



Gaddesden Row JMI School Newsletter 17th October - 2025



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

As we come to the end of the half term, it's been lovely to look back on a few busy and exciting weeks full of learning, creativity, and fun. The children have made fantastic progress and thrown themselves into all the activities and events across the school.

We have a few special events planned to round off the term, and we're looking forward to celebrating the children's achievements before the break. A reminder that we finish for the half term break on Friday 24th October at the usual time of 15:15.

Well Done at the Cross Country Event!

We are thrilled to congratulate our pupils who took part in the **Dacorum Sports Partnership Cross Country** event on Thursday. Their determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship were fantastic to see, and they represented our school with pride. Well done to everyone who ran — your effort and enthusiasm truly shone!

Black History Week

Next week, we'll be celebrating **Black History Week** across the school!

Each class will explore inspiring stories from "*Empowering Stories for Black Children: The Power of Kindness*", alongside daily activities that highlight Black history, culture, and achievement.

On **Wednesday**, our **P4C (Philosophy for Children) afternoon** will have a special Black History theme, giving pupils a chance to reflect on the values of kindness, respect, and equality.

We're looking forward to a fantastic week of learning and celebration!

Parents' Evening arrangements

Parents' Evening will take place on Monday 20th October. Appointment slips have been sent home, and parents are welcome to wait in the library until their meeting time.

Please note, there will be no after-school clubs on this day as staff will be in meetings.

Author Visit – Last call for a signed book

A reminder that on **Tuesday 21st October**, we'll be welcoming **children's author and games designer Ryan Crawford** to speak with pupils in **Years 3–6** about his new book, *Cosmic Cadets and the Universal Uni-Korn*.

He will be signing the books for the children at the event and you can order his book from Our Bookshop- click below...

<https://www.ourbookshoptring.co.uk/product/cosmic-cadets-and-the-universal-uni-korn/>

The signed books will be given to your child on the day. We're really looking forward to this inspiring author event!

No After School Club

A reminder that there will be no after school clubs in the **week beginning Monday 20th October**. Clubs will resume as normal on Monday 3rd November.

Friday 24th October Events

We have a fun-filled day planned to celebrate the end of half term and Halloween! We will be holding our Annual Pumpkin Carving Competition. Children should complete their designs at home and bring them in on the day.

It's also a non-uniform day to celebrate the last day of half term and Halloween — please ensure clothing is suitable for PE. After school, GRAFT's Halloween Disco will take place at the Gad Row Guide Hut from 15:15–16:45. The deadline to complete your booking is Monday 20th October. You can bring a costume or clothing to change into if you wish.

Parent Open Mornings

We're excited to invite parents to our Parent Open Mornings! Each session runs 8:30–9:30 am, with the first 30 minutes to explore the classroom and pupils' work, followed by a short learning activity with your child.

These mornings are a wonderful opportunity to celebrate learning and strengthen the home–school connection.

Dates:

- **Tuesday 11th November** – Class Star
- **Tuesday 25th November** – Class Galaxy
- **Tuesday 9th December** – Class Comet

We look forward to welcoming you into the classrooms!

Gaddesden Wish List

If you are in a position to support the school, please have a look at our wish list which can be located via this link:

[Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk) This can also be found on the school website, in the top right-hand corner, quick links section.



Stars of the Week

Class Star: Fergus
Class Galaxy: Henry
Class Comet: Lily



Our School Values

This week our chosen value is **Open-Mindedness**. We've seen so many wonderful examples of children embracing this value — listening carefully to others' ideas, considering different viewpoints during discussions, and showing curiosity and respect for new experiences. Well done to everyone for demonstrating such open-minded attitudes and a willingness to learn from each other!

Generous
Aspirational
Discovering
Responsible
Open-minded
Welcoming
Listen
Enjoy
Articulate
Resilient
Nurture Relationships
Encourage
Remember More and Know More

Attendance



Class Star	Class Galaxy	Class Comet
98%	93%	97%

Attendance Matters



Well done to **Class Star** for getting **£5** in your attendance fund!

Team Points for the end of this week are:



Golden Book

Well done to **Oakley** for his super persuasive writing about the Great Fire of London. Well done to **Francesca** for being so patient and supportive during maths lessons. Well done to **Theo and Elizabeth** for completing the extra challenge when taking away from ten. Well done to **Louie, Leyton, and Tommy** for their accurate layout and careful calculations when using column addition. Well done to **Bella** for her fantastic science work when classifying plants. Well done to **Francesca, Raph, Lois, Hetty, Oscar and Lily** for their excellent effort and independent writing about how chocolate is made. Well done to **Theo** for finishing in 3rd place in the Y2 Boys Dacorum Cross Country event. Well done to **Bella** for finishing in 2nd place in the Y5 Girls Dacorum Cross Country event. Well done to **Cassie** for finishing in 3rd place in the Y6 Girls Dacorum Cross Country event.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Miss Smith

At Gaddesden Row JMI School, we are fully committed to the safeguarding of pupils and take E-Safety very seriously. With the support of parents, we pro-actively teach our pupils how to keep themselves safe, including online.