



Golden Valley Primary School

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

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

Friday 16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We start the countdown for the 50th anniversary celebrations and the opening of our new library/reading room next Friday. We will be joined by some former pupils in assembly and our school council are preparing some interview questions for them.

We plan to open the library space for parents to view on Tuesday and Thursday evening during parents evening. There will also be an exhibition of photographs and the school log books from 1976-1995 for you to scan.

This space couldn't have been created without GVSA's funding and your kind donations and attendance at their events.

School Photos

Yesterday we welcomed Tulip Photography to school for individual and sibling photographs. **The access codes for ordering photos will be sent home with your child today, so please keep an eye out for them.**

One of the highlights of the day was seeing siblings having their photographs taken together. It was lovely to watch the care, encouragement and affection they showed one another. The special bonds between them really shone through and made for some very heartwarming moments.

Parents' Evenings

We look forward to welcoming you to our Parents' Evenings next Tuesday and Thursday. If you haven't yet booked, please log into MyChildAtSchool to choose an appointment. **Bookings will close at 9am on Monday.**

Please remember that there is only one appointment available per child. Where parents or carers live at different addresses, we kindly ask that you attend together wherever possible. This ensures everyone receives the same information from the class teacher and helps us make the best use of the available appointments. Duplicate appointments will need to be cancelled.

GVSA Bingo Night

Our fabulous GVSA are hosting a Family Bingo Night in the school hall on Friday 6th November! Sign up through the GVSA website (gvsa.org.uk) for a fun-filled evening with the whole family, while helping to raise funds for our wonderful Forest School.



Aspens New Menus

The new menus for Autumn/Winter 26-27 are now on our website and are available to book via Aspens Select.

The main menu incorporates venison into selected dishes, offering a healthier and more sustainable option. Please refer to our website for more details: [Aspens School Meals](#)

Aspens are also running a special 'Sparkle Spectacular' menu day on Thursday 5th November to celebrate Bonfire Night!

Car Parking

Please help us to keep our school community safe by parking considerately at drop-off and collection times. Parking on pavements or on both sides of the road can make it difficult for wheelchairs, pushchairs and pedestrians to pass safely, and can also cause congestion around the school entrance.

A reminder that the school car park is for staff and authorised users only. Unless you are a Blue Badge holder, it should not be used for parking, drop-off or collection at any time, including for Wraparound Care and other clubs. Vehicles using the car park for breakfast club drop-off can block staff parking spaces and delay staff arriving for the start of the school day. Please use the road outside the school or the lay-by instead.

We would be grateful if you could share this message with anyone who regularly drops off or collects your child. Thank you for your support in helping to keep our school safe and accessible for everyone.

The Queen's Christmas Present

We are delighted to share that, through The Queen's Christmas Present initiative, every child in Year 6 has been gifted their own special copy of *Impossible Creatures* by Katherine Rundell.

We will present the books to our Year 6 children when our new library opens. The children will then be able to enjoy reading the book together in class during Term 2 before taking it home to keep.

Newsletter Consultation

Thank you to everyone who shared their feedback in our recent newsletter consultation. We really appreciate the time you took to let us know what works well and what could be improved. Using your suggestions, we have put together the following action plan, and these changes will be introduced from Term 2. Thank you for helping us make our newsletter even better for our school community: [Newsletter Action Plan](#)

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](#)

October 2026	
Mon 19	Y2 Trip to Nowhere Woods
Tues 20	Y6 National Child Measurements (Sirona) Parents Evening
Weds 21	5N Forest School
Thurs 22	Parent & Carer Mental Health Support Team Coffee Morning Parents Evening
Fri 23	50 th Birthday Celebration and Fancy Dress! Last day of term
November 2026	
Mon 2	First day of term 2
Tues 3	Y4 Trip to Chedworth
Weds 4	4W Forest School
Thurs 5	Aspens Special Menu Day
Fri 6	GVSA Bingo Night!
Weds 11	4S Forest School
Mon 9	Y5 Trip to Wells Cathedral (more details to follow)
Weds 18	4W Forest School
Thurs 19	Y6 Trip to Steam
Fri 20	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
Weds 25	4S Forest School

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