

# Goodrich Church of England Primary School Weekly Newsletter



Achieve ∞ Believe ∞ Care

34<sup>th</sup> Edition – September 2014

Dear Parents and Friends,

The children are quickly settling into their new classes and the summer holidays becoming a more distant memory. Teachers are busy planning from the New National Curriculum for the first time and thinking of lots of ways to make it more exciting and relevant for the children at Goodrich.

Along with a new curriculum that has new expectations at different ages, the government has also taken away any kind of agreed 'level' statements. Each school can develop their own way of assessing and monitoring attainment and progress as they move through the school.

Throughout this year we will be developing our approach and sharing the new system but this will take a little time and we would appreciate your patience. Our School Pupil Tracker Online (SPTO) system will adapt with us and we will then be able to continue to share your child's data again from the comfort of your home.

It does not mean that your child's teacher won't know what your child can or can't do, they assess children on a day to day basis and adapt their plans to meet your children's needs.

I like to see this as a new challenge, that luckily we face as part of a forward thinking network of schools (Wye Valley Learning Network) which continues to include Whitchurch, Ashfield Park, Trinity (Hereford) and Ledbury Primaries. It now also has, Weston-under-Penyard, Brampton Abbots, Bridstow and Orleton as new members of the group.

As many of you know the WVLN have several projects each year and our main one for this year is very exciting- 'Be the Best You Can Be.' This is a programme developed by David Hemery (Olympic Gold Medallist) who trained us, as staff, at Ledbury Primary at the beginning of this school year. It is about children taking responsibility for their Goals and Targets in life and using coaching skills to change their attitudes from 'I will try...' To 'I intend to' and from 'I can't do ...' to 'I can't do .....YET.'

That puts it in very simple terms but we believe it will empower our children at Goodrich and give them great learning behaviours for life. As with any learning, a positive approach between home and school will dramatically improve the impact and I am sure that you will feel able to approach any tasks set, with enthusiasm.

We are having our launch date where a sportsman and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Legacy Coach, Craig Figes (I'm not saying any more, I don't want to do their homework for them) spending the morning with them. Over the weekend, can you think of questions together that they might like to ask Craig? Then, after his visit, could you talk about what he said and what they thought about his 'story.' It should be a very exciting day.

Scarecrows are Coming! All dates are on the diary at the end of the newsletter and information and entry forms are available from the office. The village looked fabulous last year and was a real talking point. You don't have to live in the village to join in and it is a great family activity. The trail looks like great fun on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September, please come along if you can.

PTFA Meeting on Monday. Please come along and find out what is going on. It is a great way to get involved in school-life. You can do as little or as much as you like.

Finally, I would like to remind all parents/guardians that it is essential that we know if you are not picking up your child. Even though it may be another parent picking up your child, we still need to know this from you, not them. I know plans change and sometimes arrangements can be last minute but our responsibility is to keep all children safe and therefore we HAVE to follow your direction. It is not my intention to be difficult but to Safeguard the children and I have now instructed staff that if the parent/guardian has not informed the class teacher or the office by phone or letter (not in book bags) we will have to contact you before allowing someone else to take your child. If other people are going to pick up your child regularly, without notice, then please write a letter to this effect and give it to your current teacher.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Miles".

Karen Miles  
Head teacher

News from the classes		Attendance	This Week
<b>Class One</b>	We have been enjoying exploring our new classroom and finding lots of new things to do. We have started learning our sounds in Phonics and we have been painting pictures of ourselves as part of our topic work.	Reception	100%
		Year One	100%
<b>Class Two</b>	We have been busy find out all about ourselves and famous people. In Science we investigated what Usain Bolt needs to stay healthy. In English we have been writing poems with a repeating pattern. They are all about our favourite things.	Year Two	100%
		Year Three	96.5%
<b>Class Three</b>	As part of our geography topic, we are looking at maps, discussing what we find interesting in our local area, and then drawing it out in mind maps.	Year Four	99.1%
		Year Five	100%
<b>Class Four</b>	Class 4 have been busy writing imaginative, in some cases humorous, poems. In the maths hub, they have been working on their addition and subtraction skills. On Thursday, they all enjoyed their first forest school session.	Year Six	98.6%
		Total	99.1%

### Notices- PLEASE KEEP READING

We have had lots of data sheets back. If you still have yours hanging around at home, please complete and pop into Tracy in the office.

Clubs start next week except Jammy Dodgers, which unfortunately can't start until 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

Lots of 'Lost Property' is piling up. We could return it to your children easily if it is named. Unfortunately, lots of it isn't. We would appreciate it greatly if you could, especially jumpers.

Most children have settled in beautifully to their new classes. We would like to gently encourage parents to allow children beyond class one to encourage their children to be as independent as possible. Try to watch from the door, they can do it!

Road works outside the school are nothing to do with the school. BT are putting in fibre optic cables. Sorry for no notice but we didn't know until they had started! Take care with the traffic lights.

As far as we know email letters are working brilliantly. At the moment we are printing a third of the letters. Brilliant for the environment and the budget! If you are still having a paper copy and would like to switch, please let Tracy know in the office. Thank you

### School Prayer



Dear God,

Bless our school

Bless our teachers

Bless our pupils

Bless our families

Please help us to be kind and help us to always try our best

Let us remember, as many hands make a house

So many hearts make a school

Amen

	Class One	Oliver Daniels Scarlett Henderson Felix Holbrow-Brooksbank	Class Three	Amelie Carver Charlotte Husbands Alfie Steward Lily Down Violet Holbrow-Brooksbank Jessica Cooper
	Class Two	Logan Daniels Erin Chaplain Aarrowen Llewellyn-Davies Vaughan Rees	Class Four	Islay Brevet Olivia Sherrington Reagan Kimberley

### Cloakroom of the week

Junior Boys

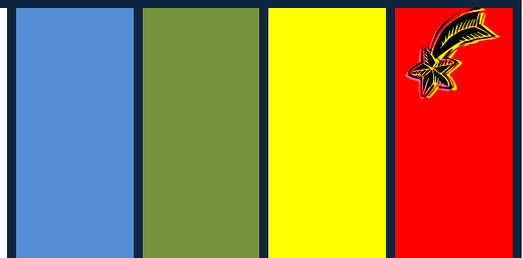


### Citizen of the Week



**Jack Chaplain** for taking on his Librarian Duties with such enthusiasm and being such a polite young man  
Well done!

### Housepoints



## Diary Dates

### Harvest

#### Thanksgiving- Give thanks with a grateful heart

Friday 12th September	2.30pm	Celebration Assembly
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	a.m.	Visit from Craig Figes and start of 'Be the Best You Can Be'
	<b>7pm</b>	<b>PTFA MEETING</b>
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	2pm	Flanesford Priory Scarecrow LAUNCH
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	TBC	Harvest Festival @ St Giles
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	2.30pm	Celebration Assembly
	TBC	MacMillan Coffee Morning
<b>SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>St Giles start</b>	<b>SCARECROW TRAIL</b>
SUNDAY 28 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	11am	St Giles Church Scarecrow Presentation



Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30-5.00pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30-5.00pm	Parents' Evening
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	2.30pm	Celebration Assembly
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	TBC	Football & Netball Tournament
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	2.30pm TBC	Celebration Assembly Spooky Disco
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup> October		HALF TERM
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	TBC	School Photos
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	2.30pm	Celebration Assembly
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	2.30pm	Celebration Assembly
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	TBC	Rugby Tournament
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	2.30pm	Celebration Assembly
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	TBC	Christmas Concert
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	TBC	Christmas Concert
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	2.30pm	Celebration Assembly
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	TBC	Battle of the Bands
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	TBC	Christmas Carol Concert @ St Giles
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	TBC	Party Day