



Newsletter 2 - October 2022

GO GOMER! WILLIAM KEMP was awarded the Under 11s 2022 ‘Most Improved player for Gosport Borough Cricket Club’ in his first year of hard ball cricket. A fantastic achievement! **We love to hear about your children’s success outside school. Please inform us so that we can record them here.** The **GFM** are also keen to hear of your child’s successes. We would like you to share their incredible individual stories of resilience, commitment, acts of kindness, their remarkable achievements through fantastic sporting, artistic and musical achievements, plus stories of youngsters involved in local and national community activity and projects. The GFM want to hear from you!

[Share your child's successes with the GFM](#)

DATES FOR OCTOBER: 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	
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Start of school day: 8.50 am</td> <td style="width: 50%;">End of school day: 3:10 pm</td> </tr> </table>	Start of school day: 8.50 am
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Mondays	Y5 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y6 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cricket Club: 3.20-4.20pm 	
Tuesdays	Y4 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y6 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper School Football League Club: 3.15-4.15pm Lego League Coding Club (Y4/Y5): 3.15-4.00pm Service Club - (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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper School Netball Club: 3.15-4.00pm 	
Thursdays	Y4 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choir practice: 8:15 - 8:45 Lower School Multi-skills Club: 3.20-4.20pm 	
Fridays	Y3 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school	
Monday 03	Wear Odd Socks to School: Anti-bullying	
Wednesday 05	GFM Brune Park Open Evening: 4.30-7.15pm	
Thursday 06	Parent Partnership Meeting: 2.00-3.15pm	
Friday 07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class 5KT - Cake Sale - 50p Harvest Celebration - donations of tinned or packet foods welcomed 	
Monday 10	World Mental Health Day - Everyone asked to accessorise uniforms with yellow	

Thursday 13	GFM Bay House Open Evening: 4.30-7.30pm
Friday 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Slipper Day - bring your slippers to school ● Class 4IA - Cake Sale - 50p
Monday 17	Individual School Photos - am
Tuesday 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent SEND Forum: 4pm-5pm Community Hub @ Brune Park School ● Character Education Assessment - we are proud to be being assessed by the Association of Character Education for our learning over the past year
Thursday 20	FROGJS Spooky Disco - £3.00 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Y3 & Y4: 4.30-5.30pm ● Y5 & Y6: 5.45-6.45pm
Friday 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Show Racism the Red Card - Wear red to school ● Class 4LW - Cake Sale - 50p ● The BIG DRAW - Parents & carers invited in to draw alongside their child: 2.40-3.10pm ● Shoe Boxes collected - leaflets to follow
Mon 24 – Fri 28	HALF TERM WEEK
Monday 31	INSET DAY - School closed to pupils
Monday 31	Y6 - Deadline for applications for secondary school places (midnight)
Tuesday 1 November	Whole School to visit Brune Park for Princess Anne Visit - please ensure your child is in school uniform (no PE kit - Y4 & Y6 to bring to school to get changed into) and has a coat.
Wednesday 2	Year 2 Open morning 9:00am Year 2 Open afternoon 2:40pm

A WHOLE MONTH has passed since our last newsletter was sent out and we are so pleased with how settled and happy the children are. September can be a challenging month to adapt to after the summer holiday so we are pleased that the children are fully involved in school life. Have a question about something related to school? Please chat to teachers or Learning Mentors at the start or end of the day, visit our [website](#), come to the Reception or access our secret FaceBook Page - don't forget our public [FaceBook](#) page too which shares news and successes daily. **Not sure what your child is learning about this term?** Please do visit our online curriculum pages for each year group: [Year 3](#), [Year 4](#), [Year 5](#), and [Year 6](#) Additionally, you may like to read our curriculum newsletter.

ABSENCE REPORTING is best achieved by using the function on the front of the website using the '[Attendance Matters](#)' blue box. This is a really efficient method of communication for you and the school.

ANTI-BULLYING - ODD SOCKS DAY is a day for our children to wear odd socks! On **Monday 3 October** children will be taking part in 'The Big Anti-Bullying Assembly' from the Diana Award. Wearing odd socks on this day will be a great way to think about and celebrate what makes us all unique. This learning will be built on throughout the year, particularly during national anti-bullying week in November.

BAY HOUSE & BRUNE PARK GFM SECONDARY SCHOOLS would like to invite current Year 6 pupils and parents to their opening evenings. Brune Park will be open for viewing on Wednesday 5 October whilst Bay House will hold their open evening on Thursday 13 October. Both will be open between the times of 4.30pm and 7.00pm on their individual dates. The deadline for applications for September 2023 secondary school places is **midnight 31 October 2022**.

BIG DRAW 2022 is scheduled for **Friday 21 October** at 2.40pm. The theme of 'come back to colour'. The 2022 Big Draw Festival theme, Come Back To Colour, is a love letter to each other and the world around us. The theme encapsulates what we all hope will be a rediscovery of the vitality, health, care and vibrancy in everyone's lives after what has been a challenging last few years. This is the first time we have been able to invite parents/carers into school since 2019 and we are very excited about this! If you would like to join us please complete this [Google Form](#) and confirm your attendance by Monday 17 October.

CAKE SALES have been very successful so far. Thank you so very much for supporting your child with donations of cakes and to the children for buying each other's cakes. Our young entrepreneurs have raised the following sums for their class:

6AM: £96.50	6RI: £79.50	5LF: £123.26
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CAULIFLOWER CARDS are the organisation we use to make the children's Christmas cards. The children will be given time, before half-term, to design a Christmas card. The design will be sent home before half-term for you to decide if you would like to purchase any - this is optional. Orders are to be placed and paid online by following the instructions we will provide. If you do make an order, please return the art work and linked form to school by **Friday 4 November** as the designs are being collected by Cauliflower Cards on Wednesday 9 November. As soon as Cauliflower Cards return your orders we will send them home with your child.

DOGS are gorgeous and many of our families have dogs. We have made a concession for dogs 'in arms' to be on site because these are typically puppies. We also have working dogs on the school site e.g. therapy dogs. Aware that some children are very nervous of dogs, we became a 'dog free' site many years ago (signpost by rear gate). Please respect that fully grown dogs are not to be on the school site or tied-up by the gates, unattended, where children have to walk by. Many thanks for your help with this.

FIREWORKS are scheduled for **Thursday 3 November**. Gates open at 5.30pm via the Gomer Infant red pedestrian gate. Tickets will be made available for this awesome community event by our fabulous FROGJS and POGOS before half-term. Despite an increase in the cost of fireworks the PTAs are maintaining last year's ticket prices (letter with details to follow). On Thursday 3rd November we will also be selling 'glow before you go' immediately after school to reduce queues on the night of the display. There has been much work behind the scenes and we can't wait for this event. As in previous years, we will notify our local residents of the display so they can keep pets inside. You may like to help us spread the word.

GCLUB is very popular and we have increased our staffing of the club. It is **ESSENTIAL** that you pre-book your sessions and within the working week e.g. an email at 11pm on a Sunday evening is too late for a Monday morning breakfast. We have always accommodated the odd late booking but are seeing a considerable increase in children arriving at GClub without a booking and this puts pressure on the club.. Therefore, any child attending GClub, without an acknowledged booking will be charged an additional £10 per session. This will support the costs to pay for additional staff we will require, on the day, to support the session.

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS are next week. We are delighted that the Rev. Andy Norris will be joining us from St. Mary's Church and leading our celebration which enables us to give thanks. We will be collecting items for a local Food Bank and would be delighted to receive tins or packets for the Food Bank which St. Mary's Church will have distributed amongst our Gosport families. We will leave a collection box for donations outside the classroom **w/b 4 October** for children to add to or they will be welcome on the day of Harvest Celebration too. Aware that the Gomer Community is struggling with rising food costs, please do talk to a member of the LAPS Team if we can be assistance in sign-posting you to food that can be made available to you.

MENTAL HEALTH DAY gives us a chance to talk about mental health, how we look after it and the importance of talking things through and asking for support when we need it. There are now more young people than ever before seeking support for their mental health. Most are not getting the help they need. This needs to change and with support it can. On World Mental Health Day on **Monday 10 October** this year we are asking all of Team Gomer to accessorise their uniform with yellow to remind each other that we are not alone - there is always someone to talk to.

OPTICIANS appointments are free for children and it is recommended that children have an eye test at least annually. Although serious vision problems during childhood are rare, routine eye checks are offered for **FREE** to identify any problems early on. We are seeing an increase of children who are struggling to read from the board or from books and recommending that all children have an appointment to see an optician for a **FREE** test. For more information please see [here](#). Opticians can become busy so half-term may be an ideal time for your child to have an eye-test or after school on a weekday.

ONLINE PARENTS/CARERS LEARNING JOURNEY REVIEW meetings have been scheduled accordingly:

Timings: 09.00-18.00	Year 5: 07.11.2022	Year 6: 08.11.2022	Year 3: 09.11.2022	Year 4: 10.11.2022
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Before half-term we will be sending a letter with information on how to book your online appointment. Please note, all meetings will automatically end after 10 minutes. The system now allows more than one adult to attend the meeting from x2 locations.

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? It has recently been reported that some of our neighbours are struggling with school related traffic at drop-off and collection time. Drives should NOT be parked over.

PRINCESS ANNE will be visiting the GFM on Tuesday 1 November to open the Community Hub at Brune Park. We are very excited that all GFM primary learners will be transported to Brune Park to help greet her and welcome her to Gosport and our wonderful organisation. This will be a special and memorable occasion for our children.

PROSPECTIVE YEAR 3 parents and carers have an opportunity to visit the Gomer Junior School site on Wednesday 2nd November. There will be two available time slots for this visit, which will include a short tour of the school in action. The school will be opening its doors between 9:00-9:30am and again at 2:40 - 3:10pm for any parents who would like to view the school. Applications for year 3 places in 2023 can be made online at hants.gov.uk between 1 November 2022 until 15 January 2023, which is the deadline.

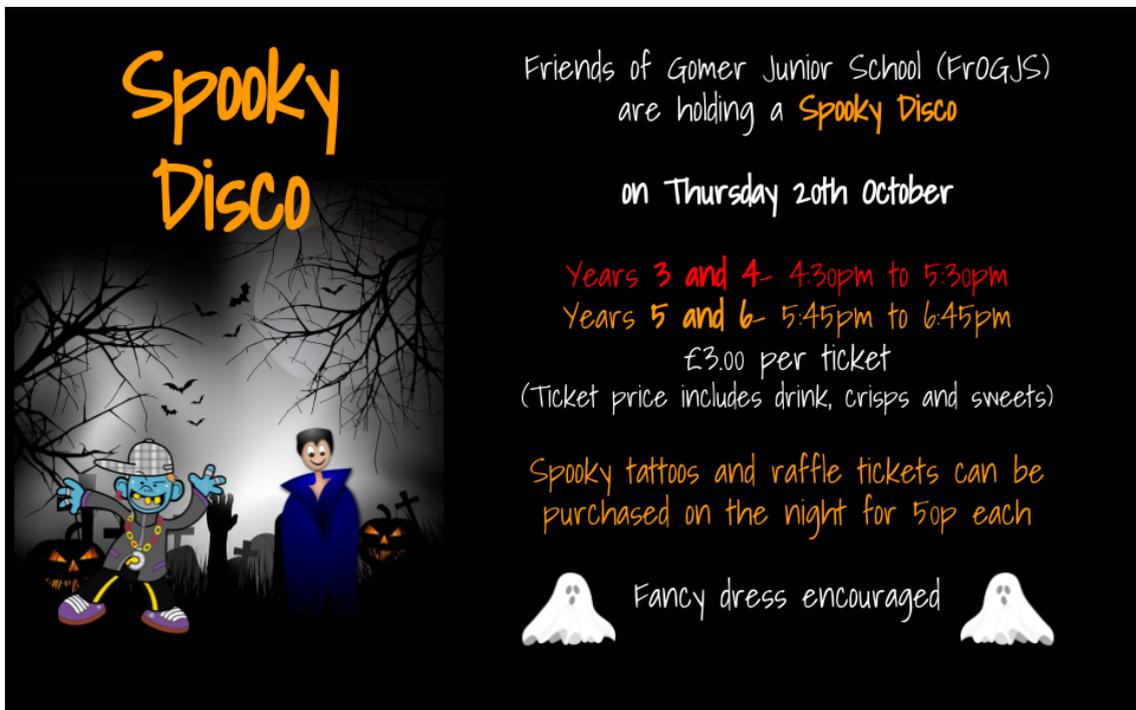
ROTARY have asked us to support their Shoe Box Appeal again this year and the pamphlets will be sent home regarding this charity collection. Please sellotape to the top of the box a donation of **£2.00** towards transportation costs. We recognise that these gifts can be costly to accumulate. Therefore, donations of individual items are as welcome as complete boxes, so that the children can make up boxes together. Items that would be useful to send in include, toiletries, games, colouring items, socks etc. Boxes or items to be received in school **by Friday 21 October (morning)** – just before half term. You are welcome to send complete boxes, contributions for a box or money to support the P&P ahead of this time.

SEND FORUMS were trialled last year. Using the feedback from parents/carers we have decided to continue running these again this year. GFM schools and schools in the local area will be invited. We are aiming to have 6 forums over the academic year, which will be held at the new GFM Community Hub, located at Brune Park Secondary School. They will be informal drop-in style sessions, providing an opportunity for parents/carers to meet with our trained SEND Leaders across the MAT, plus access expert advice from specialised professionals. Our first forum is to be held on **Wednesday October 18** with a focus on Autism and the Autistic Spectrum. Parking is available at Brune Park, however car sharing is suggested as parents from other local schools are also being invited.

SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD will see us wearing as much red as we possibly can to stand up against discrimination and show racism the RED CARD. The national event is on Friday 21 October. Please send your child into school in non-uniform red clothing or accessories with red on **Friday 21 October**. Every heart and every mind that we change, changes at least one life but has the capacity to change hundreds, if not thousands of others. Be a proud anti-racist. Be the difference. For more information please see [here](#). **'CHANGE HEARTS. CHANGE MINDS. CHANGE LIVES'**

SLIPPER DAY is to help remind us to be kind to ourselves and remember the importance of looking after our mental health. Children are encouraged to bring their slippers to school on **Friday 14 October**. Children can wear them all day inside school. Doing little things that make us feel good can really help our mental health. What will you do to be kind to yourself today?

SPOOKY DISCO - hope to see you there! Volunteers are required, please, to enable the running of this event. You need not to commit to both discos - either upper or lower will be very much appreciated. Please email or speak to reception if you can offer your support.

A black poster for a 'Spooky Disco' event. The title 'Spooky Disco' is written in large, orange, stylized letters at the top left. Below the title is a cartoon illustration of a graveyard at night. A blue character with a plaid hat and a purple cape is dancing. A girl in a blue cape stands nearby. There are tombstones, jack-o'-lanterns, and flying bats in the background. To the right of the illustration, white text provides event details: 'Friends of Gomer Junior School (FrOGJS) are holding a Spooky Disco on Thursday 20th October'. Below this, orange text lists the times: 'Years 3 and 4- 4:30pm to 5:30pm' and 'Years 5 and 6- 5:45pm to 6:45pm'. Further down, white text states '£3.00 per ticket (Ticket price includes drink, crisps and sweets)'. Orange text says 'Spooky tattoos and raffle tickets can be purchased on the night for 50p each'. At the bottom, the phrase 'Fancy dress encouraged' is written in white, flanked by two white ghost icons.

Spooky Disco

Friends of Gomer Junior School (FrOGJS)
are holding a **Spooky Disco**
on **Thursday 20th October**

Years 3 and 4- 4:30pm to 5:30pm
Years 5 and 6- 5:45pm to 6:45pm
£3.00 per ticket
(Ticket price includes drink, crisps and sweets)

**Spooky tattoos and raffle tickets can be
purchased on the night for 50p each**

Fancy dress encouraged

WALKTOBER As in previous years Team Gomer are taking part in Walktober 2022. The Walktober challenge is about walking to improve your wellbeing. For the next 4 weeks, Team Gomer are going to be encouraged to walk as much as they can whether this be to school, around the park or even in the garden! There will be different activities for pupils to take part in during the school day. During Walktober, Miss Devin and the JRSOs would love to know about how you have been getting involved with Walktober outside of school. This can be done by bringing in some photos or posting on Google Classroom.

YOU SAID/WE DID Hearing that you felt we sent too many text messages home, we have ensured our newsletter is really detailed and all information is on our calendar. Text messages have been reduced. This is preventing families from missing texts and reducing our costs too. Unsure of anything? Please do call us for clarification, ask a member of staff on the playground, check the website or come to Reception.