

SEPTEMBER 2018

Great Gaddesden Church of England School

For Children Aged 3-11

“Working together, we develop the self-belief to conquer new challenges and achieve excellence in a happy, safe and caring environment.

We inspire one another to be the best that we can be, providing the children of Great Gaddesden School with the Christian Values to be confident, respectful and successful citizens of the future”

I always feel that the words of our school vision have particular resonance at the time of year when we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. These are young people who are **respectful** and **respected** members of our school community. They move on to new schools and communities, and we trust that their experience at Great Gaddesden School will help them to flourish as they embark on new adventures.

At our Leavers’ Service we lit a candle for each secondary school that the children are going to, and we will light the candles again at the beginning of the Autumn Term to show that we are thinking of Alex, Andrew, Caden, Eleanor, Immy, Harrison, Jak, Lilly, Simeon and Sonny. We wish them happiness and success. They will always be welcome at our School and we hope that they will keep in touch.

“The Piper” School Production

The end of year production for Key Stage 2 children was an extravaganza of singing, dancing and acting. The children performed a wonderful version of the Pied Piper of Hamelin. All the children in Year 5&6 had a speaking part, and several sang solos or performed dances. It really was wonderful entertainment for the many family members who came to watch the afternoon and evening performances. Special thanks to Mrs Wickens, Mrs Simpkins, Mrs Dill and Mrs Waites who had directed the production with great professionalism. I always think that the school plays are a wonderful celebration of small schools, as every child’s voice is heard and every child has an important part to play.

VIP Visitors

We were very proud to welcome the Mayor of Dacorum to our school in July. The School Council took our special visitors on a tour of the school, and the children in all classes enjoyed talking about their learning and their experience of Great Gaddesden School. We are proud of our School and are always glad to welcome visitors.

Roof Repairs

Looking after a school with buildings that are 60 (and even 160!) years old brings challenges when trying to provide 21st century education. A recent roof survey confirmed that the 60 year old flat roof was at the end of its serviceable life, and therefore we will be undertaking essential roofing work over the summer holidays. Such capital projects are only possible with the financial support of the Diocese of St Albans, and the Governors are very grateful for the award of specific grant funding for this project.

We always work closely with contractors to minimise disruption for the school's neighbours. I would like to thank you for your understanding during this project.

New School Year

As we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils in July, we warmly welcome new pupils and their families to the school in September. It is the start of an exciting journey and we hope that Great Gaddesden School will be part of their journey to becoming 'confident, respectful and successful citizens of the future.'

With very warm wishes,

Alison Wilkinson, Chair of Governors

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