



**Goring Church of England
(Aided) Primary School**
Faith, Love and Learning

11 February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

The last few weeks at Goring have been filled with enriching opportunities that have allowed our children to explore and grow in new and exciting ways. From our first ever Early Years Forest School sessions that connected our youngest learners with nature, to the engaging RE and Art days, each initiative has sparked curiosity and creativity. Our children have also thoroughly enjoyed diving into new topics, demonstrating their enthusiasm for learning.

In the spirit of Proverbs 16:9, "*We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps,*" we have witnessed how each day is blessed with surprises and unexpected joys. This verse beautifully encapsulates the essence of our school life, reminding us that while we plan, it is often the delightful and unforeseen moments that shape our journey.



Please remember that you are a vital part of our school family, and I would ask you to reach out if you require support at any point. I pray that the Lord continues to watch over our whole community, guiding us to make wise decisions through his love and care.

I am able to provide you with an update regarding Mrs Jee. Before Christmas, it was hoped that she would be able to begin treatment for stem cell transplant early this year. However, this plan has been adjusted. Although this change was not expected, or what was hoped, it does mean that Mrs Jee will not need to isolate to the same degree. We are hopeful that this means she may join us in school across this term and that we will be able to do a school community celebration to mark her leaving us before Easter.

Religious Education and Art Days

During our recent RE and Art days, we had the opportunity to delve deeper into our Collective Worship theme, "Who is Jesus?" Through reflective discussions and activities, children explored key biblical verses such as "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." These sessions encouraged thoughtful contemplation and understanding of the teachings of Jesus.

In a collaborative effort, the whole school also came together to design a new batik painting that beautifully ties into this theme. This artwork not only embodies our exploration of "Who is Jesus?" but also reflects our core values of [Faith, Love, and Learning](#). It serves as a vibrant reminder of the spiritual and educational journey we share as a school community.



World Wildlife Fund – Explorers

Before Christmas we saw the closest House Point totals we have ever seen as a school. Explorers were the overall winners, with 1888 in total. This was only 1 house point more than both Innovators and Challenges, and 4 more than Pioneers, who were the winners of our first half-term.

As a reward for being the winning house, Explorers were given the opportunity to select a charity for the school to support during this term. There were many thoughtful suggestions, but it was decided that we would support World Wildlife Fund (WWF). The WWF is an international non-governmental organization dedicated to conserving nature and reducing the most pressing threats to the diversity of life on Earth. WWF works to protect endangered species, preserve natural habitats, and address climate change. This charity's work links closely to our eco-committee's ongoing focus on becoming more sustainable as a school, and our school's vision around loving all of God's creation. To help raise funds, we will be holding a non-school uniform day next half-term and further information is to follow.



Important Notice about Parking

Concerns continue to be raised by local residents regarding the use of the approach road to school in relation to speed and parking. This includes parents parking across the yellow zig-zag (School Keep Clear) lines. I ask that you take particular care when driving and parking in this area, being mindful of the movement of children. Please ensure that you do not impact upon residents' access to their properties. As well as being an inconvenience, this could significantly impact the safety of some of the most vulnerable members of local community.

Music Opportunities

Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme

We have been contacted by West Sussex Music, who provide lessons and individual tuition within our school. They have asked us to inform you that they have spaces on their "Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme". This programme is free for the initial term, and has been designed to take students on a journey from absolute beginner to orchestral musician within a few months.

If your child is passionate about music, this is an excellent opportunity to develop their talents. Please be aware that there is a £10 booking cost, but this is the only cost you would incur for the initial weeks. Scan the QR code below or visit the website for future information, and to secure a place!

<https://www.westsussexmusic.co.uk/top/>



Chorister Open Day



Chichester Cathedral will be holding a Chorister Open Day on Saturday 8th March. This is a great opportunity for children to experience the chorister life for a couple of hours, and to sing at a short service in the Cathedral. The main purpose of this session is to broaden children's interest in music, but there will also be further information for those attending about how to become a chorister.

If you would like further information about this event, this can be found using the link below:

<https://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/events/chorister-open-day-2025>

Online Safety

West Sussex have produced a WhatsApp guide that informs parents/carers about the potential risks that WhatsApp poses to children's mental health and wellbeing. As you may be aware, WhatsApp has an age restriction of 13+, but we are becoming increasingly aware that some children within our school have access to it.



The guide, which is attached to this email, includes information relating to how strangers could potentially speak to children, how chats can be secretly hidden, and how messages can disappear, leaving no evidence to show what has been sent. If you intend to allow your child access to this app in the future, I would strongly suggest familiarizing yourself with the information and potential risks that it could pose.

Sport Competitions

The children have continued to excel in many different sporting events. This term, we have already had cross-country, dodgeball, indoor athletics, multi-skills – including badminton and new age curling, and football. We are proud of the children's effort and the values they have displayed at each event. I would also like to express my gratitude for the dedication of the staff, who, without fail, voluntarily give of their time to provide these opportunities for the children.



Community Page

Please remember to regularly check our community page for information on local events, clubs, and activities. While we share these opportunities for your information, please note that we do not recommend or endorse any advertised content. This information is provided solely for your awareness and consideration and is updated frequently.

<https://www.goring.w-sussex.sch.uk/parents/community-information>

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