



Happy Holidays! As you know in our assemblies we have been discussing words associated with feelings and emotions. Most recently we have spoken about being **determined** and being **optimistic**. We love to see children who are aspirational and determined to do what it takes to reach their goal. A dinner table question to discuss could be? *What do you want to do when you grow up? What do we need to do to get there?* Being optimistic is always easier if there are things to look forward to. The final half-term is always really busy in school but there is lots for the children to look forward to: school trips, sports festivals, end of year productions,

Last week was mental health awareness week. The theme this year was anxiety. In our assembly we discussed different things that we could do to reduce anxiety. A few things that we discussed that can help with our mental health include bringing **nature** into our lives; **spending time** with people that we are close to and getting enough **sleep**. Half-term seems like the perfect time to do that! I hope that you all, pupils, parents and staff have a lovely holiday.

We are very privileged at GVP to have such lovely grounds to allow children to enjoy the great outdoors. Forest School is a highlight for so many of our children. A big thank you to the staff that make that happen in all weathers—one of the Forest School phrases is: *There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing*. Currently the large field needs to have some work done to it due to rabbit holes and the climate over the last year; we are working with Gamlingay Football Club to make that happen over the next few months.

We like to give parents opportunities to be in school. Thank you to those of you who were able to come to our Coronation Events. Next half-term we will have open classrooms, some class assemblies and a Year 6 performance. The open classrooms will give you a chance to look at your children's learning. We would love to be able to do more events from parents. If you are able to be a parent volunteer through FGVP, that would be wonderful.

What happens in maths at Gamlingay?

Our maths curriculum is a mastery curriculum. This means that we go deeper with a concept, rather than move quickly onto the next thing. EYFS have been looking at first, now and then stories to develop their understanding of subtraction. You could practice telling your own first, now and then stories at home. For example: How many toys were in the toybox first? Then how many fell out? How many are left now? Children in Key Stage 1 are beginning a new topic on telling the time. In Year 1, they begin by learning that there is an hour hand and a minute hand and how to know when it is o'clock—it is a very tricky concept so lots of practicing at home will help. In Year 3 children have been learning to present data using pictograms, bar graphs and tally charts. They are now starting a new fractions topic. Did you know that we can count using the denominator? One third, two thirds, three thirds ... Do you know what comes next? Measures such as length and mass have been the Year 4 topic. Could you estimate the mass of a cow? In Year 5 children have spent a week on position and movement—they have been learning about translation and reflection using co-ordinates. Year 6 have been immersing themselves into some 'real world maths' by seeing how cost effective creating our very own jam tart making business would be. They have been comparing supermarket prices and comparing profit margins throughout the week.

Class Reference Information

Reception

Robin and Wren (EYFS/Foundation Stage)

Key Stage 1 (KS1)

Year 1: Swift, Nightingale Year 2: Woodpecker and Kingfisher

Lower Key Stage (LKS2)

Year 3: Buzzard, Falcon, Year 4: Osprey and Skylark

Upper Key Stage 2 (UKS2)

Year 5: Kestrel, Red Kite
Year 6: Owl and Eagle

Design & Technology:

KS1 have been celebrating the King's coronation by creating a delicious savoury pastry tart for the GVP event. Before we made the pastry tarts, we sampled some healthy food to help us decide what we would like to put into our own pastries. We have been developing our chopping skills by carefully cutting a selection of food learning some techniques such as bridging and the claw chop. All children enjoyed creating and eating their pastry tarts! The food was very kindly gifted by Woodview Farm Shop & Café. Baking is part of our D&T curriculum. The children research and learn relevant skills before planning, making and then evaluating. Of course when baking there has to be a tasting element as part of the evaluation! It has been a highlight for lots of children this half-term. The smells from the kitchen with scones and jam tarts baking has been mouth-watering. On evaluation, some of the products were 'a bit hard' while others were perfect! Maybe there is a future chef or two in our midst.

A few reminders:

- Children should not play on the equipment at pick up or drop off times.
- On the first day of a new half-term, there are often quite a few children who haven't **ordered lunches**. Set a reminder on your phone now to do it next weekend!
- Check if your child is eligible for pupil premium funding on: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/help-with-school-learning-costs/pupil-premium> or by contacting the school office.

Meet Mrs Thompson

Name: Mrs Thompson

Role : Year 2 teacher

How long have you worked at GVP: I started teaching at the old First School in 2011.

Favourite thing about the job: I love seeing the progress children make over the year, and I especially love seeing the children's confidence and self belief grow!

Random Fact: I love to be out in the countryside. In the school holidays you'll usually find me up a hill somewhere, usually in the Lake District. Last year I completed the Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge - the biggest challenge being trying to find hills in Cambridgeshire on which to train



Need to Know

June:

Monday 5th	First day of half-term
Tuesday 6th	KS1 trip
Wednesday 7th	LKS2 trip
Thursday 8th	KS1 trip
Thurs/Fri 8th/9th @2:45pm	Year 5 Assemblies
5th—16th	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
12th—16th	Phonics Screen Check
Thurs 22nd	EYFS Open Classrooms @3pm
Fri 23rd	UKS2 Open Classrooms @3pm
Tues 27th	EYFS Trip
28th-30th	Year 6 Residential
Mon 26th	Year 4 Open Classrooms @3pm
Wed. 28th	Year 3 Open Classrooms @3pm
Tues 27th/29th @2:45pm	Year 2 Assemblies
Fri 30th	KS1 Open Classrooms @3pm

July:

Thurs/Fri 6th/7th	Swap up mornings
Friday 7th	FGVP school disco
Wed 12th @ 9:45am	Year 6 Performance
Thurs 13th @ 6pm	Year 6 Performance
Tues 18th @ 2pm	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 18th @ 4pm	Year 6 Leavers Party
Wednesday 19th	Last day of term