

Learning Powers
 Thinking Determination
 Independence Motivation
 Creativity Collaboration



Newsletter 8 - April 2022

GO GOMER! A huge well done to **WILLIAM KEMP** and **JONAH ROYLE** who play for Gosport Borough Hockey Club. The U10 Gosport team finished 3rd out of 14 teams at the In2Hockey Cup competition held in Basingstoke, which saw them take on top club teams from across Hampshire. A fantastic achievement. A huge well done also to **DYLAN TANNER** who has been awarded his Book Reader Badge and Sports Enthusiast Badge at Cubs. We hope that **SOPHIA COOK, JESSICA COX, BETHANY FOICE, WILLOW KNOWLES** and **MIA WALLS** feel really proud because they sang beautifully at the GFM Spring Concert and represented Gomer superbly. They received a huge round of applause!

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 to playground from 8:40 am
	Start of school day: 8.50 am End of school day: 3:10 pm
Mondays	Y5 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 Y6 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school ● Service Club - weekly (all year groups): 3.15-4.15pm
Wednesdays	Y3 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y5 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school ● Upper School Netball Club: 3.15-4.00pm
Fridays	Y3 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y4 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school ● Lower School Multi-skills Club: 3.15-4.00pm ● Upper School Football Club: 3.15-4.00pm
Tuesday 05 April	Extended Service Club - Easter Movie: 3.15-5.00pm
Wednesday 06 April	Outdoor Learning/Groundforce Day - Children are to come to school in clothes you do not mind getting grubby or paint on and bring their wellies or suitable outdoor shoes. Please ensure Y3 & Y5 have trainers so PE can still be an option without the need for changing.
Thursday 07	Y5 Viking/Anglo Saxon Day (Please refer to email sent on 15 March for details)
Friday 08 April	INSET Day - school closed to children (last day in school before Easter break is Thursday 7 Apr)
09-24 April	Easter Holiday
Monday 25	Summer Term Starts - Children return to school - Summer Uniform Welcomed
Tuesday 26	Class 4VW Swimming Lessons (1 of 6): pm
w/b 2 May	Monday 2 May - CLOSED (bank holiday) and Thursday 5 May (polling station but school open)
w/b 9 May	Y6 SATs Week - information to follow regarding timings and breakfast options

ADMISSIONS will announce our Y3 2022 pupils on 19 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. We aim to make personal contact with our families in early May. We do have some information available on our website. Please see [here](#).

Miss Julie Hathaway – Tel: 023 9258 7931 Ext 3342

E mail: admissions@gfmat.org

BOOK CLUB Mrs Fry and Mrs Thurston will be running a Thursday Book Club from 3:15 - 4:00. Mrs Fry will be running the club for the upper phase - years 5 and 6. Mrs Thurston will be running the club for the lower phase - years 3 and 4. There will be 10 spaces available for each phase. The club will cost £5, which includes 5 weeks of book club and the book we will be reading. We will be sending out a google form shortly so that people can sign up. The first book club will be on Thursday 28 April and you will receive your book before that date.

BURY HALL LANE GATE Please note that this school gate is opened at 8.40am and closed at 9.00am each morning. It is then reopened at 3.05pm and closed at 3.30pm to enable our infant parents to also leave via this route.

COOL MILK SCHEME Please note that from 01/04/22 the cost of pupil milk is increasing from 24p to 25p per child per day.

FROGJS will be hosting a tasty event after school on the last day of term - Thursday 7 April (Friday is an INSET day). They will be selling Krispy Kreme Donuts @ £1 each and chocolate cornflake Easter nests @ 50p each. An end of term treat and fundraising opportunity!

MEDICINES Please note the school holds Calpol 6+ for emergency use only and is held for use in exceptional circumstances. If you feel your child may need medication during the school day please complete a medicine consent form and bring the medicine into the school office clearly named. Please note, if the school is unable to manage prescribed medication, you may be required to administer this for your child. Please remember to collect medicines you will need over the Easter break before Thursday 7th.

OUTDOOR LEARNING/GROUNDFORCE DAY We are hosting two 'Ground Force Days' this year and our first is next week - Wednesday 6th April. The whole school will be participating in a range of gardening, landscaping and outdoor learning opportunities, at different times, throughout the day. Adult support with helping with the grounds, independently or alongside your child will be very much appreciated. Adults will be working outside and can work with other adults or their child. Please bring some tools with you to help - secateurs, rakes, spades etc would be really useful as we have a limited supply (make sure they are named). Donations of good quality plants, old metal pots and pans for the mud kitchen, scaffold planks, bricks and tarpaulin would be very much appreciated. A Google form will be sent home shortly for parent/carer help details. Children are to come to school in clothes you do not mind getting grubby or paint on and should bring their wellies or suitable outdoor shoes. Please ensure Y3 & Y5 have trainers so PE can still be an option without the need for changing.

QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS are underway and we are set to celebrate with Gomer Infant School on **Friday 27 May**. Please send your child to school in red, white and blue clothing (there will be no PE on this day) and we are looking to reschedule singing lessons. Please also send them to school with a tiara or crown for our parade - bought or homemade. GFM Catering will provide a picnic menu for that day, so children can have a picnic lunch / garden party outside if the weather is fine. In addition to participating in a carousel of traditional outdoor games they will be learning about our monarch and her significant reign of our country. School will be finishing at 2.10pm ahead of the FROGS and POGO's Cream Tea fundraiser. We would love as many families as possible to celebrate this lovely community event. If you are unable to collect your child at 2.10pm and attend the cream tea event, your child will be provided with an activity to participate in and looked after by a member of Team Gomer. Google Form to follow with more information and an outline of your plans to collect or not. GClub will run until 4.30pm on Friday 27 May.

Ahead of the 27 May, Year 3 and some Year 4 pupils will be taking part in Jubilee activities organised by SEARCH on 27 April. Children will all have the opportunity to add to the school bunting, plus there will also be an additional opportunity for 120 pupils to design and paint a Jubilee ceramic plate on 20 May at a cost of £5 - details to follow separately.

SCHOOL MEAL PRICES In consultation with the Primary and Secondary Resources Group in September 2021, agreement was made that from Monday 25 April 2022, there would be an increase in the **HC3S** school meal price, raising it to £2.60 **BUT**, our lunches are provided by **GFM Catering** who manage their own costs. Aware of the current increases in many household items and the general cost of living, we are pleased to inform you that school meals will **NOT** be increased for

the remainder of the academic year at Gomer Junior. This may have to be reviewed in the next academic year. If this is the case we will give you notice of any changes. For your information, the last price increase was in 2020.

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 based on their ability. Please ensure you have completed the Google Form that has been sent home, to help us initially group the children based on their current ability

4VW	Tuesday 26 April, 3 May, 10 May, 17 May, 24 May and 07 June
4LW	Tuesday 14 June, 21 June, 28 June, 5 July, 12 July and 19 July

Please ensure you have organised a swimming kit, swimming cap and named towel, for the dates above and that this is kept together in a light bag (e.g. waterproof drawstring is ideal). Children are to continue to wear their PE kit on a Tuesday but will change into their swimming clothes at Brune Park. Long hair should be tied up.

SUMMER SCHOOL UNIFORM is welcome after the Easter holiday. The school uniform list stipulates school grey or black shorts, skirts, culottes or pinafores with a white shirt/blouse or polo, as normal. Pupils can in the summer term also wear a **DARK BLUE** gingham dress or playsuit. PLEASE do look out for the **DARK BLUE gingham** dresses or playsuits. A hat will be useful too for really sunny days. Summer is coming!

WATER BOTTLES at Gomer Junior are required to be plastic and have been for several years. The reason for moving to multi-use plastic only is to:

- avoid spillages in school where bottle tops (metal ones often have a large open mouth) have been left off which can create very soggy carpets, slippery surfaces/hazards, wet clothing and more importantly, ruin classwork/books
- reduce the noise created by metal bottles on desk tables when they are used and frequently dropped in the classroom; this can cause distraction and distress for some pupils, especially when you have 30 pupils / bottles in a class.
- to stop injuries where pupils have bumped their teeth / gums / lips or had a metal bottle drop on their foot

In view of the above, we have revisited with the children that metal water bottles are not welcome in school. Thank you for your understanding in this matter and we thank you for your continued support.

WISHING you all a lovely Easter holiday. We do hope the weather is fine and that all families have some time together to rest. We have had another wonderful term full of learning, activity and smiles. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 25 April.

WORLD BOOK DAY was a huge success across the school. The children enjoyed a range of exciting activities throughout the day, where we were all able to share our love of reading. The Big Booky Breakfast fed many and then also raised an additional £112 for the school. This has already begun to be spent on increasing our range of books which help children explore diversity, adding to our ever growing collection. We hope all the children were able to make use of their World Book Day tokens and enjoyed choosing a new book for their own collections.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS HOODIES are optional and can be ordered soon (separate flyer to be sent). The hoodies are priced from £18.00 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 You have welcomed the school not closing on polling day in May and are grateful for the measures put in place as outlined in the communication sent to you. You said you’d like the back gate left open a little longer so you could exit via this route with your younger siblings from the infant school - we will lock it at 3.30 after the Easter break. We will review this to ensure the school is comfortable with all safety matters. If there is a change we will update you accordingly. Please ensure however that you stick to the far right of the playground as you exit, keeping your younger children close, as Junior School clubs use the blue playground from 3.15.