

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Royal British Legion**

Please see below for further information, dates and times for this year's Ossett Remembers 2021. Gawthorpe Community Academy have contributed to the poppy display on the precinct.

### **Children in Need**

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November, we will celebrate Children in Need day. Together we change young lives. Feel good Friday – children can come to school in what makes them feel good. Any voluntary contributions towards the collection for the charity are welcomed.

### **Building work**

Building work has now moved round to the front of the school and then will proceed down the other side of the building. Work will stop between the times of 8.25-9.00 to enable those children to enter school quickly. Depending on how the works move forward in the forthcoming weeks, school entrances may be altered, but staff will be in the appropriate areas to direct children to their classrooms.

### **School Photographs**

The date has been rescheduled to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Photos will only be taken if your child/children attend school or nursery. Children will have an individual photo taken along with a photo with their sibling.

The children who have PE on this day, please send to school in their school uniform with their PE kit in a plastic bag to change into.

### **Message from governors**

We hope you all enjoyed the half term break and that you had fun celebrating Halloween and Bonfire Night. The children have settled back into the school routine now and are engaged with their learning.

In the week before half term, I was able to go with Year 2 on their walk into Ossett town centre. The children were noting street names for later map work, locating local landmarks and amenities and asking members of the public about their views of Ossett. It was good to see the School Values in action. The children showed Respect in their polite interaction with the people they met in town; Responsibility in their excellent behaviour; and Resilience in the long walk there and back!

The governors have a development morning planned later this month and as part of our monitoring and training we will be talking to the children about the School Values and hopefully seeing them being embedded within the school community. Year 2 clearly showed that they are putting the Values into action in their class.

### **Pen Portrait**

Robert Oldroyd - Hello my name is Robert Oldroyd and I have lived in and around Gawthorpe all my life. I lived next door to the Salvation Army until I was 18 years old and Gawthorpe Infant and Junior School where I was educated, was visible from my bedroom window. I attended Gawthorpe School from 1970 to 1977 which was the Golden Jubilee year for the Junior and Infant School. From there, I went to newly built North Ossett High

School, I was one of the first-year groups to attend. I left High school at 16 and began working for the Family business, S.W. Oldroyd and Son's Ltd a road haulage company and became a company director at the age of 25. As well as working full time I also continued my education at Wakefield College where I completed a 3 year course in B-Tec in Motor Engineering and then a further 2 years to gain a HND in Motor Engineering. At 31 I took a big career change and left the company and joined the Prison Service where I still remain. I used to be in the church choir at St. Mary's Church, Gawthorpe and Chickenley Heath, this is where I met my wife who was also in the choir. I have also been involved with local amateur operatic and dramatic societies. I was a member of the Centre Players for 10 years and The Ossett Elizabethans amateur operatic society for 25 years. Both groups performed at Ossett Town Hall but sadly, both groups no longer meet. My main interest in the Village is that of the Gawthorpe Maypole. I have helped sow the sacks for the coal race by hand from the age of 10, In 1983 I was just 17 when I was asked if I could help Marshal the Maypole procession as they were short of volunteers and I have Marshalled every procession since. I became a member of the Maypole committee in 1984 and took over the role of Chief Marshall in the mid 1990's, so if you think you recognise me, yes I am the one at the front of the procession encouraging the May Queen and her attendants along with the Maypole Plaiters, to smile and wave. I love being part of the community and took it as a real honour when I was asked if I would consider becoming a Governor of the Village School where I attended as a child and where my Grandmother was a Governor many years ago

### **P.E. Days**

The only amendments for P.E., Year 6 will have PE days on a Monday and continue with swimming on a Friday. Year 4 P.E. days will be Monday and Fridays.

### **READING BOOKS**

Please can we ask that **ALL** children bring to school their reading books and their reading record books **every day**.

### **School Activities**

Autumn 2 school activities places have now been allocated and emails have been sent to parents.

### **Nursery**

Will your child be 4 by 31 August 2022?

Please see attached poster to register your child for school.

### **Governor**

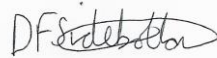
If you are interested in becoming a governor at Gawthorpe Community Academy, please see the attached letter and application form. If you are interested in applying for the role, please complete the candidate form attached to the letter and return to us at [GCA-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk](mailto:GCA-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk), by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

### Picture News

Please find attached this week's Picture News poster. Picture News is a resource used in school to promote discussion around current issues. Each week there is a homework activity with an image and a question. We would encourage you to talk about this at home with the children. There are no right or wrong answers, it is a forum for discussion.



Mrs C Harris  
Head of School



Miss D. Sidebottom  
Assistant Headteacher

<u>Upcoming Diary Dates</u>		
Date	Event	Year Group
w/c 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Antibullying Week	Whole school
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Children In Need	Whole school and Nursery
w/c 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Road Safety Week	Whole School
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>School Photographs</b>	<b>Whole school and Nursery (DATE AMENDED)</b>
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Nursery Home Visits	Nursery ONLY opened for children who attend 30 hrs
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Break up for Christmas	Whole School
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Bank Holiday	Whole School
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Return to school for the Spring Term	Whole School

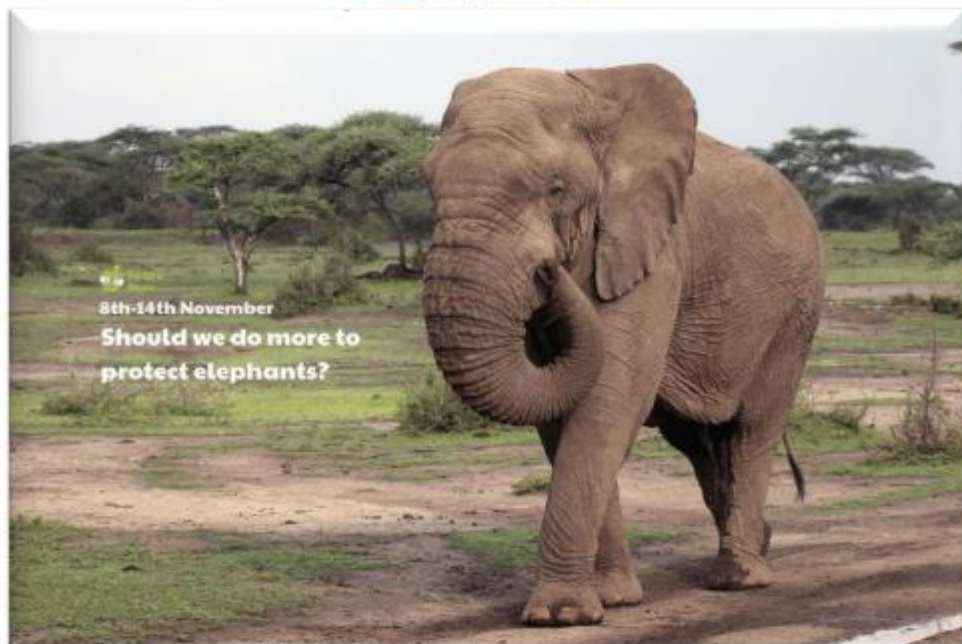


# Picture News

at Home

8<sup>th</sup> November 2021




What's going on this week?



A new study published in Science magazine found that in Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique, a rare genetic condition, that causes tuskless elephants, has become more common. Ivory poaching has pushed the species to the brink of extinction but the few tuskless elephants left could now increase in numbers.

In 1969, Gorongosa National Park was home to over 2200 elephants, but now there are just over 700 in the Park.

*Things to talk about at home...*

-  Share what you already know about elephants.
-  What is your favourite animal? Elephants are a favourite for many people, why do you think they are so popular?
-  Do you think it is the responsibility of people to protect elephants? Do you think enough is being done?

*Please note any interesting thoughts or comments here...*



*Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others on our discussion board: [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)*





## OSSETT REMEMBERS 2021

**AN ACT OF REMEMBRANCE  
WILL BE CARRIED OUT AT THE  
PRECINCT MEMORIAL ON**

<b><u>THURSDAY</u></b>	<b><u>11/11</u></b>	<b><u>11:00 am</u></b>
<b><u>SUNDAY</u></b>	<b><u>14/11</u></b>	<b><u>11:00 am</u></b>
<b><u>SUNDAY</u></b>	<b><u>14/11</u></b>	<b><u>3:30 pm*</u></b> <b>(approx.)</b>

**\* At which organisation wreaths are  
laid following the Remembrance  
service in Trinity Church at  
2:30pm  
as per the usual tradition.**



**by 31 August 2022?**



If the answer is **YES** and you're a Wakefield resident you must apply for a full-time school place **NOW**, as your child will not automatically be given a place.



**APPLY ONLINE, APPLY ON TIME**

Complete your online application form at  
[www.wakefield.gov.uk/admit](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/admit)

**and submit it by the closing date of 15 January 2022**

This service is easy to use and you can log on to get your offer of a place on **19 April 2022**.



Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you of an opportunity to join our governing board as a parent governor.

### **The role of the governing board**

The school's governing board is responsible for providing confident and strategic leadership, and creating robust accountability, oversight and assurance for the school's educational and financial performance. The board is passionate about education and committed to continuous school improvement to ensure the best possible outcomes for our pupils.

### **The role of a parent governor**

As a parent governor, you'll work with the board to ensure it effectively carries out the duties referred to above. You'll also play a vital role in ensuring that the board is connected with, and is aware of the views of, parents and the local community.

To be a parent governor you should have:

- A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children
- Good inter-personal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to learn and develop new skills
- The specific skills required to ensure the governing board delivers effective governance

The governing board is keen for candidates to have skills in the following:

- Pupil Premium Provision in school
- Commitment of time to fulfil statutory duties, including visiting school during school hours
- Confidence to challenge and understand Senior Leaders decisions in the daily running of school.

### **Expectations of governors**

Our expectations of governors are:

- Attendance at meetings as often as possible
- Maintaining confidentiality
- Committing to training
- Visiting the school

### How to apply

If you're interested in applying for the role, please complete the candidate form attached to the letter and return to us at [GCA-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk](mailto:GCA-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk), by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November. If we receive more applications than there are vacancies, a secret ballot will be carried out. We will inform you closer to the time if we have to do this.

If you have any queries about this process or would like to find out more about the role, please contact Mrs Harris or Mrs North our Chair of Governors on [GCA-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk](mailto:GCA-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk).

Yours sincerely



Mrs C Harris  
Head of School  
**Gawthorpe Community Academy**





<b>Candidate name:</b>	
<b>Candidate address:</b>	
<b>Candidate statement:</b>	<p>In this section, outline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ The skills and experience you have that the governing board requires</li><li>➤ Your commitment to undertaking training to acquire or develop the skills needed to be an effective governor</li><li>➤ If applicable, details of your contribution to the work of the governing board during your previous term of office</li></ul> <p>How you plan to contribute to the future work of the board</p>

## Parents' Parking Promise



Parents/Carers

**\*Please note** that if you do not drive you can still support the initiative by completing the slip below and ticking the box; then return to school by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Congestion on the roads around school in the morning and afternoon poses a risk to children and their families, as they travel to and from school.

It is a parent's responsibility to see their children safely to and from school but, in doing so, they should not create dangers to others. This can be reduced by more children walking to school.

However, we recognise that there are circumstances when travelling to school via car is the only option. If this is the case, then we would ask you to please park with care and consideration.

**By signing the parking promise, I am agreeing that I:**

**Will NOT** park or stop on the 'SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR' markings during the hours stated  
**Will NOT** park on double yellow lines with the exception of a displayed valid Blue Badge  
**Will NOT** park on single yellow lines during the hours stated with the exception of a displayed valid Blue Badge  
**Will NOT** block the school entrances  
**AND**  
**Will** make sure children get out of the car safely on the same side as the pavement  
**Will** park some distance away from the school, walking a short journey, even in bad weather conditions

Upon signing this Contract, I accept my responsibilities as a caring driver and I will also make sure that I park my car in a responsible manner in the area surrounding school.

Please join us in supporting this initiative, by signing below and returning it to school as soon as possible.

## Parents' Parking Promise - THANK YOU FOR YOUR VALUED SUPPORT

I commit to safe parking at ~~Gawthorpe~~ Gawthorpe Community Academy School.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer Name \_\_\_\_\_ (PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS)

I do not drive my children to school, however I still support your School Gate Parking initiative

[www.wakefield.gov.uk](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk)



**wakefieldcouncil**  
working for you