

Class Reference Information:

Reception
 Robin & Wren
 (EYFS/Foundation Stage)

Key Stage 1 (KS1)
 Year 1: Swift & Nightingale, Year 2: Woodpecker & Kingfisher

Lower Key Stage 2 (LKS2)
 Year 3: Osprey & Falcon, Year 4: Buzzard & Skylark

Upper Key Stage 2 (UKS2)
 Year 5: Kestrel & Red Kite
 Year 6: Owl & Eagle

Hopefully, the weather will realise soon that we are in the Summer Term. The Summer Term is always busy with school trips, end of year assessments and activities, sports days and much more.

This morning, the Skipping Ninja led our school assembly. There was music, lights and lots of skipping!



Playtimes

Before the holidays, some of our Year 5s were trained up as Playleaders. They have been working really hard to run games, organise activities and make playtimes better for everyone. Parachute games have been very popular, along with chalk art and four-square. A huge thank you to Miss Dennison for all her hard work in making this happen.



Maths

We are excited to take this opportunity to share with you how mathematics is taught and nurtured at GVP. As teachers, we believe that a strong foundation in mathematics is essential not only for your child's academic success but for their whole life! We aim to foster a love of, and positive attitude towards, maths. We firmly believe that children can become competent mathematicians!

In Reception, maths is taught through Mastering Number, which then continues throughout the school to develop skills of mathematical fluency.

In Key Stage One and Two, we use Power Maths to teach mathematics using a Mastery approach – allowing pupils to acquire a deep, long-term, secure and adaptable understanding of the subject.

The National Curriculum identifies core mathematical concepts that pupils need to understand. These concepts form the foundation for their mathematical journey from year 1 to year 6.

Pupils build their understanding of mathematical concepts gradually. For instance, in Year 1 the children learn to count up to 100 and understand number bonds up to 20 – and by the end of Year 6 they will have learned how to convert decimal fractions to simple fractions! Each year builds on the previous year's learning, with key concepts being revisited.

Maths is not just about numbers; it's also about problem-solving. Our curriculum emphasises critical thinking and problem-solving skills through real-life scenarios and mathematical puzzles. We encourage students to think creatively and approach problems from different angles though additional half termly problem-solving, enquiry-based lessons. On Tuesday 7th May, our Maths lessons will have an Escape Room feel!

Cake sale

Thank you to everyone who supported our School Council in raising money for charities Cancer Research UK and Wood Green Animal Shelter. Overall, we raised £176!

Focus on The Cabin Nest

The Cabin Nest is an Enhanced Resource Base where we provide a safe, secure and inclusive environment for pupils with ASD so they can achieve their full academic potential. We provide support to help boundaries and develop their confidence, helping them to become more independent. By developing their life skills and empowering pupils to achieve all they can be on leaving school, we help them work towards their future.

Safeguarding

Did you know, the most popular online activity for children and young people is watching videos? At school, our safeguarding team are informed when we become aware of children watching age-inappropriate videos (as well as playing age-inappropriate games). Teachers are likely to speak to parents so that you are aware as well.

More than ever before, social media influencers play a big part in shaping the opinions and views of young people.

Some of these influencers are positive, providing relatable and relevant information for a wide range of interests. But the popularity of influencers can also bring certain risks. Find out more on this website:

<https://www.openvieweducation.co.uk/influencer-s-parent-guide/>

Maths Pig's Challenge



'Keep Calm and Love Maths; it is the only subject that counts!'

Using just 4 straight lines, can you cut this pizza into eleven pieces? The pieces do not have to be equal.



Out & About:

Year 4s started the term with a residential to Burwell House. The children stayed for 2 nights and had a great time, although some did miss home at night. A big thank you to all the staff who gave up their free time to make that happen.

Midday Supervisor needed

We have a Midday Supervisor role available. If you might be interested, please look at our website vacancies page for more details.

Attendance at school is important. If you are unsure if your child is too ill for school, this link may help you: [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Currently Our school attendance for this year is: 91.9%.

If a pupil's attendance is below 90%, this is considered persistent absence. It means that a child is missing half a day of school each week. This makes a huge difference to their education and their experience of school.

Reminders

Please put your child's name on their belongings so we can return lost property to them. In summer, the jumpers and cardigans are often found in the playground and without names it is impossible to find the rightful owner!

8:35 – Gates opened: Close to Station Road first, then KS2 playground).

8:50 –Gates closed: KS2 playground first, then Station Road

3:10 – Gates opened: Close to Station Road first, then KS2 playground.

3:25 – Gate closed.

Our registers close at 8:55; a child is then registered as late.

Community

One of the Cam Academy Trust Values is *Community*. We love being part of Gamlingay village and celebrating important village events together. See the attached flyer for the celebrations of 10 years of Millbridge Brook Meadows. Our school council have added to the time capsule.

If you, or someone that you know in the community would like to come into our school and listen to readers, we would love to have you. Please email the school office to find out more office@gamlingayvp.org

Meet Mrs Desborough



Job title: Executive Headteacher

At 10am on a Thursday, you will probably find me in a meeting.

Favourite book - that's hard - there are so many - *Matilda; Gobolino the Witch's Cat; Plop; The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark.*

When I was at school, I won the whole school award for food technology, 2 years running (and I still love to cook)!

Dates for your Diary

30th April: Year 2 Learning Café

1st May: Art Gallery

6th May: Bank Holiday Monday

13th–17th May: Year 6 SATs

21st May: EYFS/KS1 Sports Day

22nd May: KS2 Sports Day

24th May: INSET Day (no children in school) holiday

27th-31st May: Half-term

3rd June: New half-term begins