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## Message from Mr. O' Connor

Dear Parents, Students and Teachers,

The final days of the term are fast approaching and if you were to ask any teacher (not only here in Green Valley, but globally!) how they feel....they would all agree that a well-earned break is necessary!

The reasons are simple... the Christmas term finishes with a culmination of organised activities from report writing, parent-teacher meetings in Primary, the Christmas Market, Cultural Visits to London, etc.

However, certainly in this brief message I would love to highlight the Rotary Inter Schools Debate Competition 2023 Final that was held yesterday in Palma Pictures, The Green Valley Debating Team guided by Ms. Fitz and supported by Mr. Bennett, Ms. Rosh and in many ways all the Team, celebrated having achieved second position in this

competition encompassing many schools in Mallorca.

Ms. Fitz has attached a full article below and our simple message would be to sincerely congratulate her and the debating team itself. T.E.A.M (Together Everyone Achieve More).

Another activity that I would love to highlight is the GVS Christmas Fun Run organised by Mr. Lubinski this week. At the moment 2000€ has been raised by the students engaging in this great effort. This will then be added to the amounts raised from the Christmas Market and they will be donated to the selected charities.

On an academic side, over these last weeks we have welcomed Ms. Dina Rechani to our Secondary Team. She is an experienced international educator who specialised in Careers Counselling and is also our Exams Officer. The students are already benefiting from her expertise and she will fulfill an important function with the preparation of the students for the different universities here in GVS.

Finally, at this time of year, on behalf of the whole community here in Green Valley, we wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and look forward to seeing you all at the start of the next term.

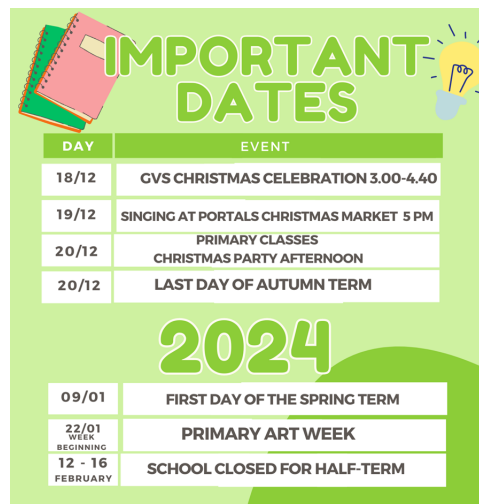
My best wishes as always,

Mr. James O' Connor

Headmaster and Co-Founder of GVS

## Primary Section

### Dates for your Diary



DAY	EVENT
18/12	GVS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION 3.00-4.40
19/12	SINGING AT PORTALS CHRISTMAS MARKET 5 PM
20/12	PRIMARY CLASSES CHRISTMAS PARTY AFTERNOON
20/12	LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM
<b>2024</b>	
09/01	FIRST DAY OF THE SPRING TERM
22/01 WEEK BEGINNING	PRIMARY ART WEEK
12 - 16 FEBRUARY	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR HALF-TERM

### Message from Ms. Jan Harvey

Dear Families,

I hope you all keeping well and that you enjoyed last week's mini break. We are now in our last few days of term, however we are still very busy as you can see.

We began the week with our Charity Fun-Run and what a great success this was, with most of the

primary children opting to participate. As these ran around the track, making their way through the obstacles, which Mr. Lubinski had introduced to make it just that little bit trickier, the children not participating, cheered them on.

We have not yet received all the sponsor money, but so far, we have amassed a staggering 1015€. This is brilliant, as it is going to really help families in need to have a better Christmas. Thank you so much.

This week we held our termly parent-teacher meetings and it was lovely to see so many parents attending, and most importantly, going away happily after talking with the teachers and seeing all the wonderful work in their children's books.

Next week, we are looking forward to welcoming you to our Charity Christmas Fair on Monday 18th at 15:00 (Primary children are to be collected at 14:50 from their usual gate).

Our GVS Parent Representatives Group, have been busy organising their year groups, so I know there is going to be some delicious food on sale during the afternoon! In addition, we also have lots of activities for the children to enjoy as well as a visit from Santa. Not forgetting the choral performances from our primary children.

Just a gentle reminder that Monday is Christmas Jumper and Jeans Day. If your child does not have a Christmas jumper, then a red or green jumper will be fine too.

(If you are contributing to our food stall, you may drop these off at reception on Monday morning if you wish).

On Tuesday 19th, during the day, we are having a 'House Day' where the children will spend their day with others in the same house, participating in a range of fun activities. Normal school uniform to be worn for this please.

Then afterschool, at 17:00, Years 4, 5 and 6 will meet at Portals Christmas Market, ready to perform our festive songs in public. This promises to be a beautiful event and we hope to see many of you there.

All participating will need to wear their proper green uniform (this can include hoodies or the woollen cardigans, but not the zipped sweatshirt please) and arrive at 17:00 to meet Mr. Fisher to get ready to perform at 17:30. We anticipate the performance will last about 20 minutes.

Then on our final day, Wednesday 20th, we will be having our Christmas Party Day, so children may come in their own party clothes for this. During the day, they will be having fun activities and will be allowed to watch a movie whilst enjoying their party food.

Finally, I would like to thank you for supporting our GVS Christmas Charity Drive and providing such a large amount of food and toiletries, which will help make Christmas easier for so many families, and for the wonderful gifts, which are going to help keep the magic of Christmas alive for lots of children throughout Mallorca.

This is truly what Christmas is about. Thank you!

If you wish to find out more about Yachting Gives Back, please follow this link:

[Yachting Gives Back - a registered charity in Palma de Mallorca](#)

Kind regards,

Ms. Jan Harvey

Head of Primary

## Secondary Section

### Message from Mr. Drew Sparkman

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the conclusion of Term 1, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering support and collaboration. The success of our students is a testament to the strong partnership between our school and your families.

Your involvement, whether through continued communication, participating in our school events, or simply providing encouragement and support at home, has made a significant impact. It is this spirit of cooperation and mutual respect that makes our school community so special.

As we head into the holiday season, I wish you and your families a time of joy, rest, and rejuvenation. The holidays are a wonderful opportunity for our students to recharge and for families to spend precious time together.

We look forward to welcoming our students back in the new year, ready for the exciting challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in Term 2. Until then, please accept my best wishes for a happy and peaceful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Mr. Drew Sparkman

Deputy Head of Secondary

### Another Success for the Green Valley Debate Team!!

On Thursday 14th December our debate team consisting of Klara Kuntze, Giulia Michieli and Ilan Kuhne attended the finals of the Rotary inter-school debate competition held at Palma Pictures.

This year ten international schools from Mallorca have participated, and after the preliminary debates four schools were selected to the finals, Green Valley at the top of the ranking.

The debate motion for Green Valley was extremely challenging, specialised and complex: "Central Banking Digital Currency will have a negative impact on the global economy".

Preparing for the debate involved hours and hours of research, formulating the arguments, finding



relevant evidence, writing the speeches both for and against the motion, preparing to answer possible questions from the opposing team, and finally rehearsing the presentation.

The debate itself, in front of an audience of 150 people, was very interesting, professional and informative. After lengthy considerations, the judges awarded second place to the Green Valley team.

We are extremely proud of our team. They displayed the very values Green Valley is proud of: resilience, commitment, positive attitude to challenges, team spirit, fair play, sense of humour, respect and charisma.

An engraved trophy will be presented to the school after Christmas.

Congratulations Klara, Giulia and Ilan!

Ms. Eva Fitz

English Teacher





**What a Fantastic Time our Extra-curricular Students have had This Term!**

Thank you to all students and families who have taken part in our varied programme of activities.

Our tutors have been impressed by the effort, commitment and good manners demonstrated by your children.

Next term we are offering football (primary and secondary), tennis, drama, basketball, karate, chess, jewellery-making, art, sewing, robotics, English tutoring (secondary), maths tutoring (secondary), film-making (upper primary and secondary), German, Capoeira (martial arts).

Please note extra-curricular activities finish this week. There will be no classes next week. Classes re-start week commencing 15th January 2024.

More info to follow regarding registration for our 2024 programme.

Best regards,

Ms. Trelawney Bresic





### **GVS Christmas Fun Run**

Dear Parents and Caretakers,

We extend our sincere gratitude to all participating students and sponsors for making the Fun Run on Monday, December 11th, an extraordinary event. The students demonstrated remarkable commitment by running an impressive number of laps.

This year, through your collective efforts, a substantial amount of over 2000€ was raised. The entirety of this sum will be allocated to the charity 'Yachting Gives Back,' which is dedicated to addressing issues of poverty and hunger in Mallorca through its charitable initiatives in yachting.

Your generosity has made a significant impact, and we are pleased to contribute to such a noble cause. We anticipate continued success in the future and look forward to the prospect of surpassing our achievements in the coming years.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

Sincerely,

Mr. Lubinski

Physical Education Teacher





## Links to GVS Social Media



**Follow us to be updated on our latest news and have fun with what is happening at our school. Click on the icon below to join.**



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