



Learning Powers

Thinking Determination
Independence Motivation
Creativity Collaboration Tolerance

Newsletter 1 – September 2019

GO GOMER! ISABELLE RICKETTS has, following several weeks of nerve wracking netball trials, been selected to represent her club, Fareham Fireflies in the U12 Hampshire League Netball Squad from September. Well done Isabelle!

We love to hear about your children's success outside school. Please inform us so that we can record them here.

DATES FOR SEPTEMBER The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change.

Mondays	Drama Club: 3.15-4.15pm– starting 9 September - £10 per term
Wednesdays	Art Club: 3.15-4.15pm with Sue Evans - starting 4 September - £4 per session
Wednesdays	Netball Club – Y5/Y6: 3.15-4.15pm – starting 11 September - £10 per term
Wednesdays	Mixed Football Club – Y5/Y6: 3.15-4.15pm – starting 11 September - £10 per term
Thursdays	Choir: 8.15-8.45am - weekly unless otherwise stated – starting 5 September - £10 per term
Thursdays	Multi Sports Club: 3.15-4.15pm – starting 11 September 2019 - £10 per term
Thursdays	Musicians - Orchestral Ensemble: 3.20-3.50pm – starting 12 September
Fridays	Service Club: Lunchtime from 12.30pm – GMG (Gomer Multi Gym) and The Gateway
Fridays	Portsmouth Football Club – starting 13 September – 7 weeks = £28 – book via PFC
Fridays	Gomer Community LAPS Cuppa & Chat: 9.00-10.00am fortnightly unless otherwise stated – starting 13 September . Please check the electronic calendar for topics.
Tuesday 10	Y5 Meet the Teacher in The Hall: 3.25-4.25pm
Wednesday 11	Y3 Meet the Teacher in The Hall: 3.25-4.25pm
Thursday 12	Y4 Meet the Teacher in The Hall: 3.25-4.25pm
Wednesday 18	Y3 Visit to Stokes Bay – 1.1-2.45pm. Parent/Carer help appreciated
Thursday 19	Y5 STEM Paultons Park Visit and sleepover – letter to follow by e mail
Tues 24 & Wed 25	Y6 Parent/teacher Learning Reviews: 1.00-6.30pm – letter to follow by e mail
Friday 27	Harvest Celebration – Please donate tins, packets and bottles for food bank 10.00-10.10 – Choir to perform in Harvest Celebration – parents/carers of choir welcomed
Friday 27	Individual School Photos: 9.00-12.00pm
Friday 27	6ST Cake Sale – Class 6ST please send in cakes – monies raised to class
Friday 27	Parent Partnership Meeting: 2.00-3.00pm
Friday 8 November	Rotary Shoe Box Appeal – Gomer Junior School will be taking part in this appeal again - leaflet to follow

A WARM WELCOME back to you all. We are looking forward to an exciting Autumn Term. The school extends a particularly warm welcome to our Y3 children and their parents/carers. We have entered a period of building in which the roof will be replaced and the blue fascia's replaced. Please bear with us during this busy time. With thanks to the GFM for enabling this much needed work – something we have needed for almost a decade. The Cleaning Team also worked very hard with their deep clean. Our school continues to look superb. Mr Wilkins is our new Site Assistant and he has worked hard during September to ensure Gomer maintains a high standard of appearance and functionality. Do say hello when you see him.

CAKE SALES will start on Friday 27 September with 6ST. All monies raised at the cake sales are spent by the children on a class based resource of their choice.

COFFEE MORNINGS will continue to be hosted by our Learning Mentors, in The Globe, on a **monthly** basis (second Friday of each month) is. Please check the dates above. These will be starting **Friday 13 September from 9.00–10.00am**. It is an opportunity to have a chat and a catch-up over a hot beverage. Parents/carers from the infant school and pre-schoolers are welcome and a selection of toys will be available. Newcomers very welcome – we would love to see this group grow – younger children welcomed.

FACEBOOK continues to provide a forum for parents/carers to communicate. The purpose of the group is to help everyone by posting informal parent/carers reminders (e.g. school visit tomorrow – wellies required), questions (e.g. When does term end?). Although the school operates an up to date calendar, app, website, text service and provides letters, the school is aware that some information does not always come home. The Facebook group has clear guidelines (please see pinned post), secure settings and is available to Gomer Junior parents/carers only. The group is a **positive** forum so we ask that any personal issues or concerns are taken to the school directly. The school monitors the group to ensure that members are respecting its ethos and contributing where necessary. **Please do like and comment on our Facebook posts that are blogged upon nearly every day.**

FROGJS Friends of Gomer Junior School raise money for the school e.g. discos, fetes and sponsored events. With ever reducing government budgets, additional funds are very useful for providing your children with extra resources and activities. Last year, FROGJS enabled the sensory garden, every child to receive a book at Christmas, an outdoor canopy (which is looking superb), the purchase of a new BBQ and enabling an off-site Y6 Leavers Bash. Our Chair, Janine Boggs and treasurer Anna Dent do a wonderful job leading the committee. FROGJS will be providing some refreshments at our Meet the Teacher event. Please pledge your support so that we can continue to provide super opportunities for your child.

GCLUB (breakfast and after school) has already seen lots of children registered for this competitively priced wrap-around care. If you require this service, please complete a registration form in the school office or download a form from the website. <http://gomerjuniorschool.co.uk/breakfast-and-after-school-club/>

HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL MEALS have now increased in price to **£2.40**. Lunch money needs to be paid in advance of meals being ordered, either electronically or by cheque payable to Gomer Junior School. You are very welcome to credit an account with a sum of money which might help you. **The school office can no longer process cash payments or provide credit** for lunches. If you do not have a cheque book and require help with an on-line payment account, please ask at the office. We will have to ask you to send in a packed lunch if payment has not been made. **Entitled to free school meals?** Please do complete the relevant registration – you will not have had to do this at your child’s infant school. Please contact the school office for more information.

HOME LEARNING has a new look. It will be sent home from Friday 13 September for Y4, Y5 and Y6. Y3 will not be set Home Learning tasks until 20 September, to enabling settling in time. Home readers will be sent home ahead of this.

INSET days are important opportunities for all staff members to receive relevant training so that we can continue to offer your child superb learning opportunities. INSET dates, in partnership with the infant school, for the next academic are currently (we do not foresee changes but cannot guarantee this) set to:

- Monday 2 September (all GFM schools)
- Monday 4 November
- Friday 14 February
- Friday 26 June
- Monday 20 July (all GFM schools)

MEET THE TEACHER is scheduled for w/b 9 September. Following the successful Y6 session in July, we will use the same model for Y3, Y4 and Y5. Each year group has a different day and the event is an opportunity for you to hear from and meet your child’s year team, learn about our new approach to home learning, for your child to show you their new classroom and current learning and for you to try some light bites in the hall, kindly provided by HC3S. Our school cook, Dee, is fabulous – do come and try some of her meals.

NEED TO MAKE CONTACT WITH A TEACHER?

year3@gomer.gfmat.org	year4@gomer.gfmat.org	year5@gomer.gfmat.org	year6@gomer.gfmat.org
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NUT FREE snacks and packed lunches please, to ensure the sound health and safety of our community. We have several children in school who carry EpiPens and very sensitive to all things nut.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS take place once a half term and have been very successful in discussing key issues. You can access the agendas and minutes on the school website. Mr Potter would like to continue to meet with parents/carers, representing all year groups on a half termly basis to discuss key ideas so that we can receive parental/carer feedback on them. The first meeting will be on **Friday 27 September, starting at 2.00pm**. We currently have two vacancies for Year 3. Please contact Mr Potter if you would like to commit to these half-termly meetings. If parents/carers from other year groups are keen to join the Partnership, please also contact Mr Potter. If we have a significant response, we will choose representatives to attend the meetings for a term each, so that everyone who wishes to be involved can be.

THE PRIMARY LOCAL GOVERNING COMMITTEE (LGC) has a parent/carer vacancy. Please visit <http://gomerjuniorschool.co.uk/our-school/governors/> A letter will be sent to you, soon, from the Chair of the LGC welcoming applications to fill the vacancy. The LGC serves both schools in the primary phase of the GFM: Gomer and Rowner Junior School.

TUCK SHOP is available at morning break for all children to access. Snacks range from 10p-50p which include items such as raisins, cereal bars, rice cakes, juice cartons and sometimes fruit. <http://gomerjuniorschool.co.uk/tuck-shop-and-break-snacks/>

UNIFORM The children have returned to school looking super smart – this includes children needing to be in footwear that is completely black (other than sensible white summer sandals). Thank you for supporting the school policy – this helps to keep our children smart which we are proud of. Please, please, please ensure that every item of uniform and school kit is clearly named so we can reduce the amount of items stored in our lost property bin. Summer uniform can be worn until the October half term. Additionally, children must have a PE kit in school **every day** so that they can participate fully in the curriculum – black shorts are now policy. We will need to ask you to bring this to school during the day if it is not in school. Please support us with ensuring your child is ready for PE.