



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

July 2026



Message from the Headteacher

What an exciting and memorable term it has been, filled with a wide range of end-of-year activities and celebrations. We have also welcomed many visitors to the school. One of these was Mr Thompson, Director of Education for the Diocese, who commented on the calm and purposeful learning environment and the excellent engagement of our children in their learning. We have also been delighted to welcome a number of new families to our school community. Many have spoken positively about the warm welcome they have received, highlighting our dedicated and thoughtful staff, as well as the kindness, politeness and caring nature of our children.

I am particularly proud to share that our pupils have achieved results above the national average in all of the statutory assessments, including the Phonics Screening Check and Key Stage 2 SATs. This is a wonderful achievement for our whole school community and reflects the hard work, determination and support of pupils, staff and families alike. Importantly, these outcomes include all of our children, including those in our Hub, and demonstrate our commitment to ensuring every child can flourish and succeed.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. Your generosity and involvement make a tremendous difference to our school. The fantastic sum of approximately £1,400 raised at our Summer Fayre is a wonderful example of this support in action.

On behalf of all the staff and governors, thank you for being part of our school community. We wish you a restful, enjoyable and well-deserved summer break.

Mrs Crossland
Headteacher

KEY DIARY DATES

- Tues 1 Sept and Weds 2 Sept – INSET days
- Thurs 3 Sept – start of term
- Weds 14 Oct – Wrates school photographers in school

Reception



We have had our first sports day! The class teachers were especially proud to share this milestone with their families!



The children have been learning about seeds, and then how fruit and vegetables grow.



Mr Brogan, our caretaker, has grown lots of vegetables in the EYFS garden for the children to harvest, and they have enjoyed tasting them all too.

Year 1



The children have been learning about mammals, we then created our own making sure they had the features we had discussed.



We learned how to log into a laptop using our username and password, and talked about the importance of keeping our password secure.



We all took part in the KS1 sports day and had lots of fun!



Year 2



In PSHE, we have been learning about body parts and their correct names.
We have talked about our senses.



The children have created sculptures in the style of Barbara Hepworth.

In maths, we have been learning about fractions, halves and quarters.

We used ipads to learn about Australia and how to research facts.



The children had a wonderful time at Twycross Zoo.

Year 3 and 4



Adventurers classes enjoyed another fun, action packed mini olympics! The children took it in turns to take part in lots of challenges and sporting activities.



We all had a brilliant trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park, seeing all of the animals, taking part in workshops, and even holding some giant African snails!



We have all planted sunflower seeds and we are enjoying watching their progress as they grow in the sunshine.

Year 5 and 6



The year 6s had a great day out visiting Lincoln Cathedral for the Church Schools Festival.

In Art, we have been learning about complementary and contrasting colours.

We have been taking part in team building games in PE.



Lincolnshire County Council came to school to give us a talk on how to manage our waste, and what bins we should use.

The Hub



In PSHE, we have been learning about body changes and how to keep clean and healthy.

We have also talked about the importance of cleaning our teeth.



The children made coil fruit bowls out of clay, and then made clay fruit to add inside.

The children have tried different fruits and vegetables, and they took a list of 'likes' home to show their parents.

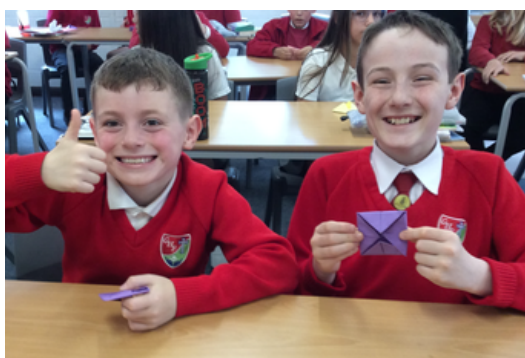


We have also been investigating with magnets to see what they attract.

What a great sports day ES had!



Year 6 leavers



Guardians of the Environment



The launch of the Guardians of the Environment has been a great success and they have had an amazing impact across the school. They have focused this term on the school grounds, biodiversity and waste. Many families have been in touch sharing their own efforts of how to make the world a better place by making their garden a safe place for wildlife or raising money for charity by completing a giant litter pick in the local community. The team are ensuring that our school's Climate Action Plan is well underway. Recently, the Guardians of the Environment have submitted an application for an Eco School's Green Flag Award. We will keep you posted on how it goes in the new term.

Farewell to a GHF legend!



Before Maggie and her husband had their children, Maggie had a very prestigious front of house role in Germany, for the NAAFI, where she was responsible for huge, fancy military banquets! So it's no wonder that we have enjoyed colourful salad bars; the famous Wednesday roast dinners; stuffed peppers; home-made lasagne; jacket potatoes with about 6 filling choices; home-made chicken pie to name just a few savoury favourites. Then there is the legendary Christmas lunch where the WHOLE school sits down together with a Christmas cracker too! And finally the Y6 Gala dinners where Maggie was always working quietly in the background, making sure everything was organised, ordered and planned for before the big event.

We celebrated Maggie's 70th birthday with her in March and she is still showing absolutely no signs of slowing down! Reaching the decision to retire has not been an easy one, but Maggie has been the best mentor Ewa could ever have had, which means that Maggie is able to leave, confident that the school kitchen is in safe hands.

Maggie has become a legend in her own right – and the only member of staff referred to by pupils by her first name. Who knows what she will do in retirement but you can be sure you will see Maggie walking her beloved dog, Flo, up and down past school and around the park. Do give her a shout, "MAGGIE!"

Maggie, we want to say a HUGE THANK YOU. You will be sorely missed.

Staff goodbyes



Today, we have said a number of goodbyes to staff who are moving on to a new adventure.

Mrs Orrey started her teaching career at GHF as a Key Stage One teacher 16 years ago. More recently has been our Phonics and Reading Champion. She has been responsible for helping every child in our school to learn to read – what an amazing feat! And what an incredible impact she has had on the lives of all our children. In addition, she has been the driving force behind our MacMillian Coffee Mornings, a cause very close to her heart. Mrs Orrey will continue to share her wealth of knowledge and experience in the classroom as she moves on to a teaching position at her new school.

Mrs Cronin has been a rock for the Reception Team for thirteen years. Like Mrs Orrey, she has worked with all the children who started their school journey at GHF. She has always has such high expectations of the children and ensures that they are independent and ready by the time they move into Key Stage One. She is always there for a cuddle if someone needs one! Mrs Cronin is off to live the dream in her camper van in Scotland.

Mr Dixon has also worked with all children across the school as he completed his apprenticeship at GHF. He cares deeply for all the children he works with and this is reciprocated by the children who enjoy his lessons as well as his games at lunchtimes. Mr Dixon is going to develop his Sports Coaching role further and we have no doubt he will be a great success.

Miss Exton has been here, there and everywhere during her two years at GHF! She has been a teaching assistant, taught classes and supported individual children, all with a steady calmness and great enthusiasm. Miss Exton is moving on into a teaching position at a new school in Lincolnshire.

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to our chair of the FSA, Ms Wink, due to her son leaving year 6. She has done an incredible job organising summer fairs, school discos, Easter egg hunts, Christmas activities and many more all for the good of our children. She has a great team who have helped her throughout but she has been the driving force behind it all. Ms Wink will continue with us as a midday supervisor, but she will be very missed as part of our FSA. We are still looking for a new chair for our FSA. If anyone is interested, please contact the school office.

We wish all these members of staff the very best for their next adventure!