



# GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

## GOSDEN NEWS

7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

At a time when public services are under unprecedented attack, there are times when all of us look enviously at our colleagues in other sectors – delivery drivers, gardeners, maybe even IT.... So what keeps the staff coming in every day? At Gosden it is 100% the joy of working with our wonderful children, within the most supportive community.

Our teachers are out on strike because they are acutely aware of the fact that education has never been in such a dire position, and special education even more so. Teachers want to save our schools, because we truly believe that good education improves lives. Today we are hosting an event to thank our external supporters – more than ever we are relying on donations and financial sponsorship, with a crew of volunteers who come in and do the work which we need to run our full, rich learning offer. This group of people love helping out, and we celebrate our children and young people – those serving coffee in the local café, those creating art to save the environment, and those enjoying a book under a tree in the walled garden.

Last weekend the PTA held the Summer picnic – an event designed to support our families and give the children a chance to socialise together on the weekend. For a special school community, this is even more important, and I would urge every parent and carer to connect with the PTA, as an active member or as a participant in events. I mean, why wouldn't you? There are doughnuts and sausages involved.

From our perspective the wraparound love which our parents and supporters show the school "fills our buckets" – it keeps us going through the tough times and makes all the difference in the world to our kids. So we will keep resisting the attack on our schools, and we will keep shining a light on the difference the children and young people in a little school in the Surrey countryside can make to our community and our futures

Cindy O'Sullivan, Head Teacher

*Cindy*

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

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



# SUPPORTERS ANNUAL EVENT TEA UNDER THE TREES



Year 8, 9 and 10 have been very busy in the last few days baking for our annual supporters event - Tea Under the Trees. Special thank you's to all the wonderful staff that helped, especially Vicki for her baking, Annette for creating a very beautiful setting and Claire, Emma, Amanda, Lucy and Mel.



**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/under-16-transport-to-school)

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

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>'Meet the teacher', Picnic, Gosfest</b>
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 1.30pm</b>	End of Term
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Start of Autumn Term

# ROBINS

It's wonderful to observe the Robin Class in their play, and see how far they have come since they started at Gosden. We have seen new friendships blossom, skills grow and interests develop in both breadth and depth. More than anything, I am amazed by how much they have each individually grown in confidence and independence.



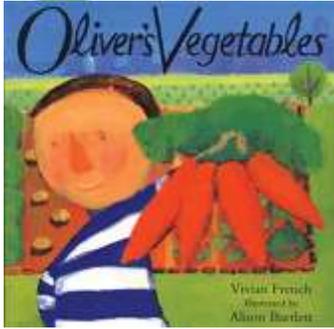
This half-term, we have really enjoyed learning about our topic of 'Pets at Home'. The Robins have been sorting animals into the categories of 'Pets' and 'Wild Animals', used number lines to identify one more and one less, and carefully used their phonics skills to put together CVC words.



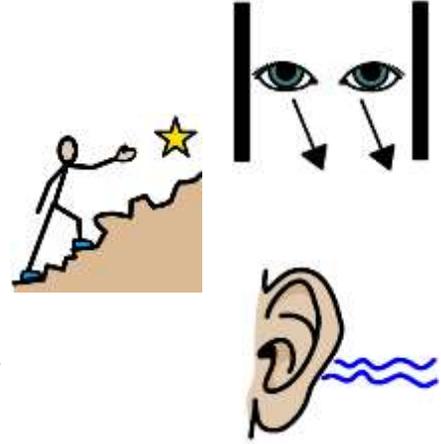
**We have been practising our song for Gosfest, and we are so excited to sing it to everyone next week!**

# BADGERS

We have had a fun and very busy half term. In English we have been working really hard on making our sentences more interesting with 'wow' words. One of the books we used was 'Oliver's vegetables' to focus on sequencing in a story and sentence structure, remembering our capital letters and full stops.



In Maths we looked at different types of graphs including block graphs and pictograms. We also completed a topic on capacity and really enjoyed finding the capacity of different containers using rice and water.



We were able to make good use of the court yard for this topic. We also refreshed our memory on topics such as multiplication, division, subtraction and money. We have had so much fun and we are all really proud of how much we have learnt.

Along with the rest of the school we celebrated Diversity Week and Cultural Celebration Week. We learnt how we are all different, and that is OK! We also learnt about Yorkshire and Spain. We did some dancing and food tasting as part of our learning and everyone was very good at having a go!

In Topic we continued our work on the senses and enjoyed tasting sour, sweet, bitter and salty foods as well as making a healthy salad. We learnt labels for different parts of the nose and eye and enjoyed sticking our tongue out to see our taste buds. In Art we had some lovely learning opportunities with Trudy and even painted with our feet!



# WOODPECKERS STAYCATION



We have had an amazing time in Year 6 this term (and year). It has been so wonderful to celebrate the end of our time in primary school with our Staycation this week.

We had a fantastic trip to the beach. Luckily, it was not too hot but it was warm enough for us to go in the sea and splash our teachers!

We were very fortunate to have a visit from some lifeguards who spoke to us about how to stay safe on the beach and in the sun - we now all know what the different coloured flags mean and never to go in the water when there is a red flag flying.



In the evening, we went out to a pizza restaurant and having built up large appetites we filled our tummies with delicious pizza!

# WOODPECKERS STAYCATION

We had a sleepover in the classroom - surprisingly, there was a lot of sleep after our busy day! It was lots of fun making the classroom into a cosy bedroom for us all.



This morning we had early start and went on a class trek, exploring our local area, walking to the top of Chinthurst Hill and the natural play area. We headed back to school for our picnic lunch having made it ourselves in the morning.



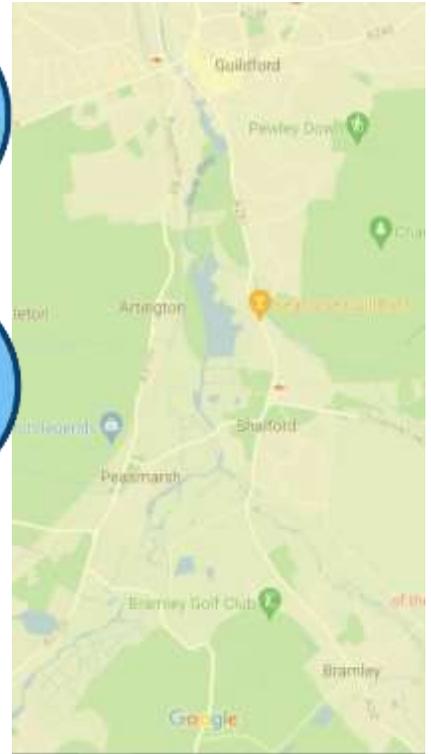
# WOODPECKERS STAYCATION



Year 6 has been amazing and we look forward to hearing about the children's next adventures.

# YEAR 8

Year 8 have had a very practical time recently. We have loved our topic in Our World on "Rivers". We were given the question "Could you get home from school on a boat without a car?" and were surprised how many of us could!



We enjoyed using Google maps to see where the river at the end of our school grounds actually goes to. We used our creative skills to make our own rivers and enjoyed watching instructions on a video to help us break it down into steps. All the children have been utilising their Learning Muscles.



We have enjoyed learning about shapes in Maths and Fiction and Non Fiction books in our Literacy.



We have also enjoyed playing tennis in the sunshine.

YEAR 8

The best things about being in Year 8 this year.....

Alisha –  
making  
pancakes



Joseph –  
being  
involved in  
GASP



Eloise –  
playing the  
drums



Harry – making  
potions during  
Reading Week



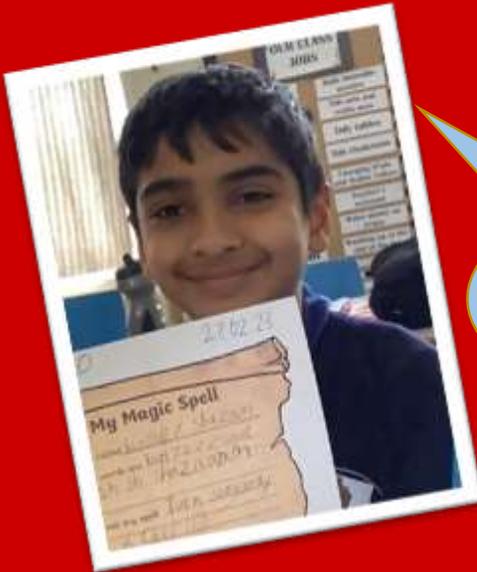
Tia – making  
pancakes!



# YEAR 8

## The best things about being in Year 8 this year.....

Mahla –  
having FUN!



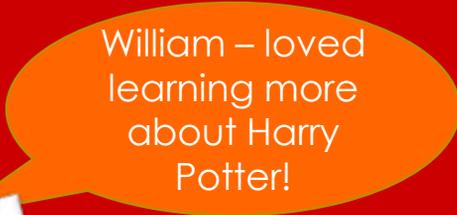
Micaela –  
making a  
canal boat In  
Art



Rayan-  
making up a  
potion!



William – loved  
learning more  
about Harry  
Potter!



Lulu –  
having  
challenging  
work



# DIVERSITY WEEK



Once again, Gosden had an amazing Diversity Week! As a school, we champion **Diversity**, **Equity**, **Belonging** and **Inclusion**. We support our learners to have an understanding of the diversity in the world and what this looks like.



We looked at a variety of different topics throughout the week; different families, gender stereotypes and celebrating what makes us unique.



The week finished with our very own 'Dress to Express' Day, it was a fantastic day filled with colour, individuality and expression. It was lovely to see our learners so engaged with their learning.



We enjoyed reading lots of books that celebrated Diversity!



# SANDRA'S NEWS UPDATE

As our school year begins to wind down and we have said goodbye to our **AMAZING** Year 11's, for me, as Aspirations Adviser, one door closes and another one opens.

As part of our Careers development plan, part of my role is to help to embed "a stable careers programme" at Gosden, using the national framework of the Gatsby Benchmarks to support this.

## **Benchmark 5**

### ***Encounters with employers and employees***

Myself, Year 9 and the Team went off to Vines BMW Group this week to meet with Ben Shiell who is the Customer Services Manager. He took us to the Boardroom and explained a little bit about what happens there and all the many jobs and opportunities there are. We were all really surprised at the different sorts of jobs from a painter in the Bodyshop to a Sales Executive. We thought JJ could work in IT and Charles was very keen to be part of the team who fix cars that have had accidents. Amr was picked to be the Social Media Marketing expert!

This visit was a "meaningful encounter" for our learners and the message out there now is that Government want INCLUSION in the workplace.

**Everyone is unique, everyone is different!**

**"Being wired differently means we can be very good at certain skills"**

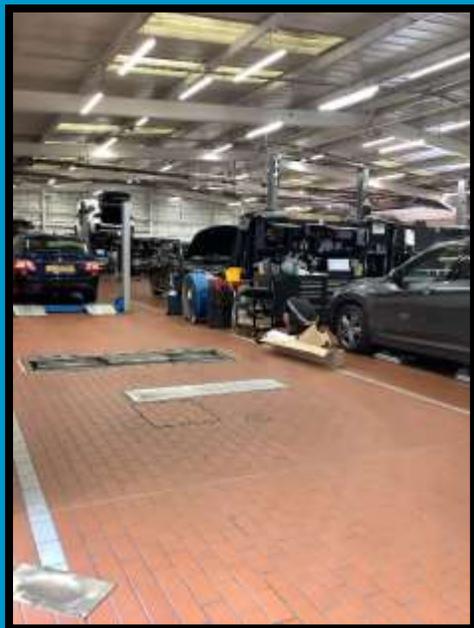
**"Neurodivergent colleagues can bring deep focus, creativity, intense expertise, innovation, and lateral thinking to the workplace"**

**"Neurodiverse employees often have great attention to detail and are able to stay focused on their tasks"**



Together we learnt that the BMW logo has evolved from a spinning propeller on an old aeroplane that was made by BMW specialising in German aircraft engines.

# SANDRA'S NEWS UPDATE



## 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 7**

Jack  
Ruby  
Joshua  
Louise

**Year 9**

skye  
Zach

**Year 8**

Melissa  
Daisy



# E-SAFETY TASK OF THE WEEK

Hello,

I am Charlotte, the e-Safety Coordinator at Gosden House School. This week, we will look at some tips for managing wellbeing online.

There is a myriad of tools that can be used to enhance this – here are a few sites and apps specifically designed to help children with their online wellbeing, and are recommended by the NSPCC.

- [BBC Own it](#) has quizzes, videos and helpful tips
- [Headspace for Kids](#) is an app to teach children the basics of mindfulness in a fun way. It's aimed at 3-12 year olds, with different content for the different age groups.
- [JoyPoP](#) is an app designed to help users find and recognise their inner resilience. It starts the user off with a guided breathing exercise, then encourages them to 'rate their mood' and gives personalised regulation strategy recommendations based on this.
- Have fun finding your 'zen' together!

If you would like to discuss anything to do with e-safety further, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself via email or the school phone number.

Email – [calmond@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:calmond@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk)

Thank you  
Charlotte



Speech & Language Therapy  
Team

★ Makaton Champions ★

Signs of the week w/c 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
(Theme: GosFest)

This week's champions are:

★ **Henry & Sammy – Rabbits Class** ★



# Speech & Language Therapy Team

## ★ Makaton Champions ★

Signs of the week w/c 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023  
(Theme: Time Concepts)

This week's champions are:

★ Georgia – Robins & Bella - Owls ★





THANK YOU to everyone who came along to our Summer Fun Day, we hope you all enjoyed the afternoon. The PTA were really pleased to offer this event free to Gosden families.

We would like to thank Em's Friendly Farm, Have a Bounce and Craig from Whippy King Ices who made the afternoon really fun.

## We Need Your Help!

Class reps are needed for the following classes in September, please can you email [GosdenPTA@outlook.com](mailto:GosdenPTA@outlook.com) if you are interested.

- Robins**
- Owls**
- Rabbits**
- Squirrels**
- Year 7**
- Year 10**



## 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!

Darryn Leslie  
OT



SARAH POPE  
OT



PIPPA DAVIS  
OT ASSISTANT

### Occupational Therapy Gosden Team details

**Email us:**

[OT@gosden-  
house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto: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.childrenshealt  
hsurrey.nhs.uk](http://www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk)

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

We are very proud that Gosden House is a 'Healthy School'. We can never emphasise enough the importance of caring for your child's teeth, so would like to share this little video from NHS England, Training and Education. It promotes good oral health and raises awareness of the impact of sugar.

<https://youtu.be/YSZGc9GNKhs>

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

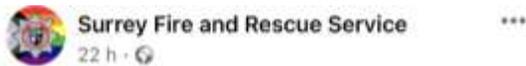
You can also call Jane Cowles, Pastoral Assistant, at school on 01483 892008.

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/>



Surrey Fire and Rescue Service

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Calling all residents in Epsom 📍

Epsom Fire Station is rolling open the shutters for their open day on the 8th July 2023!

Head along to the station between midday and 3pm to take a look at the station, watch demonstrations, meet the crews and see our vehicles!

The station will be open early between 11am - 12pm for our SEN families ONLY!

We look forward to seeing you there 🚒👨‍🚒

#Epsom

**EPSOM FIRE STATION OPEN DAY**  
 8TH JULY 2023 12PM - 3PM  
 SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



[https://www.hrp.org.uk/hampton-court-palace/visit/tickets-and-prices/one-pound-tickets/?utm\\_medium=partnership&utm\\_source=community\\_partners&utm\\_campaign=one\\_pound\\_entry&utm\\_term=action\\_for\\_carers](https://www.hrp.org.uk/hampton-court-palace/visit/tickets-and-prices/one-pound-tickets/?utm_medium=partnership&utm_source=community_partners&utm_campaign=one_pound_entry&utm_term=action_for_carers)

**Visit RHS Gardens for £1**  
<https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley/articles/visiting-the-garden>

Bring your kids to the...  
**FREE Family Zone!**  
 Saturday 17 June  
 9am - 4pm  
 Surrey Sports Park  
 GU2 7AD

Try some free, fun activities for the whole family at the Specsavers Surrey Youth Games 2023

- Climbing
- Soft archery
- Skateboarding
- Football skills
- Martial arts
- Circus skills
- Arts & crafts

plus more!

ACTIVE SURREY | SURREY YOUTH GAMES | www.activesurrey.com/SYG

**MERRIST WOOD HOLIDAY CLUB**  
 24 JULY - 25 AUGUST

Need a holiday club in the summer holidays and your children love the outdoors? Come along and join in the fun at our Merrist Wood Holiday Club!

**Wildlife and Conservation Weeks**  
 Nature trails, DIY seed bombs and bird feeders  
 24-28 July - 7-11 Aug - 21-25 Aug

**Animal Weeks**  
 Meet the markets, mouse house making and farm walks  
 1-4 Aug - 14-18 Aug

The club runs from 9am-4pm or you can extend your hours to 8am-5pm  
 Day ticket - £30 Extended hours ticket - £35  
 Pick any day; you need or the whole week

Book here!  
 www.merristwoodevents.co.uk

Merrist Wood College, Holly Lane, Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE

FAMILY ACTIVITIES



INFINITY presents

# 2 Summer WORKSHOPS

HOLIDAY CLUBS

**INFINITY presents THE GREATEST SHOWMAN**

24th July - 28th July  
 This magical Broadway Musical has hit the UK! It's THE GREAT SHOWMAN! It's a musical about a man who starts a circus and the people who love him. It's a story of hope, love and family. It's a story that will inspire you to believe in your dreams.

£40 for 1 day  
 £100 for 3 days  
 £65 for 2 days

BOOK NOW  
 NEWPERFORMERS.COM

**INFINITY Disney presents THE LION KING**

21st July - 2nd August

One of our Summer Workshops we are back with THE LION KING! The children, regional, making friends, creating props, writing their own musical and getting on a fantastic story for their family and friends.

£40 for 1 day  
 £100 for 3 days  
 £65 for 2 days

Book today

Infinity School of Performing Arts is an up and coming inclusive school for young children to learn singing, dancing and acting, whilst making friends.

We have done multiple successful workshops, including Encanto, Matilda and Moana.

We are now excited to bring two NEW workshops this summer holiday. The Greatest Showman and The Lion King. Please visit our website:

[infinityperformers.com](http://infinityperformers.com) to book. Or email us at [infinityperformers@gmail.com](mailto:infinityperformers@gmail.com) for more info.

See the next page for the two new workshops

# INFINITY presents

## THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

24th July - 26th July

One of our Summer Workshops this year will be THE GREATEST SHOWMAN. The children enjoy 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](mailto:infinityperformers@gmail.com)

£40 for 1 day

£100 for 3 days

£65 for 2 days

BOOK NOW

[INFINITYPERFORMERS.COM](http://INFINITYPERFORMERS.COM)

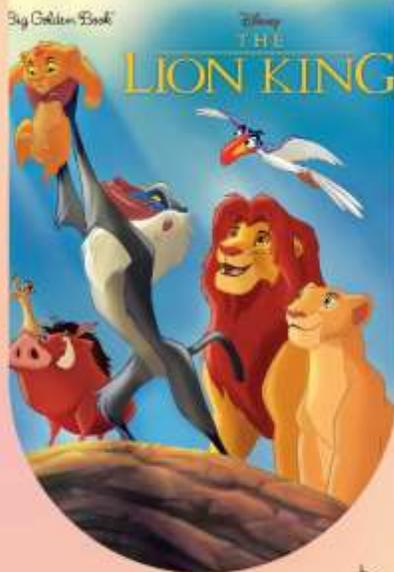


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# INFINITY presents THE LION KING

31st July - 2nd August

One of our Summer Workshops we are back with THE LION KING! 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](mailto:infinityperformers@gmail.com)



£40 for 1 day

£100 for 3 days

£65 for 2 days



Book today

## Free Online Evening Family Learning Workshops in August



To find out more and book your space on these free, high quality, interactive Family Learning workshops click on the link or scan the QR code.

Workshops go live for booking from 11th July

### Free Online Workshops for Parents/Carers

- **Help your Child Manage Anxiety**  
Tuesday 1st August or Thursday 17th August  
7.45 pm- 9.45 pm
- **Helping your Child to Develop Positive Relationships**  
Tuesday 8th August or Thursday 24th August  
7.45 pm-9.45 pm
- **Developing Children's Self-Esteem**  
Thursday 10th August or Tuesday 22nd August  
7.45 pm- 9.45 pm
- **Building your Child's Resilience**  
Tuesday 15th August or Thursday 31st August  
7.45 pm -9.45 pm



Click this [link](#) or scan the  
QR code to book from  
11th July



Web: [www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning)  
Email: [family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk)  
Tel: 0300 2001044



# FUNDRAISING EVENTS AND DONATIONS

Thank you to the Bramley Village Fete who have donated £1500 to us. This money will be used for the ongoing development of the pond in the walled garden,

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.

