

GO GOMER! We love to hear about your children's success outside school, too. Please inform us so that we can record them here. We will continue to celebrate individual successes in our Friday Celebration Assembly.

DATES FOR DECEMBER: The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally, they are subject to change		
Ongoing	Arrival to playground from 8:40 am	
	Registration: 8.45 am	End of school day: 3:10 pm
Mondays	Y4 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls Football Club (Y5/Y6): 3.10-4.00pm - Last session 08/12/25 Lower School Counting Club (by invitation): 3.10-3.45pm - Last session 08/12/25 Y6 Maths Reasoning Group (by invitation): 3.15-3.45pm - Last session 08/12/25 From January 2026 - PE Day as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y4 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school (no change) Y5 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school (NEW DAY) 	
Tuesdays	Y3 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y5 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Club (all year groups): 12.00-12.50 From January 2026 - PE Day as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No PE Day 	
Wednesdays	Y6 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y6 Reading Booster Group (by invitation): 08.15-08.35am - Last session 10/12/25 Upper School Netball Club: 3.10-4.00pm - Last session 10/12/25 From January 2026 - PE Days as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y3 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school (NEW DAY) Y6 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school (no change) 	
Thursdays	Y3 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y4 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school Y6 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choir practice (all year groups): 8:15-8:45 - Last session 11/12/25 Lower School Art Club: 3.10-4.00pm - Last session 04/12/25 Whole School Citizenship Club: 3.10-4.00pm - Last session 11/12/25 Whole School Drama Club: 3.10-4.00pm - Last session 11/12/25 Football Training (League): 3.10-4.00pm - Last session 11/12/25 From January 2026 - PE Days as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y3 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school (no change) Y4 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school (no change) Y6 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school (no change) 	

Fridays	<p>Y5 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slipper Friday - A chance for children to swap shoes for slippers to wear in school Home Learning sent home <p>From January 2026 - PE Day as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y5 PE Day - Pupils to wear PE kit to school (no change)
Friday 28 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-school uniform (Christmas jumpers welcomed) in exchange for tombola prizes Cake donations for the fair are very welcome today FROGS Christmas Fair: 2:30-3:10pm (pupils only), 15:15-16:15 (all welcome)
Monday 01 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Lunch Order Deadline - today. Please place your order here if you have not already done so (everyone to complete please) 'Bike Dr' in school today - Please bring your bike if you would like it to be given a free 'health' check
Tuesday 02 December	Young Carers Group (invitation only): 3.15-4.15pm
Wednesday 03 December	Y4 Parent/Teacher Learning Reviews - Online
Thursday 04 December	Y3 & Y5 - Christmas Tree Festival Preview - Children from Y3 and Y5 will walk to St. Mary's Church Alverstoke, to preview the trees before the festival is open to the public. The children will leave school straight after lunch and will be walking to and from the church. With thanks to the church for inviting the children.
Friday 05 December	<p>INSET Day - School closed to children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last home learning
Sunday 07 December	Singers performing at St. Mary's Christmas Tree Festival (invitation only) - 11.45 arrival, with a 12.15-12.45 performance (festive jumpers/clothing encouraged). Children to find Mr Pilott
Tuesday 09 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Singers to attend Abbeyfield nursing home (invitation only) 10:30-11:45 Y6 to KGA Bay House Performance - The Addams Family Musical: 1.00-3.45pm (approx. finish) - for more information/to give permission click here. Y4 - Christingle Collection Boxes to be returned today - donated money will be sent to the Children's Society
Wednesday 10 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y3 Parent/Teacher Learning Reviews - Online: 08.30-16.20 Y4 Christingle at St Mary's Church: 1.45-2.45pm. Children will walk to the church from school. Please complete this Google Form to give permission and outline if you will be attending - we hope to see lots of you in attendance. Collection boxes for the Children's Society, will be sent home separately, to be returned to school.
Thursday 11 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rocksteady Concert at Gomer for parents of pupils who have Rocksteady lessons: 09.15-10.15. Please enter via the school hall doors to sign in No Art Club - This club has now finished Y3 Parent/Teacher Learning Reviews - Online: 16.20-17.30
w/b Monday 15 December	No After School Clubs this week
Monday 15 December	<p>Nativity head-dresses due in: Y3 (stars head-dress), Y4 (winter hat/earmuffs (modern day in a Christmas market), Y5 (king or shepherd head-dress), Y6 (Roman soldiers' head-dress)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nativity tickets coming home today Y3 Jólábókaflóð - Y3 children are to come to school in their onesies/PJs and bring their slippers. In the afternoon they will take part in an Icelandic book tradition where they will be immersed in stories and drink hot chocolate (squash or water options also)

Tuesday 16 December	We have no PE today <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole School Christmas Celebration and Nativity at St. Mary's Church, Alverstoke: Performance starts at 2.00pm. Seats to be taken from 1.40pm - This is a ticketed event. 2 per family only - Please complete this Google Form to order tickets. This form will close on Wednesday 10 December - Tickets will come home on Monday 15 December. Last day to book for G-Club 2:00-3:10pm session on Friday 19 December.
Wednesday 17 December	Y6 PE Day - Wear festive jumper with PE kit to school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas lunch - Christmas/festive coloured jumpers are welcomed and to be worn with school uniform.
Thursday 18 December	FROGS Gift Sale - If you would like to shop with FROGS please send your child with monies for gifts priced at £3 , in a named envelope or named purse, for each gift they would like to purchase. There is a great choice of super gifts.
Friday 19 December Early Finish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elf Day! Dress up as an elf or 'elforise' school uniform to support Alzheimer's Society - £1 suggested donation in cash or on Just Giving Last day of term – School ends at 2.00pm GClub will be available from 2.00-3.10pm for sessions booked by Tuesday 16 December.
Tuesday 23 December	Funded Pantomime visit for Service families - New Theatre Royal - Snow White.
Upcoming dates for January	
Monday 05 January	First day of Spring Term - Pupils return to school
Friday 16 January	Be Bright Be Seen Day - Bright accessories welcomed with school uniform

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS will finish the week ending **Friday 12 December** except for Art Club which ends on **Thursday 04 December**. The new clubs will start on the second week of the Spring Term - 12 January 2025. If you would like your child to take part in any of the after school clubs below please **re-register** their interest on the relevant Google forms below. Whilst considerations will be made for those who have been on the waiting lists or have not attended before, places can not be guaranteed. Those whose names have not been chosen will automatically be added to a waiting list and contacted if and when a space becomes available. The charge remains at **£10** per term per club, payable via Scopay. You will be notified if your child has been successful on the week beginning 15 December 2025, ready for payments to be made before the first sessions start.

- **Counting Club** - (Mondays - First session 12/1) - Y3 Invitation only
- **Football League** - (Thursdays - First session 15/1) - This team will continue from the Autumn term.
- **Glee Club** - (Thursdays - First session 15/1) whole school - Click [here](#) to register.
- **Art Club** - (Thursdays - First session 15/1) Lower school - Click [here](#) to register.
- **Citizenship/Odyssey Club** - (Thursdays) - Invitation via Google Form to those who already registered.

Please note: There will be no after-school girl's football or netball clubs next term. This is due to staff supporting Glee Club and Y3 maths. If your child would like to continue with girls' football or netball outside the school day, we would encourage you to consider local community opportunities. Gosport Borough FC, for example, run development sessions on Saturday mornings and welcome new players.

ATTENDANCE SUCCESS - THANK YOU GOMER FAMILIES We are delighted to share that our school attendance is above the national average. This is a fantastic achievement that reflects the commitment of our families to education. We are also in the top 10% of all FFT schools nationally. Thank you for recognising the importance of school and for sending your children in every day. Your efforts make a difference! Research consistently shows that children who attend school regularly achieve the best outcomes, both academically and socially. While we understand that children can sometimes be unwell and need time to rest and recover, it's crucial to keep absences to a minimum. Please remember that term-time holidays remain unauthorised. We will continue to monitor attendance closely and work together with families to support all of our learners. Thank you for your ongoing partnership. Go Gomer!

BE BRIGHT BE SEEN (advance notice) As Christmas draws near, the evenings and mornings are darker. Children are encouraged to wear bright clothing to and from school so they can be seen during these dark hours. Therefore on **Friday 16 January** Gomer is taking part in a 'Be Bright Be Seen' day. Children are invited to wear bright accessories along with their school uniform. This could include reflective slap-bands, hair accessories, a pendant etc. We are not asking for special items to be bought, but to try and use existing items which make your child stand out in the dark. But, for any child needing extra, brighter/pale coloured outerwear could be a helpful Christmas gift. **Remember - Be Bright Be Seen!** We urge children who are cycling to school to check their lights. This could make a super Christmas gift too if some are needed.

CAKE SALES Thank you to all our families who have supported the sales with donations and for those children who bought their Treat Friday snack. Our young entrepreneurs have raised the following sums for their class:

4LF: £110.70	3LW: £78.10	3IA: £106.75
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The Staff Cake Sale supporting the 'Breast Cancer Now' charity - raised £163.97

COLD COMPRESS / heat packs have gone missing from school. If you have taken one home with an injured child, please return to the office as we have very few left now.

GCLUB's last session will be on Friday 19 December, **2.00 - 3.10pm** for sessions **booked by Tuesday 16 December**. GClub will restart on Monday 5 January 2026.

GOMER CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION & NATIVITY After last year's fantastic live performance, we are excited to announce that this year's nativity will again take place at St Mary's Church, Alverstoke, on **Tuesday 16 December at 2.00pm**. We are so grateful to St Mary's for hosting us. The entire school will perform in the church, and we warmly welcome you to take your seats from **1.40pm**. The church has also allowed us to access the Parish Centre which will be used as a backstage area, to shelter the children when they are not performing - they will not all be able to perform all at once due to space limitations. Due to space limitations set by the church, the event will be ticketed. We are able to offer **two tickets per family only**. If you have yet to order your tickets please access the [Google Form](#). The Google Form and orders for tickets **will close at 09.00am on Wednesday 10 December**. Tickets will then be sent home directly with your eldest child on Wednesday 18 December. This is a huge undertaking so we are unable to offer flexibility with this. To ensure that everyone enjoys the performance, we kindly ask that toddlers are not in attendance, if possible, as they may become unsettled. The performance will be a joyful combination of carols and songs, with the nativity being narrated throughout. Everyone will have the chance to join in with some carols, making it a truly special experience for all.

All pupils are required to wear a **nativity head-dress to be worn with their school uniform**, unless directed by their teacher, if they have a speaking part. To simplify and reduce costs 'home-made' head-dresses are very welcome. We have tried to avoid the need for anyone to purchase expensive costumes. Please see below the head-dresses required :

- Y3 star head-dress
- Y4 winter hat/earmuffs (modern day in a Christmas market)
- Y5 King or shepherd head-dress
- Y6 Roman soldiers' head-dress

Children should **bring their head-dress (and speaking part costumes in year 6) to school on Monday 15 December** ready for dress rehearsals and the performance. We can't wait to celebrate with you all and see the children shine in what promises to be a delightful and heartwarming performance!

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK to Mr Merrifield, who as per our November newsletter, leaves us to work full-time for his business GoSport. And to Miss Sewell who leaves us for a promotion to Deputy Head. Miss you already! Adam Noad, our guitar teacher, leaves us at the end of this term. He has worked with children at KA Gomer for an incredible ten years. He has been a wonderful part of our school community, inspiring so many children to discover a love of music. We are very grateful for his commitment to the lessons over the years. We wish him every success as he continues with his private teaching business and we are delighted that many former Gomer pupils have continued their musical journey with him beyond primary school. **We are now in the process of seeking a new guitar teacher** to join us in the new year. If you know someone who may be interested, please feel free to contact the school office.

FINANCE MATTERS We recognise that the current cost-of-living crisis continues to place pressure on many families. We also understand that some households fall just above the eligibility threshold for Free School Meals and may still be

finding it difficult to make ends meet. If this is your situation, please know that you are not alone. While we cannot make any guarantees, the school may be able to direct you toward sources of support, including possible household or hardship funds. If you feel you may benefit from this, please do not feel embarrassed to reach out. You are welcome to speak to any trusted adult in school and ask them to pass the information on to the office team, who will look into what support may be available. You can also contact the school office directly - by email, phone, or in person (please ask to speak in our little office off the library if you would like some privacy).

HOME LEARNING for the last time this term will be on Friday 5 December (INSET day). Ahead of this, and after too, please spend time learning the songs for the Nativity. No formal learning tasks will be sent home for any year group over the Christmas holiday but children can access their Google Classroom apps, Spelling Shed, Times Table Rockstars etc and of course children can read - lots. A book would make a great Christmas present!

INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION - YOUR THINKING Following our second International Dimension day in October, we would like to learn more about other countries and cultures. We are asking our school community to tell us which countries you would like your child to learn about. We believe that an internationally minded curriculum builds cultural understanding, improves communication skills, and promotes knowledge and awareness of the wider world. We currently learn about a variety of countries within our Curriculum; South America, China, France, Spain etc. Please help us create new learning opportunities by completing this [Google form](#).

Jólabókaflóð FOR YEAR 3 At Gomer, we are passionate about reading, and this December, we are thrilled to bring the magic of our annual *Jólabókaflóð* to our school. *Jólabókaflóð* (translated as "The Christmas Book Flood") is a much-loved Icelandic tradition where books take centre stage during the festive season. It's a time for sharing stories, relaxing, and enjoying cosy moments with a good book. Year 3 children will celebrate this special tradition on Monday 15 December. On the day, children are invited to come to school wearing their onesies or pyjamas and bring their slippers for extra comfort. In the afternoon, they will take part in this wonderful Icelandic custom by immersing themselves in captivating stories while enjoying a warming cup of hot chocolate (or squash or water if they prefer). It's a perfect way to embrace the joy of reading, encourage a love of books, and create memorable, festive moments together. We can't wait to share this magical experience with our Year 3s.

LIBRARY It would be lovely if you could send in a photo of your child enjoying their current library book, especially if they have made something from one of them e.g. baking a cake from a recipe book, doing a magic trick or just curled up reading in their favourite place etc. We are looking to update our book reviews corner, so we can add them here. Please email our librarian mkidd@kgagomer.uk. We look forward to receiving and displaying them.

ONLINE SAFETY remains a high priority, so you are encouraged to access our monthly online safety newsletters. Some safeguarding info for you re Roblox... We have been made aware of a pop-up that is appearing on Roblox, encouraging children to download an app called pollybuzz (or pollyfuzz in some spelling cases). The app seems quite simple where children are asked questions, and it generates an Artificial Intelligence 'friend'. This starts quite innocently but then begins to show extreme content (including suicide, self-harm and pornography). It may be helpful to remind children about not clicking on pop-ups in games and to report anything that is worrying or inappropriate to a trusted adult. Roblox has parental controls and instructions of how to put these on can be accessed via this link: [Parental Controls Overview – Roblox Support](#).

PE DAY CHANGES - FROM JANUARY 2026 Please see below the PE days for all year groups:

- Year 3 - Wednesdays & Thursdays
- Year 4 - Mondays & Thursdays (no change)
- Year 5 - Mondays & Fridays
- Year 6 - Wednesdays & Thursdays (no change)

So you are aware, following our fencing session last week, Premier Sports will be supporting our PE curriculum once a week, from January in Year 3 and Year 5 for half a term.

SPORT ENGLAND would like to learn more about the sports and physical activities our children take part in, both inside and outside of school, and have invited us to take part in a survey. The information collected will help to:

- provide a report for our school so we can better understand what our pupils are doing and how we can support them

- inform Sport England's investment in opportunities that help children and young people take part in, and benefit from, sport and physical activity

Further information about the survey will be shared via email.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN USING CUTLERY We have noticed recently that a number of children are finding it difficult to use a knife and fork confidently and correctly. This has become such a common issue that Mrs Mulhall delivered a special assembly a couple of weeks ago to teach and demonstrate the basics of holding and using cutlery. During the assembly, children were shown:

- that the knife is usually held in their writing hand,
- how to hold both pieces of cutlery properly (rather than gripping them with a closed fist), and
- the technique of using the fork in the non-writing hand to steady or 'stab' the food while using the knife to gently 'saw, saw, saw'.

Using cutlery is a fundamental life skill and one that needs regular practice. While we will continue to remind and support children during lunchtime, we are not able to correct every individual habit and some children are beginning to develop poor eating routines as a result. We would really appreciate your help in guiding your child at home by encouraging them to use their knife and fork correctly at mealtimes. And now that they are aged 7-11 avoid using their fingers to eat their hot lunch. Even small amounts of daily practice can make a big difference to their independence, confidence, and table manners. Thank you for your support in helping all our children develop this important everyday skill.

WATER BOTTLES To ensure children stay hydrated and ready to learn, we encourage all pupils to bring a water bottle to school each day. For safety and practicality, we kindly ask that bottles are plastic (not hard screw-top metal) and ideally have a sports-style top to minimise spillages. It's important that water bottles are clearly named and brought home daily for washing to maintain hygiene. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide spare water bottles, so it's essential that every child has one organised from home. We've noticed an increasing number of children requesting bottles during the day, and we need your support in ensuring they come prepared. Thank you for helping us keep the school day running smoothly!

WELLIES are very useful to have at school because without these, the children can not go on the school field in wetter and/or colder months. Please send your child to school with a named pair of wellies or a stout shoe so that they can play on the field on soggy field days. Children are welcome to take them home for the weekend. Not got a pair? This might make for a good Christmas gift idea! Any spares you may have at home are always welcome if no longer needed, these can be added to the boot racks outside classes.

WISHING you all a very happy and safe Christmas holiday. As we come to the end of a busy and brilliant term, we want to thank our children, parents and staff for their continued hard work and commitment. It has been a term full of achievement, and we are incredibly proud of everything the children have accomplished. We hope the break brings time to rest, recharge and enjoy special moments with family and friends. Wishing you a joyful festive season, a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for another fantastic term on **Monday 5 January 2026**.