

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER



Number 9: Monday 9 June 2025

A word from Mrs Toner

Welcome back to school. I hope you all had a lovely half term break. The children have come back full of enthusiasm, and we look forward to a busy half-term ahead with so many things planned in the diary - various year group trips, Summer Fayre, First Holy Communion, Sports Days - to name just a few.

You will notice there have been some new dates added to the diary dates, so please do make a note so you don't miss out on attending any events. Yours sincerely, Celine Toner, Headteacher

Cultural Diversity Week

We all had such a fantastic time celebrating Cultural Diversity Week before half term. The children accessed a variety of new experiences and learned about many cultures that may be different from their own.

Thank you so much to all of you who contributed to the success of this very special week – whether you brought in food to share, supported your children in preparing for the whole school assembly or by simply taking part in the spirit of it all – it really did help it be a huge success. We really are so lucky to be part of such a rich and diverse community. Take a look at our [Cultural Diversity video here](#).



Summer photographs

The photographer is in school on Monday 16 June. Please send children to school dressed in full uniform – girls can wear summer dresses if preferred. If your child has PE on the day, please send them in uniform with their kit to get changed into.

Year 6 SATs

Well done to all the children in Year 6 who sat their end of year examinations a few weeks ago. They had worked hard in preparing for them and their focus and dedication during the week was truly commendable. Well done Year 6 - you are well on the way to being ready for the next stage of your education.

First Holy Communion

Many of our children will be making their First Holy Communion on Saturday 21 June and we look forward to sharing this very special day with them. Please keep them and their families in your prayers. You are all invited to celebrate them in school on Monday 23 June at 9.30am for a mass of thanksgiving with the school community.

Staffing news

We say goodbye to Miss Morris, one of our Teaching Assistants, at the end of this month as she pursues a career in specialist provision. We thank her for her contribution to life at GSA and wish her well for the future. We also welcome Mrs Shajpal back to school on Monday 30 June following her maternity leave.

Governor news

Rebecca Burke, our chair of governors, is leaving the role after 12 years dedicated service. If you would like to contribute to her leaving gift, please bring any donations to the school office by Friday 20 June.

Acts of Service

Over the past few weeks we have engaged in a variety of charitable acts as part of our Year of service work.

The Big Snore: On Friday 18 May, around 65 children and staff took part in 'The Big Snore' by sleeping out in school. It was such a fun night and the children loved playing out in their pyjamas till almost 10pm before settling down to watch High School Musical... one of Mr Barfield's favourites! Thanks to your generosity, the children managed to raise £1,061 for Framework.

Groovin' on the Grass: Year 3 are supporting Nottingham Refugee Forum as their charity this year and before half term invited all children to join them to 'Groove on the Grass'. It was wonderful to see the whole school come together for a dance whilst raising money for such a worthwhile cause. The total raised was £125.

Wear it Green Day: The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a variety of mindfulness activities today as part of our ongoing commitment to children's mental health. Thanks to your donations, we have raised £287 for the Mental Health Foundation.

Dates for your diary

June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday 12th - New Reception Parents meeting at 6pm• Monday 16th - Class Photographs - full uniform• Tuesday 17th - After school Holy Communion session• Friday 20th - Army in to work with years 4-6• Saturday 21st - First Holy Communion in Church• Tuesday 24th - Year 6 / Reception children height and weight check• Friday 27th - PTA Summer Fayre
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday 3rd - Reception Twycross Zoo Trip• Tuesday 8th - Reception Sports Day - 9.15am• Wednesday 9th - Great Athletes visit in school• Thursday 10th - Nursery Sports Day - 9.15am• Wednesday 9th - after school piano recital• Friday 11th - Year 5-6 Sports Day - 9.15am• Monday 14th - Year 3 Magna Trip• Tuesday 15th - Nursery Wheelgate Trip• Tuesday 15th - Year 1-2 Sports Day - 9.15am• Wednesday 16th - Year 2 Bestwood Country Park Trip• Wednesday 16th - Year 3-4 Sports Day - 9.15am• Friday 18th - PTA Bend The Rules / Non Uniform Day• Friday 18th - Year 6 Leavers Disco - details to follow• Wednesday 23rd - Year 2 Beach Day - details to follow• Friday 25th - Year 6 Leavers Mass - 9.45am in Church

OPAL Stay and Play success

Thanks so much to all the parents and family members who came to our Stay and Play OPAL presentation on Friday. It was great to talk to you all and showcase OPAL Play!

We received some really glowing feedback and parents seem to love all of the activities and stations on offer for our children - and you could see how happy they are at play.

Let us know if you can help at our OPAL Big Build Event on Monday 21 July - please complete the 'big build' form to tell us you're coming.



Contact us at office@goodshepherd.notts.sch.uk