



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

GOSDEN NEWS

19th May 2023

This week is Mental Health Awareness Week, with a focus on anxiety. There are a lot of resources to support adults and children – I find the Anna Freud Centre has great advice: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/mental-health-awareness-week/what-can-we-do-cope-feelings-anxiety> .

Personally, I find that being the head of a special school at a time of such dire cuts to schools and SEND is anything but good for my mental health in many ways, but as we say at Gosden, my bucket is easily filled around here. One of the things which gives me joy is walking around Gosden, often with groups of prospective parents, seeing the school in action. I have the privilege of being able to see the school in the wider sense, with busy learners in classes, outdoors, and often not even there, as they are off site learning. The pupils are optimistic and energetic, which is utterly contagious. We do try to bottle a little of that and post it out to you every fortnight in the newsletter.

We know that food and energy poverty is creating hardship for many of our families. Remember that we can help, by providing food at school and in other ways too. Please just contact your teacher or Jane or Annie. If you wish to contribute to our Food Fund, then please go to our Wonderful page <https://wonderful.org/charities/1049925>.

A huge shout-out to the PTA, who are so energetic and generous. If you wish to improve your happiness levels, then I suggest you join the PTA – you'll feel great! A big welcome too to our new Parent Governor, Peter Gunn.

This weekend, I hope you can do something that makes you feel good, especially if that is coming to visit the Gosden stall at the Bramley Fete. Maybe we'll see you there.

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](#)



PARENTMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

9TH May- Primary swimming
 9th May – Year 6 Staycation
 10th May – Secondary Dates for the Summer Term
 15th May – REMINDER ordering of lunches for w/c 22 May
 15th May – MOANA Workshop Half Term
 15th May – Mental Health Awareness Week
 15th May – Puppet Theatre Arbor at Winkworth
 16th May – Asthma Webinars
 16th May – Careers and Enterprise Company
 18th February – Robert’s Fruit Farm Trip
 18th May – Gosden House PTA Fundraiser
 18th May – Ordering School Lunches w/c 5th June
 18th May – Primary Diary Dates for the Summer Term
 18th May – Action Needed- Mental Health Survey for University of Surrey

Applying for school transport – Parents/Carers of the following students must reapply for travel assistance for September 2023: All current year 6s and all current year 11s. Even if your year 6 student is staying at Gosden for their secondary placement you **MUST** reapply for travel assistance. Please ensure you apply for this as soon as possible as the requests are processed on a first come first served basis. These are the links to apply:

Year 6s: [Under 16 transport to school - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/transport/16-plus/travel-assistance-to-school-or-college-for-students-aged-16-25)

Year 11s: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/transport/16-plus/travel-assistance-to-school-or-college-for-students-aged-16-25>

If you need support with this application please do let me know. Lucy Ellis lellis@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

DATES FOR THE DIARY

w/c 22 nd May	Cultural Diversity Focus Week
Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June	Half Term
Monday 5th June	Back to school
Friday 9th June	Sports Day and Secondary Prize Giving
Friday 21st July	Last day of Summer Term, 1.30pm finish

ROBINS

'Let it Grow'.

We have been learning lots about plants, like what they need to grow and what they look like at different stages of their life cycles. This has helped us as we have started sowing some seeds in our Robins Garden, and we've now seen a few teeny green sprouts! We'll '**Keep Trying**' to look after them and see what they grow in to.



In our Maths, we have been learning to use the comparative language of 'more' and 'less'. We have learned that it's important to look really carefully, and sometimes it's helpful to count to check which group has the 'bigger amount' or the 'smaller amount'. This week, we have a new '**Challenge**' – identifying when groups are the 'same'!



Our literacy learning has been based around the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. After learning the story and making some actions to help us to recall it, we then decided that we could make some changes to it. The Robins have been working to make their own books with their changes, like Jack and the Sunflower, and Jack and the Tree. We are very excited to be a class of authors!

Our topic after the May half-term break will be Pets at Home, and we can't wait to update you with what we get up to.



BADGERS

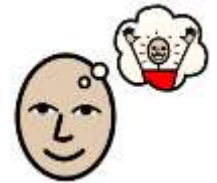
Badger class started their Literacy learning this term by reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We had great fun looking at the story in detail and even planted our own beans!



We then introduced a similar text called 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and found the differences between the two stories. As well as ordering the main events Badgers used their **Creative** Learning Habit to act out Jasper's actions.



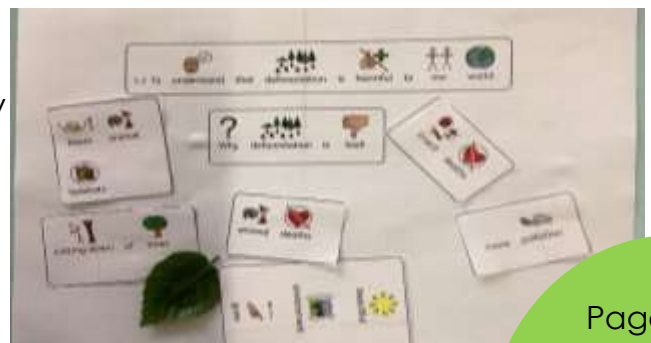
Finally, using all of their story skills they have written their own fantastic stories!



In Maths after becoming weighing experts we have started to revisit 'money'; sorting into groups, learning the different coin values and responding to money problems.



During Topic, Badgers have been finding out about food groups and how land may have been deforested to make way for farming. We learnt about the impacts of deforestation. Badgers asked some very good questions about the environment.



WOODPECKERS

With the sun comes the outdoor fun....

Woodpeckers have embraced the milder weather by getting outdoors with their learning. We have been **Exploring** our topic Feathers, Fins and Fur by investigating our local environment.



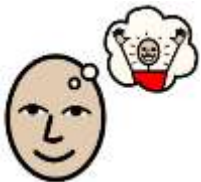
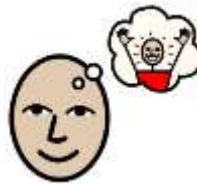
Our **Noticing** skills have been used as we carefully observed the variety of birds around us and we have completed minibeast microhabitat surveys.



Our **Problem Solving** skills have been practiced regularly as we undertook a scientific enquiry to provide evidence for the question – ‘**Do all minibeasts like to live in the same habitat?**’ Woodpeckers used tables and pictograms to organise their data and provide proof for their answers.



In Literacy, we have been writing letters to William Wellington, one of the magical characters we met on our school trip to Box Hill. We have been giving advice to William by **Explaining** different ways to get his story writing inspiration back. During our trip he asked us if we, as ‘the greatest story tellers in the world,’ could help him? Woodpeckers have been **Creative** in their thinking and come up with some wonderful ideas for William. We are keen to put these story telling ideas into practice as we begin to plan, present and publish our own stories.



YEAR 8

Year 8's have been in a reflective mood, evaluating their year and looking at the Learning Muscles that they have developed this year. We hope that the carers and parents enjoy reading these reflections which will form part of their end of year reports.



We have been reading A Midsummer Night's Dream. We have read an abridged version of the play and studied the characters and their emotions. We have also discussed the main themes of magic and love and even acted out a few freeze frame moments.

Our new "Our World" topic is Rivers. We enjoyed exploring our school grounds, finding the water and then working out if we could get to our own homes with a boat if we didn't have a car. We couldn't believe that the water at the back of our school goes all the way to the theatre where we went to watch the pantomime last Christmas!

Safety has been the focus of PSHE lessons. So far, we have looked at personal safety, safety in the home, water safety and road safety. All students have been engaged with these lessons and have been able to suggest safety points for each of these areas.



Having worked on our ball skills, balance and coordination through the Fizzy Things program, Year 8 enjoyed the opportunity to choose an activity and teach it to their friends.



CREATIVE ARTS



Congratulations to our students who created fabulous artwork for the Arts Award Butterfly installation



WELL DONE!

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

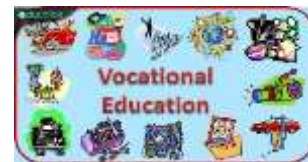
Developing these 'Life Tools' will help them now and also prepare them for their exciting future pathways.

Year 8
Daisy H

Year 11
Eryn

Year 7
Melissa E
Ellie-Mae W
Ruby C
Alfie D
Louisa K
Owen F
Noah





There are also a couple of open events at **Brooklands College** coming up. One is an opportunity to look around at their amazing campus and the other is a chance to book in on a SEND and Transition Tour for any future pathways.



SAT
20

May 20 @ 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Open Event – Weybridge

Brooklands College - Weybridge Campus Brooklands College, Heath Road, Weybridge, Surrey, United Kingdom

Open Events provide a good opportunity to come and visit our campus and see our fantastic facilities.

Functional Skills

June 2023



TUE
13

June 13 @ 10:30 am - 11:30 am

SEND and Transition Tours

Brooklands College - Weybridge Campus Brooklands College, Heath Road, Weybridge, Surrey, United Kingdom

These tours happen regularly throughout the academic year and are specifically for Entry level /Level 1 students suitable for this curriculum area who are vulnerable and may have EHCPs or specific learning needs.



EDUCATIONAL
HEALTH & CARE
PLAN

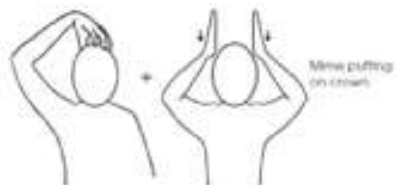
Speech & Language Therapy
Team

☆ Makaton Champions ☆

Signs of the week Coronation

This week's champions are:

☆ Louisa & Melissa – year 7 ☆
(camera man – Kevin - year 7)





**Summer Fun Day
Sunday 2nd July. 2pm – 4pm**

We Need Your Help!

If anyone could lend a hand for our Summer Fun Day on the 2nd of July, please do get in touch. Gosdenpta@outlook.com or drop us a message on our Facebook page @GosdenPTA

Krispy Kreme Fundraiser.

Order options are:

1 box of 12 Krispy Kreme glazed doughnuts for £10 or an individual glazed doughnut for £1 per doughnut. You can order as many as you like.

Please see your child's order form for details of how to order. All orders and any monies must be sent into the school office in an envelope marked 'Gosden PTA Krispy Kreme' by **Monday 5th June** at the latest.

The delicious doughnuts will be sent home with your child on **Friday 16th June.**

Let's enjoy some sweet treats while raising money for our brilliant school.

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

THANK YOU!

To everyone who donated clothes we raised £63.90 which will go towards projects that benefit the whole school.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 16th June – Krispy Kreme Fundraiser

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

BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC & FAMILY TO ENJOY THE FUN



RAFFLE

FREE

SUMMER FUN DAY

GAMES

PIMMS
STRAWBERRIES &
CREAM

JULY 2ND

2PM - 4PM

GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL FIELD



BOUNCY
CASTLE



EMS FRIENDLY
FARM



FACE PAINTING

RAFFLE & PIMMS/STRAWBERRIES & CREAM
CHARGEABLE.
ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES FREE

The Occupational Therapy (OT) Team

Welcome from the Occupational Therapy (OT) Team.

Please get in touch if you would like advice on how to support your child with day to day living skills. We can provide advice and strategies for home or school to support development in areas like dressing, movement games, using tools like scissors or cutlery, toileting, handwriting and more!



SIOBHAN ESCARIO
Locum OT



PIPPA DAVIS
OT ASSISTANT



SARAH POPE
OT

Occupational Therapy Gosden Team details

Email us: OT@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

Visit us: [Therapy room](#)
(beside the kitchen!)

At Gosden: [Weekly on a Monday](#)

Children and Families 'Support for All'

Parents, carers, school or nursery teams can access this service without an open referral via:

Link OT for the school:
(see details on the left)

OT Helpline: 01932 558570 (Tues & Thurs 2pm – 4pm)

Website:
www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk

(For Families →
Occupational
Therapy (OT) →
Therapy resources →
Schools and Nurseries
→ Resource Packs)

This FREE three-week parenting course will be delivered in 1.5 hour sessions and will explain how to manage sensory triggers, smell, textures and colours. With group discussions on the challenges of managing your child's motor skills.

- Manage sensory triggers in a cooking setting
- Discuss what utensils to use for motor skill challenges

Where:

Online via Zoom

When:

Wed 17th May 10:00-11:30 Parents only

Wed 24th May 4.00- 5.30 Parent and Child

Wed 31st May 10:00 -11:30 Parent and Child (Half Term)

To book click on this [link](#) or scan the QR code



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/>

FUNDRAISING EVENTS AND DONATIONS



**Gosden House
Summer Art
Exhibition**

Friday 16 June from 7pm to 9pm
Gosden House School,
Gosden Common
Bramley

Tickets £15 to include welcome
drink and canapes

Please contact
lzsutherland73@gmail.com for
tickets

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.

