



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

GOSDEN NEWS

21st October 2022

As the rain beats down outside, I reflect on the children who are engaged in learning outdoors during our Focus Week. It has been a classic Autumn week, with every type of sun and rain, but Gosden is so lovely at this time, and the children have been making full use of the grounds: collecting apples and baking all sorts of wholesome fare, outside escape room, stories under the trees, reading to animals and a load more garden and grounds related activities. Lucky them – what rich childhood educational experiences.

This morning there was a great buzz at the gate, with the PTA collecting a mountain of donations for the Christmas Fair. Nearly every child brought something along, and showed off their muffti. Thank you to all parents/ carers and the PTA who are supporting the school.

I am very aware that many of our families are really struggling at this time, so please do get in touch with Annie or Jane if you need support.

Have a great half term, see you on the 31st October. 😊

Cindy

Cindy O'Sullivan, Head Teacher

Don't forget to keep an eye on our website for updates and useful information:

[Home Page](#) [Class Pages](#)



NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

PARENTMAIL COMMUNICATIONS THIS WEEK

- Parent Consultation Evenings
- GHS PTA Fundraiser – Virtual Book Fair
- Peer Productions – Christmas Panto
- Online Meetings with Dr Amber Taylor
- Miriam Wichmann, White Lodge, Chertsey – Face2Face
- RDA payment letter
- PTA Mufti Day – Christmas hampers
- Swimming Contribution – Autumn Term
- Leavers Hoodie – payment letter
- Parent Consultation Questionnaire
- Fishbourne Roman Palace trip – Squirrels and Woodpeckers
- Outstanding photo permissions
- Free School Meal Vouchers – October Half-Term
- Ordering of School Lunches for w/c 31 October
- Woodpeckers – no swimming this week
- Reminder – Deadline for ordering Christmas Cards – PTA
- Asthma letter
- Clandon Park trip – Gordy

DATES FOR THE DIARY

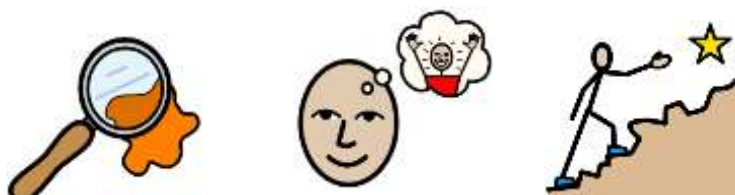
Monday 24th – Friday 28th October	Half Term Half Term Smarties Challenge
Monday 31st October	Children return to school
Tuesday 1st November	Gordy to Clandon Park
Wednesday 2nd November	Bugs for Books Virtual Book Fair
Friday 4th November	Mufit Day – Sweetie Jar donations
Wednesday 9th November	Parents Evening
w/c 14th November	Anti-bullying Week
Monday 14th November	Squirrels and Woodpeckers to Fishbourne Roman Palace
Wednesday 16th November	INSET Day – Staff only
Sunday 4th December	Christmas Fair, 2pm – 4pm
Thursday 8th December	Whole School Panto Trip
Wednesday 14th December	Primary Christmas Production
Thursday 15th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 16th December	Father Christmas visiting Last day of Autumn Term, 1.30pm

RABBITS

Wow – I am so impressed at how well Rabbits have settled in, and the amazing learning that I have seen so far! We have had such a fun-filled start to the year, and the children have enjoyed developing existing friendships and forming new ones.



This half term our topic focus has been Goldilocks and The Three Bears and this has provided heaps of opportunities for our learning. We have been busy 'Exploring' wet and dry mixtures, hard and soft tuff trays, engaging in our Goldilocks sensory story, and enjoying lots of small-world play. We have been 'Creative' in our new Outside Classroom, 'Challenging' ourselves to collect big, medium and small natural resources to then order by size. We have also used our 'Keep Trying' skills to sort through and order Daddy Bear, Mummy Bear and Baby Bear clothes.



Rabbits have demonstrated some lovely 'Learning Together' to construct a chair and bed fit for Goldilocks from blocks, lolly-pop sticks and junk resources. They have even created their very own Goldilocks forest music – well done Rabbits!

What a wonderful start to the academic year; the Rabbit Class Team are so excited to see the amazing learning continue!



SQUIRRELS

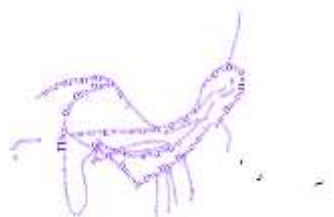
We have had a fantastic start to the new school year and have settled into life in Squirrel class wonderfully!



Our topic this term is the Romans and we have been learning all about the Roman Army. This week as part of outdoor learning week we experienced a Roman invasion of the school! We had to use our learning together, problem solving and noticing skills to build a camp for the soldiers, make Roman jewellery and undergo Roman Army training.



In Maths we have been exploring different ways to represent numbers, using objects, Numicon, tens frames and even tens and ones! We have also enjoyed learning about measuring, and we measured everyone in Squirrel Class.



In Literacy we have been reading "The Story Machine" a book about a boy who uses a typewriter to create pictures. We enjoyed investigating and exploring our own class typewriter to figure out what it was used for. We then wrote a letter to Elliot explaining this! We thought about what pictures we would make if we had our own story machines, and used the ipads to make our own pictures out of words.



We are really proud of the Squirrels and can't wait to see what they get up to next half term!

SPORTS ABILITY DAY

On Tuesday 12 students from KS4 attended the Sports Ability Day at Surrey Sports Park in Guildford. This is an annual event allowing SEN schools in the local area opportunities to experience sports that they may not have had the chance to experience before.

Walking Basketball was coached by one of the Surrey Scorchers basketball coaches. We learnt the shooting technique, how to dribble and control the ball on the move and finished with a game.

Toby: "It was a great day out!"



Smithy: "Fun"

Ultimate Frisbee

We found getting use to throwing the Frisbee hard, but by the end of the session we were making successful throws to each other and catching on the run to score lots of points

Climbing

Starting on the bouldering wall we had to hold onto the wall and follow instructions from our friends like, wiggle your left foot, without falling off. On the main climbing wall, we got to wear a harness and belay each other.

Lily-May: "It was cool"

Janet: "It was entertaining"

Jay: "It was a cool, awesome day."

The cost of the day is covered by Pennington's Law Company, who partner the event with Surrey Sports Park. A great time was had by all.



Tennis

This was our final session, practising our skills against a wall, seeing how many times we could hit it back and forth, then we rallied in pairs before playing a game of Students vs Adults.

YEAR 9

We can't believe that it is already the end to the first half term! Year 9 have settled into their new class and routine fantastically and continue to make us proud every day with all of the knowledge they have soaked up.



This half term in Science we have had a great time on our subject of 'Volcanoes', the Outdoor Learning focus week was a great opportunity to finish off this subject as we got outside on the playground and recreated the famous 'Ring of Fire'. It was exhilarating! As our volcanoes erupted we were hooting and hollering in celebration!



After working so hard on their Maths and English this half term and making great strides in their learning, we took the opportunity of Outdoor Learning to have some creative fun. After brainstorming some ideas of things we could build, using only what we have outside, we ventured to the outdoor classroom to explore and build our creations using our learning together muscles!



We are all looking forward to a new half term of learning after a good rest new week, what will the rest of this year bring?

This week in Year 11 we have been busy taking lessons to the outdoors, for our focus week.



For our community action lesson, we wanted to continue with our outdoor learning, so we decided to plan an outdoor lesson for Owls class. Our sports leaders planned a mini assault course for the little ones to take part in, and our artists created an arts and crafts session, which included painting and playground chalks. A fun filled afternoon had by all. Year 11 really enjoyed taking the lead and using their 'getting ready' learning muscle to plan the afternoon.

In our reading session, we went to the outdoor classroom, where we enjoyed the fresh air while, either reading individually or in small groups. We enjoyed it so much we have decided to make it a weekly event on a Thursday.

Escape room' Scavenger Hunt

In English we did a scavenger hunt. Clues, literacy related, were hidden around the school grounds. The answer to each clue was a number. Once we had all 10 numbers we headed back to the classroom to see if we had the correct combination to crack the code.



Social Enterprise Project – Forge Cafe

After half term, some students will be visiting the Forge Café in Shamley Green, to learn some new skills such as: training on the tills; operating the coffee machines and practicing their customer service techniques. In addition to this, the students will be making cookies, which will be sold to customers throughout the week.

If you happen to be visiting the cafe, grab yourself a cookie! The profits made will go towards an enterprise project, which will benefit the school. The students have full reign as to what they want to spend the money on and have been coming up with some great ideas. It is an exciting opportunity will see the students using all of their learning muscles!



GORDY

Gordy class have had an interesting and fun week of outdoor learning. Our theme has been "The Animals of Gosden House", including not only the pigs and rabbits but also the birds, squirrels and even bugs such as worms, millipedes and spiders.



In science, we used our being brave learning muscle to study little bugs in our bug hotel in detail. We learnt how to use a "pooter", which sucks up little bugs into a pot. We then used a microscope to look at the bugs in more detail, counting how many legs, wings and body parts our little bugs had.



We also used our getting ready learning muscle to prepare for a pond dipping session. We located all the correct equipment and made sure that we used everything correctly, so that we could study the wildlife without hurting anything and keeping ourselves safe. We found all sorts of interesting things living in the pond, including a large creature that looked like a caterpillar and a thin insect that looked like a fly.



Using our working together learning muscle, we conducted a survey of Gosden wildlife with a tally chart.. We then used our keeping improving learning muscle in maths to make a bar chart of all the animals that we found in our survey.



We discussed good ways to use our leisure time, which is our topic for our ASDAN qualification. We spent time doing a jigsaw puzzle and playing snakes and ladders.





As part of the vocational study: Out and About, Gordy Class visited Wisley. The students had to find their way to the Hilltop Café with no input from the adults. Once there, they had to order themselves a drink and snack, before heading over to the play area for lunch and back to the car park by 2.00 pm.

Claire, Charlotte, and I were very proud of the group. It was great to see them working together and problem-solving themselves and using directional language covered in recent maths lessons with Alex.

The visit was a great success and fun was had by all!

Well done Gordy Class!



ATTENDANCE

Message from Cindy

I am sure you are well aware of the wealth of evidence which shows that children's success at school and their future life chances are directly linked to their attendance at school. While I know that illness is unavoidable and there are a number of reasons why a child might be unable to attend school, it is important to remember that attendance below 96% will start to impact their education over time.

90% absence means -

- **19 days** absent from school
- **½ day of school** missed every week over the course of a school year. This is the **equivalent of 4 weeks of lost learning!**
- **Over a 5 year period, half a year of missed learning!**
- Children and young people whose school attendance is 90% or below will be considered to be persistent absentees and are at risk of underachievement.

I recognise that some life circumstances are extraordinary, and so we have a process for requesting time off for exceptional circumstances.

This is considered by myself and the Chair of Governors. Holidays during term time are not approved, in line with county and national guidance. A fixed penalty notice will be issued if an unauthorised holiday exceeds 5 days.

Please read the Attendance Policy, and remember....

Not only is school FUN, it is also good for you!

Cindy O'Sullivan, Head Teacher

SECONDARY TOOLKIT

WELL DONE to the following students in completing their 'Gosden Toolbox' Sticker Sheet this so far this term and successfully collecting 10 'Life Tools'. Developing these 'Life Tools' will help them now and also prepare them for their exciting future pathways.

Year 7

Noah

Year 8

Alisha Paige

Daisy

Rayan

Year 9

Skye

Leo

Year 11

Georgina

Jay

Toby

Eryn

Gordy

Imaan

Jordan

Joshua



Speech & Language Therapy
Team

★ Makaton Champions ★



Signs of the week w/c 17th October 2022
(Theme: Autumn)

This week's champions are:
Nella & Sammie – Rabbits Class



Autumn



Tree



Leaf





Gosden House School PTA Christmas Fair

**A special visit from
Kelly's Assisted Therapy Donkeys**

- Usborne Books
- Wax Melts Scents
- Jazzy Jars
- Bottle Tombola
- Raffle
- Chocolate Tombola
- Meet Santa
- Lucky Dip
- Refreshments
- Games
- Hair Feathers
- Personalised Gifts



**4th
DECEMBER
2PM - 4PM
GOSDEN HOUSE
SCHOOL**

Entertainment & lots more!

Sweetie Jar Donations

Our next mufti day is the 4th November. Children can wear mufti to school for donations of small bars of chocolates or wrapped sweets for our Sweetie Jars. Please do not send in any sweets that contain whole nuts. Maoam sweets or fun size chocolate bars are ideal.

Thank you.



Don't forget to order your Christmas pud!

<https://forms.office.com/r/Zuk5BjzYMs>



Just a reminder to return your smartie tubes by the 4th of November with some coins and a note or two in. There's party food for the class that manages to raise the most money!

Easyfundraising

Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online! Over 7,000 brands will donate, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet. It's easy and FREE! You can get started at

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/gosdenhousepta/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-en-n2

**We have a busy term with PTA Events.
Make a note of the dates below!**

Half Term Smarties Challenge

Wednesday 2nd November – Bugs for Books virtual Book Fair

Friday 4th November – Mufti Day – donations for Sweetie Jars

Sunday 4th December – Christmas Fair, 2pm – 4pm

SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY TODAY

£1 per
week

Weekly
cash prizes

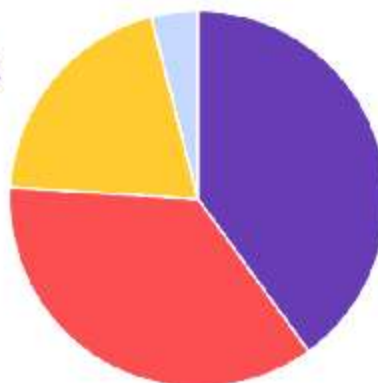
£25,000
jackpot



YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY



Splitting the £1.00



- 40p goes to our school
- 36p goes to cash prizes
- 20p goes to admin costs
- 4p goes to VAT

How it works...

It's simple—choose 6 numbers between 0-9 and if they match the weekly lottery draw, you win great prizes. One of our players will win a cash prize every week, maybe even the £25k jackpot! Tickets cost just £1 per week and the proceeds are donated to Gosden House School.

Every Saturday at 8pm the numbers are drawn and posted online. Winners are notified by email and winnings paid into the account of your choice.

The easiest way to join our lottery is online by direct debit or debit card.

It's so easy to join and will make a real difference to Gosden House School

The Maths... 100 tickets sold a week means

= £30 weekly cash prize

= £2,080 a year for our school



Buy A Ticket

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES



Hello, I'm Jane Cowles, Gosden's new Pastoral Assistant supporting the work of Annie, Home/School Link Worker and expanding the Pastoral Team😊. Many of you may already know me, as I have been a Teaching Assistant here for the last 8 years.

My new role is to provide support for children and their families with worries outside the classroom and to work closely with Annie and the Teachers across the school. We are aware that for lots of reasons, there are many challenges to families currently. If you have any concerns or need support, please feel free to phone the school and ask for me, or contact me on my email address: jcowles@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk. I work from Monday to Wednesday.

Annie is in school Tuesday to Friday (anniewelch@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk) and we can both be reached via pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

You can call and speak to Annie Welch, our Home School Link Worker.

Tel: 07864 721931

Web Page Information:

[School Web Site](#)

Keeping Children Safe Online:

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

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 domestic abuse, mental health or safety in the home:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-anddomestic-abuse/coronavirus-covid-19-support-forvictims-of-domestic-abuse>

<https://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/domestic-abuse>

<https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/>

Providing children, young people, families and carers with information about services, advice and resources. Includes how to ask for help in a crisis via the 24/7 crisis line.

