



MINI NEWS

Message from our guests this Week – Janine and Jo

Hello Everyone. I am Jo McGee and my son Josh is in Year 8. I am also Mrs McGee and I teach in Badgers class.

I don't know about you, but I felt much calmer going into isolation than coming out of it. Going in, I knew that it would be a challenge (being home alone, just me, three children and the dog) but I knew that we were doing it to keep us all safe. Coming out, there is an element of fear in these strange new times. But, I know that for our children, school is also their safe place. Each child is nurtured and cherished as a unique individual. As lockdown eases, the Gosden family is gradually regrouping and we can be together again. I know that I am not alone when I say how much Josh and I have both missed school life.

- I have so many positives that I have taken from this situation, here are a few...
- Josh is now the master of hand washing
- I have been on many (many!) dog walks
- There was no flour to be had in the shops so I bought 16kgs from Amazon. We are getting through it way too fast as my children become expert bakers
- I have got to know the whole families of some of my children so much better
- I have enjoyed spending lots of time with my own children
- I have learnt how to make slime (albeit reluctantly)
- I have grown cucumbers
- I have learnt how to make a facemask
- I want to say that my house and garden are perfect now but that would be a lie!!

I know that I am not alone when I say how much Josh and I have both missed school life and so, despite all these positives, we are both really looking forward to getting back to Gosden life again.



See you soon.

Jo and Josh

Hi, I'm Janine and my daughter is Lucie in Simmonds Class. Lucie has a very rare chromosome abnormality. I also have a son (James) who is 18 and autistic. If you had told me at Christmas that they would both be at home all day, every day for 6 months in 2020, I might have had a little cry!

One is disorganised, messy and loud and the other is very organised, tidy and likes quiet. For those of you who know Lucie, you will know which one she is! The first week of lockdown was so surreal: there was the fear we might already have caught the virus and the fear of ever leaving the house again in case we got it. Lucie was oblivious, she couldn't care less as long as we were all at home together she was happy. She has only mentioned the virus once and that was to say that she might go and find a water pistol, go outside and spray anyone who has the virus, then it will be gone and we can go for a barbecue at her auntie's house – if only!

James was absolutely terrified for the first few weeks and he hasn't left the house for 13 weeks now, although he is happy and feels safe indoors (he does regular exercise and spends a lot of time in the garden). After the first couple of weeks, we settled into our new life and I have to say we are absolutely loving it. Lucie is so much calmer, less tired than usual and has started to do things like make her bed (ok it looks worse than when she got out of it but she's trying, ha ha), laying the table every day. And she gets herself dressed, which she rarely ever attempted (although home clothes are easier than school clothes and there's not such a rush to get ready).

We are absolutely loving Teams with our little class every day. The parents, children and teachers in Simmonds are absolutely amazing and we can't wait to find out what our little task for the day will be. Whilst my friends with children in mainstream are struggling to teach algebra, Shakespeare and trying to keep their children off Fortnite. I am helping Lucie make a collage of the life cycle of a chicken, making a crocodile out of a cucumber and making a boat that will float in the paddling pool – I love it. As Rowena said in her previous message, life has slowed down and is so much more enjoyable in lots of ways.

Lucie used to want to chop vegetables if I was making dinner and my heart used to sink as it takes her so long and I was always in a hurry but now she can chop away for an hour and it doesn't matter, none of us are in a rush for anything anymore. Not having to get up at 6.30am is also a big bonus and one we are going to find tough in September when we go back to some sort of normal!

Stay safe everyone – Janine and Lucie





CLASS MINI NEWS

PLEASE NOTE, THERE WILL BE DIFFERENT CLASSES EACH WEEK


BADGER CLASS




Pia and Finley thought about what they might see through the window of a ship and used their ideas to create a picture and a fantastic poem.

Through the porthole
By Pia and Finley


I can see
A treasure box
Full of golden monkeys and golden bananas




Through the porthole
I can see
Red fish
Swimming round all together




Through the porthole
I can see
A black starfish
Staying on the rocks



Through the porthole
I can see
Ginormous sharks
Coming to get you



Through the porthole
I can see
Chinese seaweed



SECONDARY IN SCHOOL NEWS:

SECONDARY 1 made salt-dough ornaments, then baked and painted them.



Sofia moulded the letters of her name beautifully and made a sleepy unicorn. Esther made 'Zones of Regulation' stars which she intends to use in class - great idea Esther! Olly sculpted his initials and painted them with great care; he also made an aeroplane. Harry made his initials, a star and an initial for his sister. They all worked hard and focused well.



AFTER all that intense concentration - gardening is the perfect antidote 😊



SECONDARY IN SCHOOL NEWS

In Secondary last week we were blessed with some gorgeous weather! And we made the most of it in style. We had a slip and slide which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, and to top it off we enjoyed an ice lolly that we had made ourselves. Almost all the lollies were delicious, although Cieran and Dan made a Spaghetti Bolognese flavoured ice lolly... which I don't think they enjoyed.



At the beginning of the week we made some cupcakes for our families and friends and decorated them.



SECONDARY IN SCHOOL NEWS

Secondary 2 school provision have been making pizzas and chocolate chip muffins. They have had a film afternoon watching Onward with popcorn.

Adam has been making and playing his own computer game.

We continue to do our education city and exercise each day as well.

Katy, Robin, Sue & Germana



PARKS News:

Parks class have had another successful week on Microsoft Teams. We have been thinking hard about how to stay safe in the sun and sharing our advice and ideas, our top tips are:

- **To wear sunscreen**
- **Drink LOTS of water**
- **Stay in the shade**
- **Wear a hat**

We have also been very impressed with Brandon's skills as a woodchopper in his garden and his incredible colouring by numbers. He also taught us all about the life cycle of a butterfly. He received caterpillars in the post, which then turned into a cocoon and are now a beautiful orange butterfly that he showed us in our meeting.

We have also enjoyed learning about Minecraft from Harry, about Imaan's sister's birthday party and are very proud of Archie who has shared how he is helping an elderly neighbour with her shopping and we all thought that was great citizenship.

We also discovered the "whiteboard" app on Teams and have enjoyed playing different guessing games of what our friends are drawing.

Hayley

Simmonds News

Simmonds have been busy completing their daily challenge, a few weeks ago they carried out a virtual visit to London Zoo. It's well worth a visit: <https://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/virtual-london-zoo> During the heat of last week they were completing tasks related to the seaside and keeping cool.

Well done guys. Keep well, safe and alert x



Hawkings News

FLOWER BEETLES

WHAT DO FLOWER BEETLES EAT?

Adult beetles feed on a mixture of ripe or rotting fruit provided that it is not left for too long, otherwise it will start to attract pests, you can use a wide range of fruit including, banana, apples, kiwi, mango, papaya, melon, grapes, orange, figs, peaches and plums.

How do we know if a flower beetle is a male or female?

Thick legged flower beetles are metallic green with thin bodies of 6 to 11 mm long. The head may have a coppery or blue tinge and wing cases (elytra) are pointed and gape apart showing the abdomen underneath. Males have thick thighs (femora) and females do not.

What is the colour of the flower beetles?

The colour of the flower beetles is green, black and iridescent is when the light go on the beetles it change the colour and when move it too.

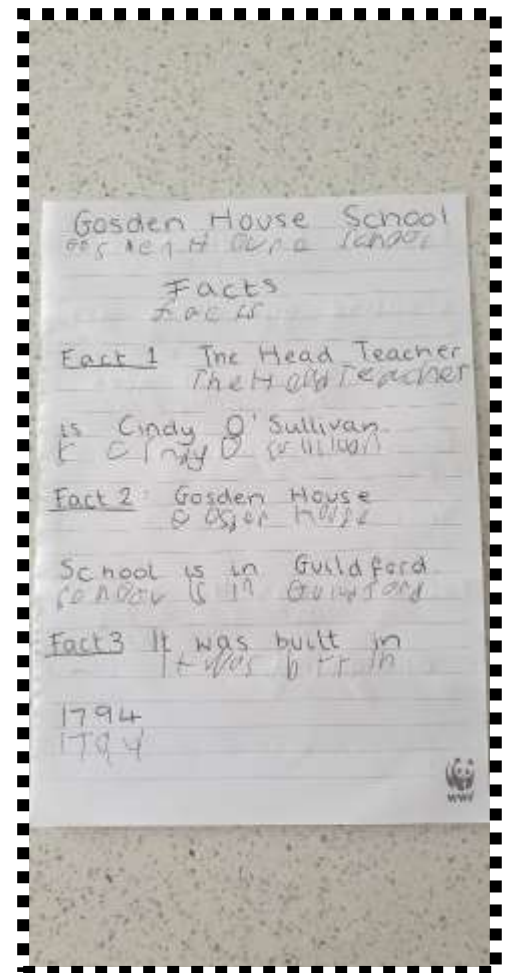
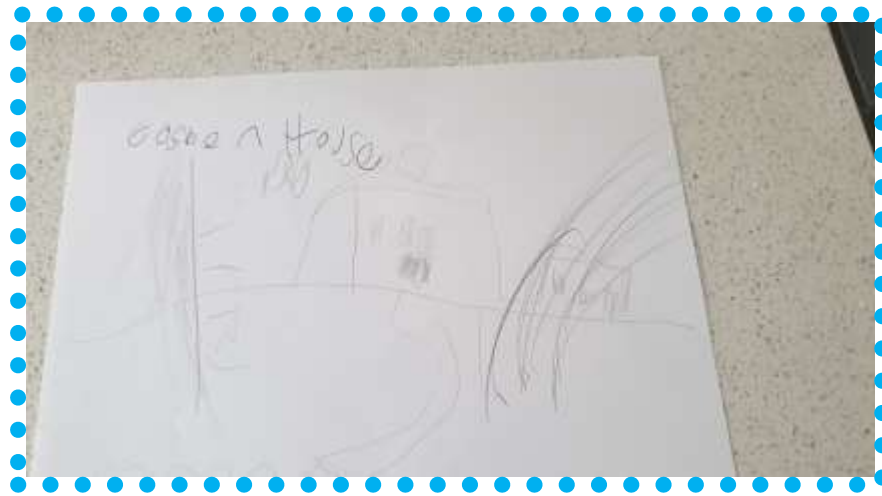
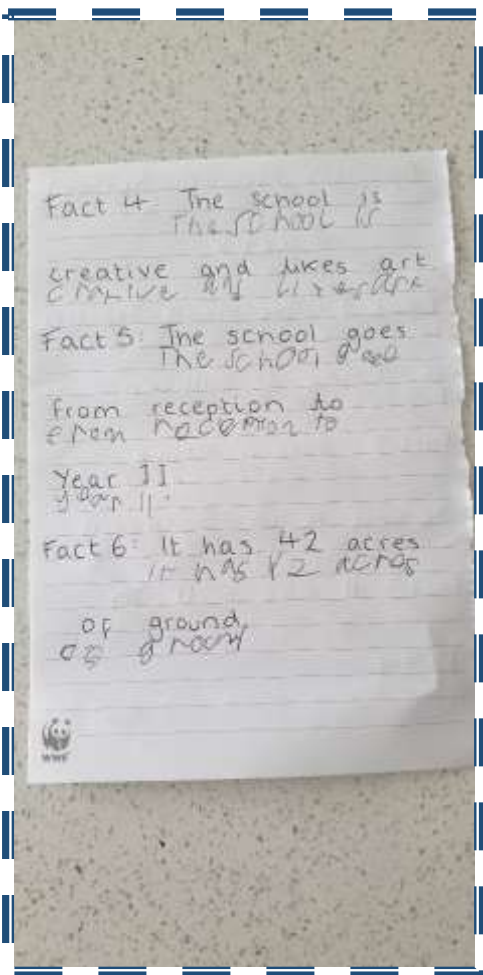


Kayleigh's colouring



Brooke's Beetle drawing

Some Great Gosden Facts Hawkings Base from Jack G



What Jack Found Out about Gosden

- Gosden House, as it is today, was built in 1794, on the site of a medieval farmhouse and is a grade 2 listed building.
- Lord Wandsworth bought Gosden house to provide education for orphans.
- During the war, a house on Gosden Common was destroyed by a bomb and there was talk of evacuating the children to Scotland, but air raid shelters were built instead.
- In 1947 Gosden House became a Special Residential School with only 2 teachers and 16 students.
- The orchard next to Rosie the pig has a 23 apple trees.
- Our animal care teacher is an ex Gosden student.

A note from Miss O'Sullivan:

This year we celebrate Gosden's centenary. That means that Gosden House has been a school for 100 years! If any parents, carers or members of the community want to help us celebrate, please contact Anna Chapman.

Preparing your child for the first day back in school

As it has been a while since your child has been at Gosden House, parents and children may be feeling excited, but also anxious. Here are a few thoughts about how to prepare....

Be Calm

Your child will take the lead from you and feel reassured if you can remain steady and matter of fact..



Be Curious

These are strange times and their imagination may run away with them. Observe behaviour and be curious about what that behaviour might mean. Don't dismiss any fears. Listen and validate how they are feeling. "I wonder".... "I imagine"....."I notice".....Starting a conversation with these words can help the child express what they are feeling and know you want to understand.

Be Positive

Remind them of the ways they have learned to keep themselves safe: washing hands regularly; sneezing and coughing into their elbow; not hugging people outside of home and staying in their own space



Be prepared

School will look and feel quite different to normal. It may even smell and sound different to some sensory sensitive children. Routines will be a little different and they will have to adapt to new ways of greeting friends and teachers. Support your child so they know that it will not quite be as usual, but that everyone at school will be helping them adapt and feel safe.

Be Supportive

After so long at home, children may worry about separation from familiar people and places. Some may become upset or act out because of this. Let them know that you will miss them to but look forward to hearing about their day. Let them know that they will be held in your mind and tuck a little note or drawing from you into their pencil case or lunchbox if they have one. A biro message on a banana can be a fun surprise!
(Please avoid sending in toys from home as we have to be mindful of infection control)

Be Thankful

Help your child think of the things they are looking forward to: seeing friends in real life; seeing teachers and other staff and doing some exciting and enjoyable activities.



Thanks to: www.traumainformedschools.co.uk

SUPPORT

Remember to check our website for all support and help during this time:

<https://gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk/>

Keeping Children Safe Online Helpful Government Information Link

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

If you need to make contact with us during school hours, we have set up a special email address which will link to certain members of the Senior Leadership Team and our Home/School Link Worker, Annie Welch who will try to answer queries or signpost to help.

parenthelp@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

Pastoral Mobile: 07864 721931 –

Please add to your contacts Additional Support Health:

The School Nursing Service are aiming to continue to support us with advice if necessary, so contact us in the ways above (during school hours) and we'll aim to help.

To support your child with their mental health and wellbeing there is some good guidance on the Young Minds website here Adults may find support here Social Care: For any child or family worries for which you may need additional support or advice you can request it by contacting the

Surrey Children's Single Point of Access Team on 0300 470 9100 and press 1 and then option required.

For support and advice around online safety, mental health or safety in the home:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-and-domestic-abuse/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-victims-of-domestic-abuse>