

Great Milton CE Primary School Newsletter

Celebrating learning, community, and Christian values

DATE: 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026 ISSUE: AUTUMN TERM, WEEK 4

Headteacher's Message

"Let all that you do be done in love." – 1 Corinthians 16:14

Dear Families,

What a wonderful week we had in school last week.

Each class had a SCARF Workshop in a very special pop up classroom.



These workshops enhance our PSHE Curriculum, particularly the Relationships Education and Health Education statutory requirements. During the workshop, children met Harold the giraffe ('Healthy Harold') and friends, had discussions and watched short films about healthy eating, how their body works, friendships and their influence, and how choices and behaviours can affect their health and happiness.

You can find out more about [PSHE](#) on our school website and use this link for [Family SCARF](#): how to talk about being safe and healthy with your child at home.



RSE

Sarah Taylor has recently updated our Relationships and Sex Education Policy and we would like the opportunity to discuss this with parents as part of a feedback group. If you would like to be involved, please look out for a date coming soon to attend this meeting.

School Nurse

In other health news, Mrs Hughes and I met with our school nurse this week to discuss ways we can help and support children with various health needs. [Here](#) is the most recent newsletter from the team about Oral Health. Attached to this Newsletter is a guide to toilet training.

SEND update from Emma Hughes (SENDCo)

The Great Milton team are excited to be starting the new school year together and helping each learner to thrive and develop in their own unique ways. Part of the school's richness is in its diverse community, a large proportion of whom are on our SEN (Special Educational Needs) register. An inclusive, caring and aspirational approach is key in all that we do, and we are always striving to understand our learners' needs better and remove any barriers to learning.

Over the past few years, Great Milton staff have been developing our adaptive teaching practice and reasonable adjustments in class. The idea is that these enable every learner to make good progress, whilst staying included in the peer group learning and class lessons as much as possible.

In school, we also draw extensively on the guidance of Oxfordshire County Council's 'Ordinarily Available SEND Provision' document, which also outlines the roles of the adults in the setting: <https://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-10/OrdinarilyAvailableSENDProvision.pdf>.

Each child on the SEND register has an individual support plan - 'pupil profile' - that is developed and reviewed regularly in conjunction with families. This plan is a working document that is changed and added to throughout the year. There is a graduated approach to catering for needs and actions/support going forward follows an 'assess, plan, do, review' cycle. Before October half term, led by class teachers, there will be a chance for families with children on the SEND register to discuss and contribute to their child's pupil profile.

2026 has seen the publication of a government white paper on SEND reform, so expect to see some developments and changes to provision in the coming months/years. Here is a link to a brief local authority guide for parents:

<https://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2026-07/SEND%20Reform%20information%20-%20July%202026.pdf>

Finally, a few points to help us help your children:

- Your child's class teacher should be the first point of contact for comments, questions or concerns related to SEN. Please either email/call the school office or speak to the teacher at the end of the school day. Class teachers can then respond directly, make appointments to discuss further and liaise with the SENDCo and leadership team as needed. In the event that any issues are not resolved, please contact the SENDCo or leadership team. (SENDCo working days are Tuesday and Thursday.)
- If you are thinking of getting a private assessment for a special educational need or applying for an EHCNA (Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment) and would like school involvement (e.g. to write reports or complete online assessments), please speak with the school and your child's class teacher first. In line with the national picture, we have seen a considerable rise in parental requests for specialist SEN assessments, particularly for ADHD and Autism, and contributions for these can take teaching staff a considerable amount of time. It is really helpful for school to know in advance so we can discuss and share knowledge/experience.

Mrs Hughes

Loving to Learn at Home

As I mentioned in my previous newsletter, we have adapted our approach to homework for this academic year. The documents are attached to this newsletter or you can access them via [this link](#) to the school website. Your child's class page also has lots of resources and information attached.

Each short term we will have a whole school Big Question. We are starting with a question linked to citizenship; particularly ***Identity, Belonging & Fairness***:

*What makes you **unique**, and why is it important that everyone's identity is respected?*

You can respond to this question in any way you like, or simply discuss it at home. Any creative responses will be displayed in our school hall.

With Love We Flourish

Best wishes,
Alyson Frost

Collective Worship

We met our new Rector, Lucie, last week. Lucie will come into school on Wednesdays and will either lead collective worship or speak with classes to answer Big Questions. Courage in collective worship was focussed on 'Standing up for what is right'; whether that is recognising unkindness or speaking up when someone isn't being treated fairly. Some children showed courage when they performed a dance to the school in collective worship to share their passion with others- well done!

I am encouraging children to sign up to share their passions in collective worship – play an instrument, perform a song or dance, teach us to draw, show us your creativity, demonstrate some gymnastics, challenge us to solve a puzzle- anything!

You can access the Home School Values resource for courage [here](#) to discuss over dinner.

Upcoming events...

Date	Event
Mon 28th-2nd Oct	Hawk Owls Bikeability
Thurs 1st Oct	Elf Parents Maths Workshop in school hall 9-10am FOGMS AGM @The Bull, Great Milton. 7.30pm
Wed 7th Oct	Open Afternoon 1.30pm (tell your friends!)
Fri 9th Oct	Flu Vaccinations am Hawk Owls: Live STEM Lesson Harvest Worship- please join us at 2.45pm
Wed 14th Oct	Open Morning 9.30am (tell your friends!) Bayeux Tapestry Live Lessons
Friday 16th Oct	Cake Sale after school in aid of My Vision Oxfordshire
Wed 21st Oct	Individual School Photos am Hawk Owls PCSO visit
Thurs 22nd Oct	Monsters Disco. KS1: 5.30pm; KS2: 6.45pm
Mon 26th-Fri 30th Oct	Half Term

Parent Notices

- **Pre-loved Uniform:** we have so much uniform sorted into bags and organised by age (thanks to a fabulous parent). Let us know if you need anything!
- **Lost Property:** **PLEASE** label all items of clothing your child brings to school. If it is named it will be handed back to your child.
- **OPAL:** Are you passionate about the importance of Play? We need a parent to be part of our Core Group to work with school and OPAL professionals, attend meetings and get the project off the ground. There is a commitment of 8 meetings across the school year, plus planning meetings with the school team. Some of these will be during the school day. If you think you have capacity to commit to this, please email the school office or speak to me directly.
- **No Celebration Worship:** this term while we try out our new systems and get the children involved. We will let you know when we are ready to start them up again.
- **Packed Lunches and Snacks:** Please try extra hard this academic year to make sure your child's [lunch box](#) is as healthy as possible and reduce the amount of packaging. Reusable plastic pots or eco-friendly reusable wrappings are great for packed lunches.

FOGMS

Huge thanks to the Friends of Great Milton School and all of the parents and children who gave up their time on Saturday to clear up the school.

Thanks also to the parents who washed and sorted the bags and bags of good quality uniforms into age groups- it took all day! Wearing pre-loved clothes is a great way to save the planet. Together with FOGMS we will get into a regular routine to make it available for you at key times of the school year. If you need any uniform please contact the school office.

We really appreciate everyone's hard work. I realised writing this that I had put the date here as October in my previous newsletter, which was very unhelpful- my apologies.

Upcoming Events:

AGM: Thursday 1st October @The Bull, Great Milton

Monster Disco: Thursday 22nd October

Christmas Fair: Friday 4th December, time TBC (usually 5.30pm)