



Golden Valley Primary School

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*'Sharing Kindness,
Challenging Ourselves and Others,
Achieving Excellence'*

Headteacher: Mr R Riordan BA (QTS) Hons., NPQH

5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a pleasure to welcome your children and you back to school over the last 2 days. Our new EYFS children have been a joy to visit in class.

At school during our INSET days we welcomed the new members of our team, reviewed parents feedback from our annual survey, completed annual safeguarding training, revised our trips and visits process and completed some SEND training.

We look forward to hosting you for our September year group meetings where we will be sharing information about the curriculum for terms 1 and 2 with you. You will shortly receive a letter from your teachers that outlines the coverage and directs you to our curriculum pages on the school website.

Leadership News

Following on from the email we sent out, we have been really sad to say farewell to Mr Marriott who has left Golden Valley Primary School and we wish him well with his recovery. Mrs Maxwell has started her secondment to Northleaze Primary School as an Assistant Headteacher and sends her best wishes. Below is a table that highlights the key responsibilities of our leadership Team for 2025/26

Headteacher	SENDCo and KS1 Lead	Curriculum and KS2 Lead	Business Manager
Mr Riordan	Mr Hamilton	Mrs Bennett	Mrs Buss
Designated Safeguarding Lead, Behaviour, Assessment, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, School Council, Strategic and Operational Leadership, Standards, Governance, Wellbeing, Mental Health First Aider	Deputy Safeguarding Lead, SEND, LAC/PLAC, Attendance, Disadvantaged and Pupil Premium, Mental Health and Nurture Lead, KS1 Leader	Curriculum, English, Teaching and Learning, History	Educational Visits, Finance, HR, Health and Safety, Premises, Wrap Around Care

You will be able to find myself, Mr Hamilton and Mrs Bennett (Class based Thurs/Friday) on either playgrounds in the morning.



Please come and share any great news with us. Teaching staff are always your first port of call if you have a concern, you can then speak to the appropriate phase leader if required and Mr Riordan if we have been unable to resolve your issue.

LSP Home School Partnership

As you are aware Golden Valley School is a member of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership (LSP). As a Trust we believe that children and young people flourish in their education when schools and families work together with mutual respect, open communication, and a shared commitment to nurturing every child's potential. We value positive, professional relationships with our families and have formalised our processes, and expectations, in our home-school partnership. As we start this new academic year I wanted to bring this our partnership document to your attention. The LSP home-school partnership outlines the commitments we make as a trust of schools to you as parents/carers as well as the support and engagement we need from yourselves to ensure our shared purpose of happy and successful children can happen.

This was also mentioned in the Parents' Edition of The Beacon in July, so you may already be aware.

[We appreciate you taking the time to click here and have a read.](#)

Attendance

I am sure you will have seen the Secretary of State for Education in the media extolling the impact of missed school sessions on the educational outcomes of your children. Our own tracking highlights the impact of lost learning time on children's outcomes. Attending school daily and arriving punctually is vital to support your children on their educational journey. There is a DFE, OFSTED, Local Authority and LSP expectation that we are challenging and supporting all families wherever this is needed. Thank you in advance for ensuring that your children only miss school for exceptional reasons and when they really aren't well enough to be here.

[Is my child too ill for school?](#)

Site Development

You will notice that our site manager Justin Underhill has been very busy. He has completed a refresh in many of the KS1 classrooms, updated the school hall and entrance and created a wonderful outdoor learning area that we will be making the most of later in the school year.

Our Year 2 patio area could only be repaired in October half-term so we appreciate your patience. We are a bit frustrated but pleased that this repair work is being funded by the LSP.

Wishing you all a fantastic year of partnership and success, sharing kindness and challenging ourselves and each other as we strive for excellence.

Yours sincerely



R Riordan
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

Please be aware that this list of dates is subject to change, and additional dates will be included when other events/activities have been finalised.

You can view the school calendar online; this contains planned dates for the whole school year: [School Calendar](#)

September 2025	
Thurs 4	First day of Term 1
Weds 17	Y6 Parent Information Meeting
Fri 19	Y2 Parent Information Session
Tue 23	Y5 Parent Information Session
Weds 24	Y4/5 Girls Rugby Sports Trip (selected children) YR Parent/Carer 'drop in' Session
Thurs 25	YR Parent/Carer 'drop in' Session Y1 Parent Information Session
Fri 26	Y3 Parent Information Session
Mon 29	Y5/6 Girls Football Sports Trip (selected children)
Tues 30	Y4 Parent Information Session

Further details about most of the events will be given nearer the time where appropriate.