



NEWSLETTER

Friday 27th March 2026

admin@gamesley.victoriousmat.org

Main Office: 01457 853721

Pastoral Manager: 07922 576932



Dear Families,

1. Farewell to Tammy Goodwin

After Easter, we say a heartfelt thank you to Tammy Goodwin. She is leaving her role as Pastoral Manager on Friday 17th April after an impressive 20 years of service to the Gamesley Primary community, in order to pursue an exciting new opportunity that will be much closer to her new home.

Throughout her time at the school, Tammy has supported children, families and staff with a high level of compassion, commitment and calm problem-solving. Her work behind the scenes and her dedication to pastoral care have made an exceptional contribution to the school, and her impact will continue to be felt long after she moves on.

As Tammy departs, the school will also say goodbye to Joey, the much-loved school dog. Joey has offered comfort and support to pupils across the year groups, helping to create a calm and reassuring environment. He will be fondly remembered by pupils and staff alike.

We wish Tammy every happiness in her next chapter and thank her for everything she has brought to the Gamesley community.

Tammy's contribution has been extraordinary, and while she will be greatly missed, we are actively recruiting to secure the right person to carry her work forward with the same warmth and dedication.

2. Forest school dates

Wednesday April 22nd	Year 1 Silver Birch Class Year 5 Elm Class
Thursday April 23rd	Year 2 Willow Class Year 3 Holly Class
Friday April 24th	Year 6 Oak Class Year 4 Chestnut Class

3. Fund raisers for Comic Relief and Willow Wood Hospice

A huge thank-you to everyone who supported Comic Relief this year. The children threw themselves into the fun with their usual enthusiasm, and your generosity helped us raise a fantastic amount for such an important cause, a whopping £483. It was a real joy to see the whole community come together with so much energy and kindness.

As we head into the Easter break, a quick reminder that any sponsorship money for our Bunny Hop, raising funds for Willow Wood Hospice, can be returned to school after the holidays, or donated via the Just Giving page at the address below. Every contribution, big or small, helps the hospice continue its incredible work supporting local families.

Healthy Morning Snacks

We are asking families to send in healthy morning snacks only. After the Easter break. Children learn best when they have steady, lasting energy to carry them through the morning. A simple, healthy snack can make a real difference to their concentration, mood, and readiness to learn, especially on busy mornings when breakfast may have been rushed.

Families may notice that we occasionally use small treats such as biscuits or crisps as part of our attendance rewards. This is a planned exception used sparingly to celebrate consistently. Our everyday snack expectations remain the same, and your support in keeping morning snacks healthy and nut-free makes a real difference to the children's day.

We recommend that families choose from the healthy snacks on the left-hand side and please avoid those on the right.

Healthy choices	Please avoid
Fresh fruit (apple, banana, pear, satsuma, grapes cut lengthways)	Nuts or nut-based products
Dried fruit (raisins, apricots)	Sweets or chocolate bars
Vegetables (carrot sticks, cucumber, cherry tomatoes, pepper strips)	Chocolate-coated snacks or biscuits
Plain rice cakes	Crisps or similar ultra-processed snacks
Breadsticks	Cakes, pastries, or sweet buns
A small sandwich with a simple filling	High-sugar cereal bars
Yogurt tubes or small yogurts (not chocolate-based)	
Cheese portions	

4. Stars of the Week

Many congratulations to our Values Stars who we celebrated on Friday 20th March 2026

Nursery Conkers Class	Independent star	Ronnie is a very independent little boy.
Reception Acorns Class	Independent star	Freddie tries to work things out for himself.
Year 1 Silver Birch Class	Motivated star	Lolah has such a motivated attitude to her work.
Year 2 Willow Class	Motivated star	Austin wants to always do his best.
Year 3 Holly Class	Patient star	Oliver always waits patiently.

Year 4 Chestnut Class	Patient star	Alice is so patient with her friends and always ready to help.
Year 5 Elm Class	Resourceful star	Frankie is always ready and prepared.
Year 6 Oak Class	Resourceful star	Jamie is always resourceful and makes sure he's ready to learn.
Orchard Class	Resilient star	Alfie is so resilient and can cope with little set-backs.

...and also to our curriculum stars who were:

Nursery Conkers Class	Reading Star	Tristan loves to share books.
Reception Acorns Class	Reading Star	Darcie is developing a love of reading.
Year 1 Silver Birch	Maths Star	Lilah gives thoughtful answers in maths.
Year 2 Willow Class	Maths Star	Lola is making super progress in reading.
Year 3 Holly Class	Maths Star	Esmae demonstrates great concentration in maths lessons.
Year 4 Chestnut Class	Reading Star	Marley is reading every night and making great progress.
Year 5 Elm Class	Reading Star	Logan is really animated when talking about a book he has enjoyed.
Year 6 Oak Class	Reading Star	Evie is amazing during Guided reading sessions and gives really thorough answers.

Many congratulations to our Values Stars who we celebrated today:

Nursery Conkers Class	Kind Star	Cayde is so kind to his friends.
Reception Acorns Class	Kind Star	Ada is always kind to everyone.
Year 1 Silver Birch Class	Kind Star	Bella is a lovely kind girl all of the time.
Year 2 Willow Class	Kind Star	Bobby is kind to everyone.
Year 3 Holly Class	Curious Star	Harper always asks question about the world around her.
Year 4 Chestnut Class	Curious Star	Jenson wants a deep understanding of everything he learns about.
Year 5 Elm Class	Democratic Star	Logan loves to resolve issues.
Year 6 Oak Class	Democratic Star	George has a great sense of fairness.
Orchard Class	Thoughtful Star	Jaxon is thoughtful and caring about everyone around him.

...and also to our curriculum stars who were:

Nursery Conkers Class	Reading star	Vinnie enjoys story time.
Reception Acorns Class	Maths Star	Amaya has been learning about 3D shapes.
Year 1 Silver Birch	Maths Star	Dee-Dee works hard and is very confident in maths lessons.

Year 2 Willow Class	Maths Star	Oliver works really hard in maths.
Year 3 Holly Class	Reading Star	Ella is a super reader and always reads for pleasure.
Year 4 Chestnut Class	Maths Star	Tommy has a really positive attitude to his learning.
Year 5 Elm Class	Read Star	Thomas loves to read and puts in 100% effort.
Year 6 Oak Class	Maths Star	Lucas is able to explain his understanding.

5. School Trips

In order to help you budget and plan for the year ahead, we will try to give you as much advance notice of school trips as possible.

Year 1 2025/26	Orchard	Conkers	Acorns	Silver Birch	Willow	Holly	Chestnut	Elm	Oak
Trip 1		Manor Park Conkers – 8 th October 2025 Acorns – 9 th October 2025		Manchester Art Gallery		Creative Workshop at Z Arts Theatre Wednesday 15th October 2025 £23.61		Farm Experience	Residential trip to Whitehall Centre Monday 13th October 2025 £215 in total
Trip 2	Dinosaur Yoga Workshop Tuesday 24 th February £2.95 per child Animal Therapy in school 20 th April 2026 £13.88	Dinosaur Yoga Workshop Tuesday 24 th February £2.95 per child		Chatsworth Park 26 th March 2026 £8.17		Church Wednesday 11 th March 2026	Church Thursday 12 th March 2026	Whitehall Wednesday 4 th March 2026 £10.50 per child	Whitehall Friday 6 th March 2026 £10.50 per child
Trip 3	St James Church Interactive concert	Bridgewater Gardens Friday 12 th June 2026 £12.70 per child		Lytham St. Anne's Thursday 7 th May £13 per child		Chester Zoo Wednesday 8th July 2026 £30.30 per child		Alton Towers Tuesday 16 th June 2026 £28.00	

Year 2 2026/27	Conkers	Acorns	Silver Birch	Willow	Holly	Chestnut	Elm	Oak
Trip 1	Manor Park		Lyme Park and Crow Wood		Manchester Museum		Outdoor Adventure	Whitehall Residential 25 th September 2026 £228.57
Trip 2	Peak Wildlife Park		Manchester Bus Tour and Z Arts Theatre		Mosque	Young Voices		Mosque
Trip 3	Formby Beach		Portland Basin Museum		Carsington Water		Llandudno	

We have lots of exciting enrichment activities planned for our Orchard Class and we will let parents know about any planned trips in due course, when the children have settled back into school.

Dates for your Diaries

HOLIDAY	
Monday 13th April	School opens for Summer Term 1
Monday 20th April	Animal Therapy in Orchard Class
Friday 24th April	Year 6 Family Dinner Day
Friday 1st May	Year 5 Family Dinner Day
Monday 4th May	School closed (Bank Holiday)
Thursday 7 th May	Silver Birch and Willow Trip to Lytham St Annes
Friday 8 th May	Year 4 Family Dinner Day
Monday 11 th May	Year 6 SATS week
Friday 15 th May	Year 3 Family Dinner Day
Thursday 21st May	School closes for half term holiday
HOLIDAY	
Monday 1st June	School opens for Summer Term 2
Friday 5th June	Year 2 Family Dinner Day
Friday 12th June	Year 1 Family Dinner Day
Friday 19th June	Reception Family Dinner Day
Friday 26th June	Orchard Family Dinner Day
Monday 1 st June	Year 4 Multiplication Checks begin (over next two weeks)
Monday 8 th June	Year 1 Phonics screening this week
Friday 12 th June	Conkers and Class Acorns to Bridgewater Gardens
Tuesday 16 th June	Elm and Oak Class trip to Alton Towers
Wednesday 8 th July	Year 3 Holly and Year 4 Chestnut Classes Trip to Chester Zoo
Friday 17th July	School closes for Summer Holiday
Monday 20th July	Staff in school: training day
Tuesday 21st July	Staff in school: training day
HOLIDAY	
Wed 2nd September 26	Staff training day in Manchester
Thurs 3rd September 26	Staff in school: training day
Friday 4th September 26	Staff in school: training day