to children in eastern European countries.

STAFF MATTER and we are delighted to be welcoming three new teaching assistants. Miss Ford and Miss Warner will be supporting Year 3 and Mrs Lees will be supporting Year 5. Collectively, they join us with an array of experience, including teacher training and working in other schools. They will be an asset to our team.

WELLIES are welcomed at Gomer. To ensure ample space for the children to play and support our social distancing measures, please send your child to school with a named pair of wellies or a stout shoe so that they can lay on the field in the wetter winter months. Children are welcome to take them home for the weekend. Not got a pair? This might make for a good Christmas gift idea.

WISHING you all a very happy and safe Christmas Holiday. Wishing you a happy and prosperous new year also.

YOU SAID/WE DID We have been informed that some of you were disappointed about the pantomime being streamed into classrooms on the last day of term due to you having booked tickets to see it live. We are really grateful to the FROGJS for funding this and our rationale was as follows:

- we wanted to provide the children with a lovely and festive end to the term
- we are keen to support the arts
- with the current lockdown we were not sure if the panto season would go ahead with live audiences and thought that families may be nervous about large gatherings
- due to the current climate, many of our families are not in a position to attend a panto and we were keen for every child to have this opportunity. We are aware that watching it on a screen is very different to watching it live in the theatre but this should still be fun.

We have not provided an alternative and in our current circumstances we are very limited as to what we can offer due to the constraints on available space. If you are not wanting your child to watch the pantomime, because you have tickets, if we have the space, we will arrange for them to quiet read and colour in a year group pod.

Thank you to everyone for your ice-cream payments. We are ordering the premium brand Jude's Ice-cream for the interval and we have asked the children which flavour ice-cream or sorbet they would like. For those who are not keen on ice-cream or sorbet, they are welcome to bring in their own snack.