



## Newsletter 11 - July 2023

**GO GOMER!** Our **LEGO LEAGUE CLUB** showcased all of their hard work at Portsmouth Dockyard this month. Whilst it might not have been the event that we had hoped it would be, the staff at Boathouse 4 and the Dockyard, spoke highly of the Gomer and Rowner pupils that attended. Congratulations to **HARRIET SLATER** who was successful at the European Fiesta in Spain where she danced three days running in numerous competitions against 41 different dance schools across Europe. She made 2 Finals 1st and 3rd place and 3 Semi Finals in very hard categories. Her most recent achievement is being scouted and recognised for her talent in dance and has since been nominated for an Entertainment Award at the National Entertainment Awards ceremony. Some of our learners across the school represented our school at the Hampshire Commonwealth Games Festival. It was absolutely fantastic hearing about personal fears being overcome and the achievements of the day. Well done to all of you!

*We love to hear about your children's success outside school too. Please inform us so that we can record them here. We will continue to celebrate individual successes in our Friday Celebration Assembly.*

<b>DATES FOR JULY:</b> The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change.		
<b>Ongoing</b>	Arrival to playground from 8:40 am	
	Start of school day: 8.50 am	End of school day: 3:10 pm
<b>Mondays</b>	Y5 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y6 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school • Tennis Club: 3.15-4.15pm - <b>Last Session: Monday 10 July</b>	
<b>Tuesdays</b>	Y4 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y6 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school • Service Club - (all year groups): 3.15-4.15pm - <b>Last Session: Tuesday 11 July</b>	
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Y3 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y5 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school • Upper School Netball Club: 3.15-4.15pm - <b>Last Session: Wednesday 12 July</b> • Upper School Football Training Club - <b>Please note this club has now finished</b>	
<b>Thursdays</b>	Y4 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school • Choir practice: 8:15 - 8:45 - <b>Last Session: Thursday 20 July</b> • Lower School Multi-skills Club: 3.15-4.15pm <b>Last Session: Thursday 6 July</b> • GFM Pantry: 3.00-3.30pm (stock dependent) <b>Last Sale: Thursday 13 July</b>	
<b>Fridays</b>	Y3 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school	
<b>Friday 30 June</b>	FROGS Summer Fayre: 2.00-4.00pm - Please refer to email sent 13 June for details 2.00-3.10pm: Pupils only 3.10-4.00pm: All welcome	
<b>Monday 03 July</b>	<b>All library books due back ASAP</b> - library only open for returns	

<b>Mon 03 → Fri 07</b>	Y6 Activity Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mon/Tue: Y6 Watersports</li> <li>● Wed/Thur/Fri: Y6 London Residential</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday 04</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Y4 Beach Trip: 9.30-12.00</li> <li>● Y2 Welcome Meeting: 3.30-4.30pm</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday 05</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Class 4IA Swimming Lessons (5 of 6): pm</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Y3 Beach Visit: 9.00-12.00</li> <li>● <b>Whole School to wear PE kit to school</b> - fitness morning across the school</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday 11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Y4 to STEM Centre - Lego: 9.30-12.00</li> <li>● Service Club Party until 16:30 (last session of the year). Adults are invited to attend from 15.10 and are asked to sign-in in The Globe.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday 12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Annual Reports emailed home</li> <li>● Class 4IA Swimming Lessons (6 of 6): pm</li> <li>● Y4 Football Try Out: 3.10-4.15pm</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday 13</b>	Whole School Transition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Y6 to Bay House &amp; Brune Park - Transition Day 1</li> <li>● Y3, Y4 &amp; Y5 Transition to new class</li> <li>● Y2 Transition Day</li> <li>● FROGJS DISCO Y2 &amp; Y3: 4.15-5.15pm Y4 &amp; Y5: 5.30-6.30pm</li> </ul>
<b>Friday 14</b>	Whole School Transition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Y6 to Bay House &amp; Brune Park - Transition Day 2</li> <li>● Y3, Y4 &amp; Y5 Transition to new class</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 17</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Let's Do It Day - wear PE kit to school</li> <li>● Exercise books sent home - send in a carrier bag please</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday 19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Y5 invited to wear their DT Tie Dye t-shirts into school with PE shorts</li> <li>● Y6 End of Year Bash: 1.15-4.00pm - children invited to wear their party/home clothes into school to avoid having to change. Email to follow with more information.</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday 20</b>	Last day of the Summer Term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Annual Whole School Water Play - children come to school in clothes (including shoes) you are happy to get wet. Remember dry underwear, school PE kit or school uniform to change into and a NAMED towel to dry off with.</li> <li>● Year 6 Leavers' Arch - see below.</li> <li>● <b>Term ends at 2.00pm</b></li> <li>● <b>GClub: 2.00-3.20pm</b></li> </ul>
<b>Friday 21</b>	<b>INSET DAY - School closed to children</b>
<b>Upcoming dates for September</b>	
<b>23 July - 31 August</b>	<b>SUMMER HOLIDAYS</b>
<b>Friday 01 Sept</b>	<b>INSET DAY - School closed to children</b>
<b>Monday 04</b>	Year 3 pupils only to school
<b>Tuesday 05</b>	All year groups return to school

**A WARM WELCOME** to our final newsletter of the academic year. It has been another busy and successful year. There have been many highlights of the year and the children should be proud of their many achievements - socially and emotionally and academically too. We thank you for your continued support, open dialogue and for being so appreciative of our efforts and offer.

**BREAKFAST & AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB** (GClub) continues in September for pupils of Gomer Junior School. We have been asked if we can accommodate infant siblings but we are not looking to do so any time soon - if at all. In September, we will continue to use ScoPay (Tucasi) to book and pay for GClub places. Once the session is full you will not be able to book so advance booking is recommended.

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION** is added to our website with various events and information which may be of interest to you. Click [here](#) to view current information.

**EMAIL ADDRESSES AND MOBILE NUMBERS** are required from all parents/carers for us to keep you up to date. It is really important that you share updated details in order that we can contact you. Please contact the office ASAP with any changes.

**FAREWELL YEAR 6** who leave us at the end of term. They have been a delightful year group who we are going to miss very much. We are so proud of how well they have approached their secondary school transition. We are so excited for our Leavers' Assembly and are sure that everything else that surrounds Year 6 leaving will make wonderful memories for the children. Please do remember that the whole school will create a tunnel for the children to walk through as they are clapped off the school site on the last day. So, when collecting your child on the last day of term they will be exiting from the blue playground rather than their class door. For Year 6 parents, please ensure you are prompt and understanding of our schedule, in order that nothing is missed.

**FROGJS**, our PTA, are awesome; we are so grateful to all volunteers who have given their time to organise some wonderful events for the children, as well as raising funds for the school. This year, the FROGJS have hosted: three discos (Spooky, Spring and Summer), three shops (Christmas, Special Lady and Special Man), two fairs and a spectacular fireworks event. In doing so they have raised an amazing amount of funds for our school, which is all paid back into the children. With ever diminishing school budgets, these monies are enabling us to provide the children with some wonderful opportunities and resources. Thank you FROGJS. The FROGJS are seeking more support for the next academic year. Being on a committee may not be 'your thing' but, would you be able to offer some time to at least one event next year? Perhaps with the prepping or running of it on the day? If that is you, Janine Biggs (our PTA Chair - contactable via the FaceBook page or the school office) would be really pleased to hear from you. Alternatively, please complete this [Google Form](#).

**KEEPING SAFE ONLINE** is really important for us all. Please do access our monthly online newsletter to learn about how to help keep your child safe and read all about current information. There is a lot of online activity for your child to access. We recommend that parents/carers regularly check Apps and games and possible chat functions being accessed by their child, to ensure that they are age appropriate and are not asking children to share their personal information.

**INDUSTRIAL ACTION** has been called by the NEU for its members on Wednesday 5 and Friday 7 July. Gomer Junior School will be open to all year groups on these days.

The **JRSOs** are pleased to report that in June we participated in Clean Air Day - what a great success this was. We are currently welcoming applications from Year 4 & 5 pupils, who would like to be our next generation of JRSOs. We encourage them to be as creative as possible in their application. Information about application will be shared with classes on Friday 30 June. **Deadline for applications is Thursday 13 July.**

**LET'S DO IT DAY** on Monday 17th, will be a first for Year 3 but will be remembered by Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. On this day, the children are to come to school in their PE kit. They will participate in an array of activities including an indoor assault course, den building and completing a task to introduce themselves to their new class teacher. We'll be busy but will have lots of fun. Please send your child home with an additional bag in order that they can bring home books and learning that is being sent home.

**LIBRARY BOOKS** are important to us and an annual stocktake is due. Please ensure that all books are returned to the library by **Monday 3 July**. Children are invited to bring in their own books to read, until the end of term. We happily accept donations of good quality books, if you find your own children have outgrown them, feel free to drop them into the office.

**MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK** results will be shared with parents on the annual reports. We can provide the headlines here however. Year 4 have worked really hard; as a consequence of this the children did really well. 41% of our children scored the maximum 25 points. And 87% of the year group scored 20-25 marks. Year 3, in preparation for the national test, have already started recalling their times-tables at speed. You can support your child at home to prepare by encouraging them to access Times Table Rockstar daily. They should be aiming to be able to answer each question in 4 seconds.

**MUSIC LESSONS** continue to be popular in school. The cost of music lessons is currently £70 per term and is calculated on pupils receiving approximately 10 lessons during the term (sometimes more) which works out at approximately £7.00 per lesson which is superb value. They would be at least three times the cost if taken externally. If your child would like to be considered for music lessons please contact Mrs West, our Music Lead from September, for further information.

**NORTHCOTT HOUSE** Residents have absolutely loved our children visiting them during our Wednesday Lunch Club. The community event, 'Tea at Half-past Three', on 23 June was a wonderful success - bringing a series of generations together. The residents and staff are keen to maintain their links with Gomer Junior. The partnership was established as an action from our Character Education Award process. We had not realised how mutually beneficial the partnership would be. Gomer can look forward to more opportunities next year where we welcome adults to continue to join us. Our visits are making the elderly residents very happy and this makes us smile. With thanks to Mrs Fry for establishing this wonderful community opportunity.

**PERSONAL LEARNING REVIEW DAY** (letter being sent home with more information and booking **w/b 3 July**) has been scheduled for Monday 4 September for **Y4, Y5 and Y6**. Accompanied by you, the children are invited to school for a 10 minute, in person, appointment with their Class Teacher in the school hall. If in-person is not possible for you, you can meet with your child's Class Teacher online. The meeting will be a valuable opportunity for you and your child to talk through, with the Class Teacher, what worked well last year, areas for development in the new academic year and to work through any wellbeing matters - ultimately, how to get the best out of the year ahead both socially and academically.

**RESEARCH** is valued in the GFM. We have been approached by the University of Central Lancashire who is looking to gain a better understanding of how parents find out information to help them keep their children safe online. It is hoped that this project, which has followed the university ethics procedure, will lead into a larger project working towards the development of A.I. and Deep Learning systems that can be used to support online safety for children. Although not a GFM research project. To take part, please click this [link](#), together with your views - it will take about 10 minutes.

**REPORTS** for the academic year 2022/2023 will be available to you via Arbor on Wednesday 12 July. For Year 6, we are aiming for this to include their SATs results due to these results being shared with the school on Tuesday 11 July. If you have any queries regarding your child's report, please do contact the class teacher accordingly.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM** is important and we are really grateful to our parents/carers for ensuring that children are dressed in the correct school uniform which includes clothes, shoes and hair. Children coming to school in their PE kits on PE days will continue from September. This has been a big success and saves time. Therefore, we are encouraging all children to have a Team Gomer Sports Jacket which can be purchased from Skoolkit. Please also pay attention to tracksuit bottoms or leggings which should be non-branded (e.g no Nike or Adidas) Gomer blue or black without logos please.

**SERVICE CLUB** has its last session on 11 July. Our Service Families adults are invited to join their child at Service Club for an afternoon of cake and mocktails. We can extend this to 16:30 so that we have time to chat and play some games. That will be our last session for this academic year.

**SKOOLKIT** is our stockist for our branded school uniform. Skoolkit has provided a good quality option for us. Supermarkets remain a good option for black/grey skirts or pinafores, black/grey trousers, navy blue gingham dresses and white polo shirts. Skoolkit are offering 10% off all school uniforms purchased from their Fareham store on Saturday 15 July - Friday 21 July and are also offering free delivery on all online orders placed between Saturday 22 July - Saturday 29 July - use code **SUMMER2023** at the checkout. All online orders after 29 July will incur postage charges and orders need to be placed by Wednesday 9 August at the latest for delivery before the start of the 2023/2024 school year.

**STAFF MATTER** Mrs McDermott has been with us for over six years. In her role as a Learning Mentor she has developed some wonderful relationships with our children and families. She has been an incredibly valuable member of our team. We are sad to be saying goodbye to her at the end of term. But, we wish her well working for Motiv8 - a local charity helping young people to feel inspired to reach their full potential. Mrs McDermott will be a huge asset to the Motiv8

Team. We wish her every happiness. We are currently remodelling our Pastoral Support model in order that our children and families continue to be well supported and advertising accordingly. We will update you in September.

**SUMMER READING CHALLENGE** is returning to Hampshire Libraries this month. The Challenge, which supports children's literacy during the summer holiday, runs from 24 June. This year's theme is Ready, Set, Play. Families and carers can sign-up children online, or by visiting their closest Hampshire library - it's free to join the library and take part in the challenge - click here for details <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> The Gosport Discovery Centre will be holding an assembly with us, telling the children all about it.

**TRANSITION** is a major event not only for a young person but also for the family members that support their child. It is therefore our aim to ensure that the transition journey is enjoyable, informative and exciting. The Year 2 transition has already started. Year 2 will join us for the whole day on Thursday 13 July. They are also invited to attend the FROGJS after school disco - our treat! Year 6 will have their secondary transition days to Bay House and Brune Park on Thursday 14 and Friday 15 July and on these days Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 will spend two days with their new class teacher. Year groups will be taught by the following teachers:

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Mrs Carre - <i>additional teacher for three-way split</i> Mrs Gardner Mrs West	Miss Annison Mrs Wheal	Mrs Bateman Mr Merrifield	Mrs Fry Mrs Guyett-Smith - <i>additional teacher for morning workshop groups</i> Miss Ingram

**VAPING** continues to be an area for discussion in our PD lessons. You may be aware that the issue of vaping in schools has hit the headlines again ([Vaping: High lead and nickel found in illegal vapes - BBC News](#)). Hope UK is a national drug education charity with over 170 years' experience of bringing relevant drug information to young people. They have developed various e-learning modules (for Key Stage 2) around peer pressure and making choices. With vaping hitting headlines again, they have created an e-learning module that gives children relevant and balanced information on the topic. To address this issue and complement our Personal Development learning, upper school (Years 5 and 6), will be accessing three of these modules:

1. Making Choices
2. Vaping
3. Peer Pressure

Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions about these. West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership have put together [this leaflet](#) to support conversations about vaping at home.

**WATERPLAY** on the last day of term will be a first for Year 3 but remembered by Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 - it has been a tradition since July 2014. On that day, children are to come to school in their water play clothes and shoes and bring a dry PE kit or school uniform and dry underwear, trainers or shoes to change into. Every child will need a named towel and can bring in their own named water toy if they have one e.g. water pistol. We will manage changing, after the session, so that classes are not mixed boys and girls and blinds are pulled down and lights turned off to enable privacy. Our older children know they have access to the toilets. Aware that some children feel really conscious about changing this will be managed with care and sensitivity.

**Y6 ACTIVITY WEEK** is set to be an awesome week. Year 6 can look forward to a variety of watersports on Alverstoke Creek in addition to a three day stay in London. If you missed the detailed letter sent home in June please do check your in-boxes. In addition to the specified kit list, children are encouraged to bring flip-flops or suchlike for the purposes of moving from tent to shower.

**WISHING** you all a wonderful and safe summer holiday. We remain committed to our community and look forward to welcoming you back in September. For those families moving to secondary school, please remember that we are very much part of the GFM family of schools. We wish you well and look forward to hearing about how the children adapt to secondary school. There is lots going on in our area. You might like to check out these sites:

- [Gosport Community Hub](#) (you need a FB account)
- [Gosport Discovery Centre](#)
- [Family Fun](#)
- [Parks and open spaces](#)
- [What's going on in Gosport?](#)