



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

GOSDEN NEWS

17th March 2023

Gosden is good for you.

I have just received a bulletin which tells me that school attendance is still low across the country, since the pandemic. What is more worrying is the fact that our most vulnerable children are disproportionately affected – 35% of persistent absentees within Surrey have an EHCP. I know that there are really complex reasons why some children find it hard to attend school, but the impact of non-attendance means that our most vulnerable young adults will end up with fewer qualifications and opportunities and their future life choices might be limited.

It is important that we work together to keep children attending, to give our children the best chances for happy, healthy, successful lives in the community. If you need extra support then please do contact the Pastoral team (Annie and Jane) or any member of staff. I know that parents and carers find it hard to push through when things get hard at school, but we are committed to working through together. And actually, Gosden is a great place to be. So that's good news!

In other news, you will see that we are enjoying the classic Spring term of just doing loads of learning. Excellent! See you all on Wednesday for Parent Consultations.



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

6th March – Artful Kids Easter Workshop

8th March – Social Media Use

9th March – GASP Go-Karting

13th March – Strike Days Reduced Offer

14th March – Out and About

15th March – School Council Red Nose Day

16th March – School Lunch price increase

16th March – School Lunch Menu Summer Term

16th March – New Menu – do not place any orders until further instruction

17th March – Year 8 update

17th March – Change of Menu, Monday 20th March

17th March – New Menu, orders now open

DATES FOR THE DIARY

| | |
|--|--|
| Wednesday 22nd March | Parents' Evening |
| Friday 31st March | End of Term, 1.30pm finish |
| Monday 17th April | First day of Summer Term |
| Friday 28th April | INSET DAY |
| Monday 1st May | May Day Bank Holiday |
| Monday 8th May | Bank Holiday (in lieu King's Coronation on Saturday 6 th May) |
| Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June | Half Term |
| Monday 5th June | Back to school |
| Friday 21st July | Last day of Summer Term, 1.30pm finish |

EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITY

Easter Holiday Workshop run by
Charlotte Willis, Learning Assistant
at Gosden House.

INFINITY
Roald Dahl's *presents*
Matilda
THE MUSICAL

With the recent success of our Encanto Workshop we are back with **MATILDA!** The children enjoyed making friends, creating props, seeing the onsite animals and putting on a fantastic show for their family and friends.

For more information on how to book, please email:
infinityperformers@gmail.com

Running for 3 days on the 3rd - 5th of April at Gosden House School 9am - 3pm. Children will explore characters, songs dance and friendship.

BADGERS

Badger Class have had a really fun Spring Term focusing on our topic of '**The Tropical Rainforest**'.



We have used our **Noticing** Learning Habit to locate the equator and key rainforests on a globe. Through arts and craft, we have studied the key layers of vegetation in a rainforest and the various exotic animals that live there. Badgers have been **Learning Together** through drama, role playing and **Listening** to the sounds of the rainforest to replicate with rainmakers and body percussion. At the end of term, we are looking forward to a visit to the RHS Wisley Tropical to explore the glasshouse and see the tropical plants.



Our class text, 'Where the Wild Things Are', has been linked to our topic and we have been transported to a magical, tropical island where Max enjoyed a 'rumpus, rumpus, rumpus'. We have been very **Creative** and used WOW words to describe the characters and create a new weird and wonderful Wild Thing of our own.



A visit from Rocksteady

In Maths, we have been learning about subtraction and using our part-whole models we have **Explored** the relationship with addition and used various resources to 'take away' and see how many are left. Some children have also used their **Problem Solving** skills to find missing parts and work out how many have gone.



Science, exploring living things



World Book Day and our wonderful costumes



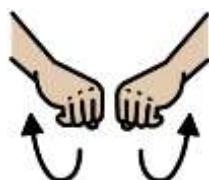
How many left?

WOOD- PECKERS

Woodpecker Class joined in with a day of celebrating future careers. They talked about what a job is and possible jobs they would like to do when they are older. Adam came to visit us and told us about his role as our school caretaker. We listened carefully, and were all very impressed by how many different jobs he has to do in his role. We chose three care-taking jobs that we would like to have a go at and after planning how to do them effectively, the children split into three teams for litter picking, gardening and catering. They noticed many jobs they could do around the school and worked really effectively in their teams.



In RE we have been learning about Buddhism. We read a story about Prince Siddharta - who is better known as Buddha - when he rescued an injured swan. We then had a go at following instructions to make an origami swan. It was quite a challenge and we had to follow the instructions carefully but everyone managed to make one. We tested them in water and they did float-for a while!

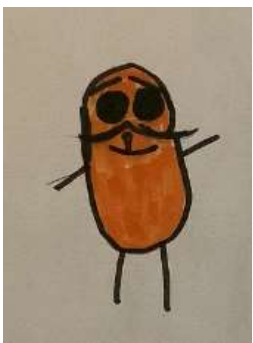


For book week, we focused on an African version of Hansel and Gretel. We followed their trail into the woods, created the witch's house and made rock buns to make a trail of our own-the birds were not fooled by the name and still ate the trail.



YEAR 8

In Literacy, we have been reading *The Lorax* by Dr Seuss. We had an exciting and fun discussion, reading the book together as a class. We talked about the characters and discussed the adjectives used to describe them. The story had rhyming words to describe the characters which helped us visualise the characters when we drew our own versions of the Lorax. We started to understand the message in the book and how the Onceler chopping down trees was affecting the environment.



Last Wednesday we had loads of fun while it was snowing outside. We made cupcakes. Everyone worked together to make a list of all the ingredients, measured them accurately, prepared the batter, baked and decorated them. We even got to eat them and take them home.



Last week was **Gosden's Careers Day!** We began with sharing our career aspirations with the class, and speaking about other jobs we would like to try when we are older. We then set on creating a mood board, full of pictures of our dream careers. From vets to car washes and performers to hairdressers, Year Eight are a truly talented class. In the afternoon, we spoke to staff about what jobs they have had outside of Gosden. They shared what paths they could take to reach those careers, and told the class about many different opportunities they have had. In the afternoon, we focused on future choices. We spoke about what we want to achieve, our favourite hobbies and places we want to visit. This was then compiled into a fact file to visualise these aspirations. Everybody agreed that the day left them buzzing with ideas for the future!



WELL DONE!

Congratulations to the following students for completing their 'Gosden Toolbox' and successfully collecting 10 'Life Tools'.

Developing these 'Life Tools' will help them now and also prepare them for their exciting future pathways.

Year 11
Georgina

Year 9
Joanna

Gordy
Jack
Jamie
Jordan
Josh

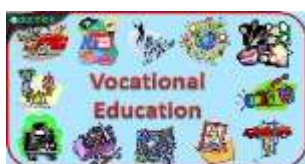
Year 7
Josh
Owen
Noah
Casper
Louisa



SANDRA'S NEWS UPDATE

It was lovely to see all the faces of our Secondary students and Woodpeckers in the hall to celebrate our very own **Gosden Careers Day** and wonderful to see and hear all the “aspirations” that our young people have - from “dog walker” to “tractor driver”. I can't wait to get working with Year 9 in the summer term to find out theirs!

There are lots of different jobs that I am working on as Aspirations Adviser...and in this fortnightly newsletter I will keep you all updated with new information, links and dates for the diary.



EDUCATIONAL
HEALTH & CARE
PLAN



Over the last 2 weeks our Year 11 Learners have been working hard on their Functional Skills Maths and English Exams – they have really been flexing their **Being Brave** Learning Muscles. For some, they have taken it all in their stride and for others it has been an anxious and worrying part of the school year.

What I CAN say is that they have all tried their best!

We are all very proud!



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

Wednesday 26th April 4.30-7.30pm
Guildford College

10th May 4.30-7.30pm
Merrist Wood College

Saturday 20th May 10.00-1.00pm
Brooklands College, Weybridge

Saturday 25th March 11.00-2.00pm
Wednesday 24th May 4.30-7.30pm
Nescot

Saturday 17th June, 10.30am – 2.30pm
Farnborough College of Technology Family Fun Day

BREAKING NEWS...

Year 11 are going to Philip Southcote on Thursday 23rd March to a Careers Fair!!!


- There are at least 23 providers going, including the police, firefighters, army, a hairdresser, a café, gardener, a dancer/yoga teacher, a garage, supermarket, garden centre, a nursery and an hotel and many more...PLUS some colleges including Nescot, Brooklands, and Guildford. We will be able to find out lots of information about the best way to get into some of these different vocations and possible pathways to take.







**Speech & Language Therapy
Team**

☆ Makaton Champions ☆

Signs of the week w/c 20th March 2023

This week's champions are:
☆ Shannon & Sofia – Year 10 ☆

 SURREY
PRIMARY EDUCATION

| | |
|--|--|
|  School |  |
|  Teacher |  |
|  friends |  |

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 9th May - Clothing Collection

If you have any spare clothes, please can you start saving them for our clothing collection.

Sunday 2nd July – Summer Fun Day for all the Family.

THANK YOU to everyone who brought a Valentine's gift bag we raised £71.42 which will go towards whole school projects to benefit all the children

We are always looking for new ideas, helpers and volunteers for our events if you would like to get involved or have any ideas of your own to share please do get in touch. email gosdenpta@outlook.com don't forget to follow us on @GosdenPTA

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

Virtual Balloon Race

Our popular virtual balloon race is back over the Easter Break, and we'd love for you to get involved! **"What is a virtual balloon race?"** I hear you ask. Well, essentially, it's an opportunity for you, your family and friends to get creative and competitive if you want too. For **only £3** you can personalise your own online hot air balloon, give it a name, and pitch it against other balloons in our Gosden House Virtual Balloon Race. You'll be able to see the balloons 'in flight' as the race happens and experience nail biting moments as the leader board changes.

We have some great prizes on offer for the top 3 balloons, as well as for the last place contender

So, head to <https://www.balloonrace.com/Gosdenpta> to design and name your balloon. Balloons will launch at noon on Monday 3rd April, and the race finishes at noon on Easter Monday 10th April. We'll post regular updates on our Facebook page too throughout the race, so have fun and fly high!

1st prize

Air Hop Trampoline Park tickets and a Sensory

Bubble Tube

2nd prize

A lovely Easter hamper

3rd prize

Body Shop goodies

Last place prize - Yummy Easter chocolate

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

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

[List of warm hubs in Surrey - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk)

Mental Wellbeing – Healthy Surrey

If you want to improve your mental wellbeing, are feeling anxious or depressed, or life is too difficult right now, there is a range of free and confidential services to support you

<https://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/mental-wellbeing>

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

pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

<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

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

pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

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

DONATIONS and THANK YOU'S

Thank you so much to Micro for their fabulous donation of five scooters for the Secondary children.



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.

