



Learning Powers

Thinking Determination
Independence Motivation
Creativity Collaboration Tolerance

Newsletter 8 – April 2021

GO GOMER! CADENCE ROOKE in Y6 has been awarded her gold certificate of achievement for her violin playing. This is a difficult instrument to master so well done to Cadence for her success.

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

DATES FOR APRIL 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 - 8.45 am	Y3 - 3.15 pm Y4 - 3.10 pm Y5 - 3.05 pm Y6 - 3.05 pm
Mondays	Y3 PE Day – Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y6 PE Day – Pupils to wear PE kit to school	
Tuesdays	Y4 PE Day – Pupils to wear PE kit to school	
Wednesdays	Y5 PE Day – Pupils to wear PE kit to school	
Thursdays	Y3 PE Day – Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y6 PE Day – Pupils to wear PE kit to school	
Fridays	Y4 PE Day – Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y5 PE Day – Pupils to wear PE kit to school	
02-18 April	Easter Holiday	
Monday 19	First day of Summer Term	
Tuesday 20	Class 4RI Swimming Lessons (1 of 6): pm	
Tuesday 27	Class 4RI Swimming Lessons (2 of 6): pm	
Friday 30	Y4 Victorian Day – please see details below	
Thursday 6 May	School closure - Gomer site being as a polling station	

ADMISSIONS will announce our Y3 2021 pupils on 16 April. Gomer continues to be a popular choice for local families, and we look forward to welcoming our new pupils. If you know any Y2 parents who may be talking about admissions to Gomer Junior School, please direct them to HCC admissions or GFM admissions if they have any enquiries ahead of hearing directly from the school.

Miss Julie Hathaway – Tel: 023 9258 7931 Ext 3342

E mail: admissions@gfmat.org

CONTACT TRACING OVER THE EASTER HOLIDAYS To support the NHS Test and Trace process, please inform us of any positive cases if either symptoms or a positive test result occurs within 2 days of being at school. Please inform us via the school email address - enquiries@gomer.gfmat.org

HOME LEARNING has been suspended since we returned to school on 8 March. We were keen for the children to focus their energies on the school day and to provide parents/carers with a break from 'home learning'. The Google Classrooms will remain open in the Summer Term. We seek for the children to take responsibility for continuing some learning at home during term time (holidays too if you think best). Areas that will be most helpful and manageable to fit into busy home lives include:

- Reading at least 3-5 times a week, if not every day.
- Practise weekly spellings using Spelling Shed as a resource to support
- Practise tables using Times Table Rock Stars as a support
- Completing an additional task, when provided, which will help prepare for or support learning in context

MUNCH BOXES continue after half-term. The Munch Boxes are very popular and have made eating in Bubbles much easier because food is kept warm whilst transported to the classrooms. Many children are already choosing to eat outside and with warmer weather approaching eating outside will grow and Munch Boxes can join 'packed lunches'. The Munch Box Menu will be enhanced from the second week after the Easter break so please look out for the new menus.

We will include food items that will have previously appeared on our 'plated meal' menu. Menu options such as a roast will need to be provided on a plate and we are looking to this for the Autumn Term when we are likely to offer Munch Boxes and a plated offer.

MUSIC LESSONS continue and all return to their regular frequency. With thanks for your understanding regarding the phased return of lessons.

REPORTING ABSENCE Thank you to parents/carers who are already using this system. A polite reminder to those who have not accessed this system yet, please report absence via our website form <https://gomer.gfmat.org/for-parents/attendance-matters/>. This system allows messages to be accessed and forwarded to members of staff immediately avoiding the possible crossing of bubbles.

SCHOOL CLOSURE is imminent on Thursday 6 May. Due to the Gomer school site being used for polling day we will have to close, as we have done in previous years. We asked for an alternative venue to be used but the council have been unable to do this for the Gomer area. Aware that this might present a childcare issue for some of our families and further aware that our children have not had any off-site visits this academic year and some 'missed out' last year, Team Gomer are offering to take the children to Paultons Park for the day. The visit is totally optional and will cost in the region of £20 to include coach travel and entrance to the park. The visit will extend slightly beyond the school day in order that the children can enjoy a full day out. £20 is exceptional value as ticket entry is normally at least £35 per person. With the notice we are providing, we hope this enables budgeting if you are wanting your child to attend. We will be the only school in the park and their capacity is significantly reduced. We have taken children to Paultons Park before so are accustomed to managing children in this setting. We will provide a Google Form for you to express your interest. If there is a commitment which enables us to fill the coaches we will proceed with formalising arrangements for the totally optional visit.

STAGGERED ARRIVAL and END TIMES to the school day will continue after Easter. We remain cautious and 'COVID-19 aware' in order that we can keep the community as safe as possible.

SWIMMING for Year 4 commences after Easter. Swimming is an invaluable life skill and a compulsory part of the National Curriculum. We are lucky enough to have access to the Brune Park swimming pool and have specialist swimming instructors to lead the sessions. Each Year 4 child will participate in six sessions over the course of the summer term. They will receive tailored group lessons.

4RI	Tuesday 20 April, 27 April, 4 May, 11 May, 18 May and 25 May
4LF	Tuesday 8 June, 15 June, 22 June, 29 June, 6 July and 13 July

Please ensure you have completed the Google Form we have sent how and organise swimming kit and a swimming cap. Children are to continue to wear their PE kit on a Tuesday but will change into their swimming clothes at Brune Park.

WET PLAY GAMES If you have any suitable games at home that are not needed any more, which may be suitable as wet play games in school, (including Top Trumps which are currently being issued in McDonalds) and you are willing to donate them, please do. With thanks to the FROGJS for their recent gifts.

Y4 VICTORIAN DAY is set for Friday 30 April. Year 4 pupils will be invited to travel back in time to the Victorian era. We will be spending the day at Gosport STEM Centre and learning what life was really like for the Victorian children of Gosport. Dressing up is strongly encouraged - please see information on Google Classroom for affordable and easy Victorian costume ideas – there is no need to go to any expense with this. All pupils will need to bring a packed lunch and enough drinks and snacks for the school day. Please pre-order a school packed lunch by 26/04/21 if required. We will meet at school at our normal time of 8.50am and will return to school ready to go home at 3.10pm.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS HOODIES are optional and can be ordered soon (separate flyer to be sent). The hoodie is priced at £15.00 and the Y6 leavers can order from a range of colours and sizes. We are working with The Print and Sew Station again this year who will process your whole order for you. Y6 children are welcome to wear their hoodie for the second part of the Summer Term as part of their PE kit – please ensure that it is labelled with your child's name.

YOU SAID/WE DID It was great to have the children back at school. Team Gomer are in full agreement and have enjoyed learning and teaching with the children on-site. We have reflected on how lockdown has impacted on our community. Team Gomer wish all our families a rest ahead of the Summer Term.