



# GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

## GOSDEN NEWS

10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Our Year 11's have been out on work experience this fortnight, and I can honestly say, I couldn't be more proud of them. Every single one of them has engaged professionally in their work, and could actually walk into a job next week. This gives me so much optimism for the future of our cohort, but also of the generation who have survived more adversity than most, and are blossoming into emotionally literate, socially conscious young adults.

We have also noticed the change in our Year 6's, as they start to outgrow Primary. I'm not sure if it's the weather, but they seem to be starting early this year! Credit to our parents and carers, who are raising resilient and confident children, keen to tackle new challenges in their learning and in their school careers.

Several parents and carers have attended the evening RSE sessions with Charlotte this week. As you know, PSHE and RSE are core aspects of our curriculum, as our children and young people learn to take care of themselves and each other, and stay safe and healthy. The developmental journey of a child has its challenging bits, and it takes bravery to have honest, supportive conversations sometimes. But there are moments when you can take stock and realise that your great parenting is paying off, as your child navigates each stage of childhood and adolescence.

Huge thanks to our local community, who held a disco night in support of Gosden. The money raised will go towards therapies and our outdoor classroom projects.

*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

## RECENT PARENTMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

- 1<sup>st</sup> February – Mental Health Survey for University of Surrey  
 2<sup>nd</sup> February – ACTION needed – Ordering of school lunches for w/c 20.2.23  
 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Gosden PTA February Newsletter  
 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Gosden House Term Dates 2023-2024  
 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Gosden PE Bags  
 6<sup>th</sup> February – PAN Disability Football Team – new players needed  
 6<sup>th</sup> February – REMINDER re Year 9 DTP/MenACWY vaccination E-consent  
 7<sup>th</sup> February – RDA Payment Autumn Term 2<sup>nd</sup> half  
 7<sup>th</sup> February – PGL Parent Consent Form  
 9<sup>th</sup> February – Reading Week  
 9<sup>th</sup> February – Out & About  
 9<sup>th</sup> February – KS3 Staff changes after half term  
 9<sup>th</sup> February – Year 5 – Transition to Secondary Meeting  
 10<sup>th</sup> February – WANTED – spare white socks

**PARENT GOVERNOR OPPORTUNITY**....we would like to thank Robert Cockerill for being a Parent Governor. His term of office finishes after half term. If you are interested in this role and would like some more information please contact the office.

**Guildford Saints Football Club** are a local PAN disability football team based in Guildford and are looking for new players. If you would like any further information, please take a look at their website: [www.guildfordsaints.org/information/](http://www.guildfordsaints.org/information/)

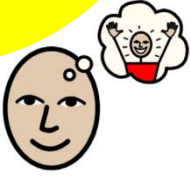
Here is a review from one of our current parents: *I feel that so many kids could benefit, it's extremely inclusive and welcoming.*

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	Secondary Transition Meeting & Showround @ 1.15pm. for CURRENT Year 5 parents
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Reading Focus Week
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	World Book Day
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Red Nose Day
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	Parents' Evening
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	End of Term, 1.30pm finish

This half-term, Rabbits have been 'Exploring' the topic of  
**'People Who Help Us'.**

# RABBITS



## Firefighters

Rabbits used their 'Learning Together' and 'Creative' Learning Habits to work together to put the 'fire' out in class! We created fire engines using junk resources and made fire explosions in Science. We were extremely lucky to have a special visit from Simon the Firefighter who answered all of our questions and let us try on his uniform!



## Police

Rabbits enjoyed role-playing as police, "arresting" their friends and teachers, and calling "999" on the walkie-talkie. They created police-car art, and became police detectives in a finger-print Science experiment!



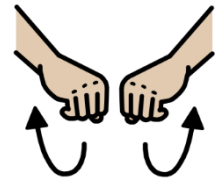
## Dentists

Rabbits used their 'Keep Trying' skills to practice their careful counting in dentist-themed Numeracy. In Literacy, they worked hard to follow a sequence to brush the teeth until they were sparkling clean!



## Doctors and Nurses

Rabbits were so fortunate to also have a visit from Sam the Nurse. Rabbits enjoyed 'Exploring' Sam's equipment, and trying on the sling and bandages. Rabbits were inspired to imitate this back in the classroom by helping to bandage teddy's head when he had a little bump. Great 'Noticing'!



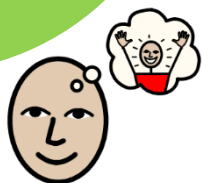
## Builders

This week we have been learning all about builders. Rabbits have enjoyed building using magnetic shapes and role-playing to 'fix' the 'broken' furniture in class!





# SQUIRRELS



Squirrels class have had a fantastic first half of term and have got really stuck in with their learning!



In Literacy we have been learning about poetry. We started with 'Rumble in the Jungle' and since then have looked at lots of different animal poems. The children used their 'Creative' Learning Habit to write their own version of a poem about their favourite African animal. They also had a go at performing them!

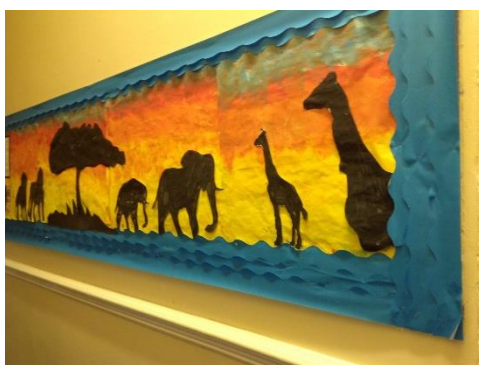
We have had lots going on in Maths. We have been working on matching Numicon, number bonds, subtraction and some statistics! Last week we used our 'Creative' and 'Keep Trying' Learning Habits to create our own number stories about subtraction.



In Science we have been learning about sound. We have had fun doing lots of different experiments to explore how sound is made. Through this we learned that sound is made by vibrations and travels as sound waves. This week we tested cup-string telephones and realised that the sound travelled along the string. We worked in groups and as a challenge tried to make giant cup-string telephones the length of the entire lunch hall!



Our new topic is Africa. We have learnt that Africa is a continent made up of lots of countries. We have used our 'Noticing' Learning Habit to look at different African landscapes and discussed how these are different to the landscapes we have here in the UK. We created some of these landscapes while painting some stunning African sunsets! We have also loved learning about all the different animals that exist in Africa – we wrote poetry about them in Literacy and went on our own safari in the playground!



In PE Squirrels have started gymnastics. We have been exploring the different shapes and balances we can make on mats and have challenged ourselves by balancing, travelling and jumping off new equipment.

# YEAR 9

There has been lots of amazing learning happening in Year 9!

This week saw the grand reopening of the KS3 tuck shop. We all loved visiting the shop for some delicious treats. We had to use our communication skills to ask for what we wanted, Maths money skills to work out how much to pay and which coins to use and, our turn-taking skills as there was a long queue!



Our Topic has been all about 'microbes'. We decided to investigate which condition helped mould to grow. We left bread in different places around the classroom for 2 weeks and then this week we looked at what had happened! We found out that heat and light help mould to grow. Our bread in the cold, dark place (the fridge) had no mould on it at all. Whilst the bread in the warm, sunny place (our shelves) was completely green and mouldy! Yuck! We are now planning to make our own bread bins to try and stop our bread from going mouldy.





# YEAR 11 WORK EXPERIENCE



Work Experience this year has been **AMAZING** and, although I say this every year, it REALLY has! All students have used **all** of their Learning Muscles **every single day**.

**Georgina has been at K9DC training, cuddling and playing with dogs every day.**



Three of our Year 11 girls have been in local Coffee Shops and Café's.

**Janet at The Nest in Bramley, Lilly-May at The Forge on the Green in Shamley Green and Elle at The Hideaway Café in Guildford.** They have really developed their communication skills with new people as all placements are super busy!



**Eryn was at Notcutts cleaning out the guinea pig and hamster cages.**



Each placement values our learners and encourages the development of new skills. Janet was sent to the local shop for things they had run out of and used her excellent money skills, Lilly has practised Latte Art and Elle has been taking orders and using the till.



Chelsey was in her element at Guildford Shakespeare Company and had the opportunity to go into a Primary school alongside a practitioner to showcase some drama skills. She also spent some time as a Learning Assistant in Owls class - a perfect placement to develop her skills working with young children.



**Jack was at the Co-op making sure the cereals and crisps were stacked and in date order.**

Jay helped Adam build a book display and outside Fox Classroom he moved the lockers and wardrobe and put up 4 new pegs, it looks amazing!.

Jay and Toby have both been working in schools as Site Assistants. Toby has been leaf blowing and preparing for an Open Day so making sure the grounds are perfect and Jay has been helping to make a willow dome and using his super woodwork skills around Gosden!



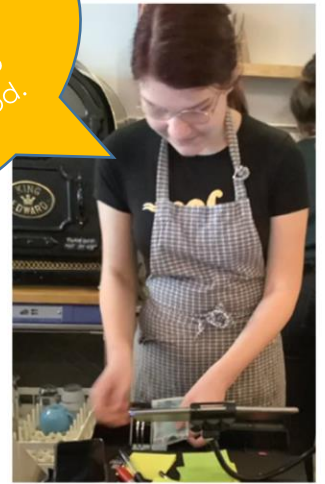
# YEAR 11 WORK EXPERIENCE

## What our students said....



My job role was a customer assistant. My favourite part of work experience was holding the guinea pigs.

My job role was a café assistant. My favourite part of work experience was helping to make the food.



My job role was a retail assistant. My favourite part of work experience was working in the warehouse.



My job role was a site manager's assistant. My favourite part of work experience was helping to build a new pond.

My job role was a café assistant. My favourite part of work experience was serving customers and making hot drinks.



My job role was a dog trainer. My favourite part of work experience was petting the dogs.





# YEAR 11 WORK EXPERIENCE

## What our employers said...

Chelsey was wonderful. She has such a great way with children and genuinely connects with them. Chelsey understands the best way to engage and get the best out of them. She is a real team member and a delight to have in the classroom.



We are so truly delighted to have been able to welcome back one of our original 'Cookie Squad' students to join us for two weeks work experience at The Forge. She loves making coffee and has a real talent for Latte art. Today she braved the till all by herself – faced her fears and smashed it! We are all so proud of her.



It has been so rewarding seeing their confidence grow – watch them learn new skills, develop existing ones and climb out of their comfort zone. Well done Year 11!

**Sandra Tidbury, Aspirations Advisor**



I am super impressed with Georgina. One of our regular dogs was a bit sick and Georgina took it upon herself to get a watering can and flush it all away. What a superstar!



# GORDY

This term Gordy class have been working hard on our ASDAN course – making good use of our leisure time. We discussed good and bad ways to spend our leisure time and then we all thought about something new that we would like to do in our leisure time. We decided that it would be fun to make a film! We are all very excited to try out lots of new roles including acting, filming, directing, set design and costume design.



We agreed that we would remake a modern version of the classic "The Wizard of Oz". It was challenging to fill all the roles and work out how to manage tricky scenes, such as a house being swept up in a tornado. But with a bit of clever thinking and teamwork we are well on our way. Look out for our blockbuster soon to hit the silver screen!



In English lessons we have looked at several interesting topics. Our favourite was school lunches. We learnt lots of words to do with lunch and then we designed our own food menus. It was good fun thinking up new and exciting food combinations!



In Science we have been learning about forces and motion. We conducted experiments to find out how objects move over different surfaces, and we learnt about floating, sinking and magnetic power. We had a tug of war game to learn about how forces balance.





GORDY





The School Council are excited to announce that we have an amazing willow dome being created in the walled garden.

We were fortunate to receive some funding thanks to a marathon running parent and chose to use some of the money for a willow dome. Nicola has very kindly been creating it for us. As the weather gets warmer, the willow will start to grow. We are all looking forward to going inside as the growth progresses. Best wishes

**The School Council**



# COLLEGE OPEN DAYS

Just a reminder, if you have a young person who is thinking about college for a future pathway there are some open events coming Up.

*Please note that for some of these you may need to have a look at the college website and register/book online*

## **Merrist Wood College**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 4.30-7.30pm

## **Brooklands College, Weybridge**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 4.30-7.30pm

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 10.00-1.00pm

## **Nescot**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 11.00-2.00pm

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 4.30-7.30pm

Sandra – Aspirations Adviser

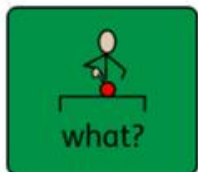
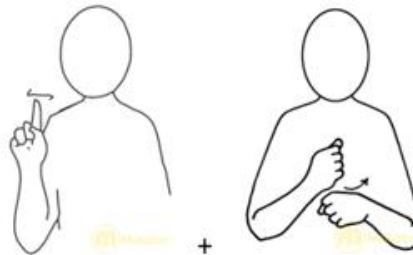


Speech & Language Therapy  
Team

☆Makaton Champions☆

Signs of the week w/c 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
(Theme: WH questions #1)

This week's champions are:  
☆Olivia & Isaac – Robins Class☆



## Bingo Night Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 8pm

Adults only, 8pm - 10pm  
Please book using the form by clicking the link below.  
<https://forms.office.com/r/zuaEHXhuNc>



### CLASSLIST

The PTA are on class list, to keep up with our news why not sign up and join your child's class.

To download Classlist on your computer

- . Visit <https://www.classlist.com/>
- . Select Find Your School
- . Type in Gosden House School
- . Then Create an Account

Or Download via the App store on your mobile.

### Easyfundraising

Please remember to use easyfundraising when shopping online.

Over 7000 brands, including eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos and M&S will donate to Gosden House School PTA for FREE when you use easyfundraising to shop with them.

This means you can raise donations for us when you buy anything.

These donations really help us and all you have to do is use easyfundraising when you are ordering the things you'll be buying anyway.

**You spend, brands donate to Gosden House School PTA.**

Help us when you shop with 7,000+ brands. Join now.  
[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)



# Saturday Sports Club

*For young people with special needs and their families*

The sessions offer children with special educational needs and disabilities from 8 years old and their families the opportunity to try new activities such as trampolining, climbing and multisports. It offers a welcoming and relaxed environment for young people to build personal skills and self-confidence and as importantly an opportunity to be themselves.

This session is supported by volunteers with an emphasis on enjoyment and engaging in physical activity. Parents are required to stay in attendance at the session and there is an opportunity interact with other families.

**And you are very welcome, and encouraged, to take part too!**

**Join us on Saturday afternoons 2:30-4:30**

**Arena C**

**Surrey Sports Park, University of Surrey**

**Richard Meyjes**

2023 sessions start Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January. There will be no sessions on 28<sup>th</sup> January or 11<sup>th</sup> February and our last session before Easter will be on 25<sup>th</sup> March

**For more details please contact:**

Colin: [the.boltonfamily@virginmedia.com](mailto:the.boltonfamily@virginmedia.com)

Web: <https://www.surreysportspark.co.uk/about/saturday-sports-club/>

### Cost of Living Crisis

Are you struggling financially? If so, you are not alone! Many families are finding it hard to cope with day to day living costs.

The Pastoral Team are here to help.

Please get in touch.

[pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk)

### Surrey Young Carers

"If you are a young person, and you help care for someone who has an illness, a disability, or is affected by mental ill-health or alcohol/substance misuse, we can help you. We support children from Year 1 upwards."

If this describes your child or Young Person and you think they would benefit from the support of Surrey Young Carers, please contact Jane or The Pastoral Team.

[jcowles@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:jcowles@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk)

[pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk)

### Surrey Police – <https://www.surrey.police.uk/pegasus>

Our Pegasus scheme is for people who find it hard to communicate with us – we keep your pre-registered information safe on our computer and we can access it quickly if you call us. You don't need to repeat all your details.

<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.

For any concerns or support please phone the school to speak to Annie Welch, Home School Link Worker.

Annie is in Tuesday to Friday.

Tel: 07864 721931

[anniewelch@gosdenh-house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:anniewelch@gosdenh-house.surrey.sch.uk)

You can also call Jane Cowles, Pastoral Assistant, at school on 01483 892008.

Jane is in Monday to Wednesday.

[jcowles@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:jcowles@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk)

[pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk)

<https://www.gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk/our-pastoral-support/>

**This Workshop is run by Charlotte Willis of Gosden House.**



Running here at Gosden House over the February half term, a brand new performing arts school brings "Encanto" Theatre workshop. Open to all SEN and Mainstream children. Please get in contact for more information.



# DONATIONS and THANK YOU'S

If you would like to make a donation to the school you can do so via the Gosden Children First charity page by clicking on this link

<https://wonderful.org/charities/1049925>

You are able to donate directly or to a particular fundraising page that you would like to support.



## **Links Road**

Thank you to everyone who attended the Friday Night Fever event last Friday, hosted by Bramley Golf Club and organised by our Gosden Links friends.

**LUSH** FRESH  
HANDMADE  
COSMETICS

Thank you to LUSH who kindly donated some products for Gosden to enjoy.