



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

GOSDEN NEWS

6 October 2023

The Autumn term is well under way and it is wonderful to see the school in action, making the most of the late summer sunshine. It's strange how the weather seems to improve when the children return to school!

Our fantastic school is such an exciting place – so many opportunities to learn and develop. I love seeing our young people showing off their skills and enjoying their work in the classroom, with the animals, in the garden and kitchen - learning skills that they can use outside of school, building confidence and resilience.

Gosden is a unique school and the Governing body totally supports the values and ethos of the school. Our staff are so committed and hardworking and they strive to ensure that we offer the best possible education for our students – they fully deserve our thanks and appreciation.

It is forecast to be a lovely weekend, maybe the end of the Indian summer – I have the pleasure of my granddaughter's 4th birthday party to enjoy.....!

Warmest wishes to you all for a good weekend.

Pat

Pat Adams, Chair of Governors

Don't forget to keep an eye on our website for updates and useful information:
[Home Page](#) [Class Pages](#)



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday 10 October - Hello Yellow Day
w/c 16 October – Focus Week – Problem Solving
Monday 23 – Friday 27 October – Half Term
Wednesday 8 November – Parents Consultation
Evening 3.15pm – 6pm
Monday 13 November – Odd Sock Day
w/c 13 November – Anti-Bullying Week
Thursday 7 December – Pantomime
Friday 15 December, 1.30pm – End of Term

The Cycle Training Team at Surrey County Council are recruiting for Bikeability Cycling Instructors. If you are interested please click on the link below

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/jobs/search/details?id=29155>

RECENT PARENTMAILS

Hello Yellow Day

Message from Class Rep re 7S and 7W
Gosden PTA Fundraiser – Rags 2 Riches
Gosden PTA Christmas Design Fundraiser
Arts Award – Watts Gallery
Ordering of School Lunches
Safe Together
Muffi Day for Christmas Fair Donations
Half Term Workshops with Infinity Theatre
Letter to Year 8 Parents
PGL Part Payment

Robin Class are quickly approaching the end of their first half-term at Gosden, and are finishing off their first full week at school too! We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them for the brilliant start they have made to their school year, mastering our class routines and creating budding new friendships with their peers.



R O B I N S



Our topic for this half-term is 'Healthy Me', and we have used this as a basis for all of our learning. We have used our 'Exploring' Learning Muscle and explored some of the noises our bodies can make. We have used mirrors to watch different facial expressions, made marks to represent labels for some body parts, and challenged ourselves to climb, pedal and jump!



This week, we have started to explore our new story - Kitchen Disco! After reading through our story to get more familiar with it, we have begun to use Colourful Semantics to identify the 'Who?' and the 'What doing?' on each page. We are very excited to see what the Robins get up to next!

In our Maths learning, we have been joining in with rote counting (and we're great at using our big number line to help with this!), moving objects and saying one number at a time, and counting out amounts. We really enjoyed play dough splat, where we "hulk-smashed" all of the dough, counting as we went.

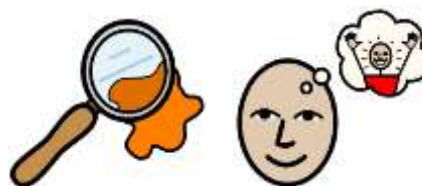




Badgers have had a very exciting start to the year. We have been working really hard in Maths, counting, matching, comparing and ordering numbers as well as recognising numerals. We have had to use our '**Problem Solving**' and '**Keep Trying**' Learning Habits.



BADGERS



Our topic is 'Fire' and we have used our Learning Habits of '**Exploring**' and being '**Creative**' by working on our topic in drama, music, Forest School, Art and Science.



We love to sing in Badger Class so we are always singing songs to help us learn!

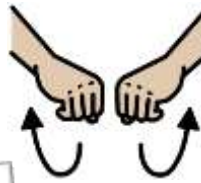
Each week, in Literacy we have concentrated on a book and our favourites have been Jack and the Jellybean Stalk and Mr Big. We have talked about the characters in the stories, and identified what they were doing and how they were feeling. We have created sentences using widgets, completed sentences to tell the story and also practised writing them. When we read The Smartest Giant in Town, we even crawled into a sleeping bag to see if we could describe what it was like!



The arrival of autumn has brought an abundance of outdoor learning opportunities for us. We have enjoyed, 'Learning Together', with our friends from other classes including, Squirrel Class, Rabbit Class and Fox Class. We have enjoyed 'Exploring' our woodland together and using our Learning Habit 'Noticing' to observe how our environment has changed over the past weeks. We all enjoyed learning and singing new songs around the fire circle and worked together with the younger children from Badger Class to make nature confetti wands.



WOODPECKERS



Last week we enjoyed playing woodland games.

Woodpecker and Squirrel Class needed to use the Learning Habits of 'Listening, Problem Solving, Keep Trying and Learning Together' to complete a number of team games.

Our outdoor Maths lesson with Fox Class taught us that nature really is the best classroom and provides us with an abundance of natural resources to use in our maths lessons. We used this session to look at sorting grouping, problem solving and counting. We used more of our Learning Habits including 'Listening' to solve a number of Maths problems set by the teachers.



Back in the classroom Woodpecker Class have created very colourful Egyptian artwork using an array of resources and materials. The main Learning Habit involved being 'Keep Trying' and being 'Creative', skills we all proved we have in abundance.



YEAR 7 CLASSES

Year 7s have had a busy and fun start to the new academic year. The first year in Secondary and first year for most of us at Gosden House!

In Literacy we have learnt about Michael's exciting adventures in Kensuke's Kingdom and in Numeracy we have been working out place values. In Art we have thought about what bacteria might look like and in Music we have been creating rhythms with our drums.

We have picked apples from the orchard, learnt to choreograph our own dance sequence and voted for our School Councillors. It really has been a busy start to the term!



One of the highlights has been learning about refugees. We have asked ourselves questions like what might force people to leave their homes, their jobs and friends far behind. How must they feel when they are in this tricky place? We've been reading 'About a Boy' by Onjali Q. Rauf and exploring what it is like to be a refugee from a child's perspective.

Year 8 have made a fantastic start to their year. Using their “**Being Brave**” Learning Muscle, everyone in the class applied for a class job. Pupils took it in turns to interview each other, to make sure that the best person was found for each job. After some tricky questioning by certain members of the class, appointments were finalised and everyone is now helping to make the class run and smoothly look good!



In “Our World” lessons, we have asking what people need to build a settlement. We set off around the Gosden site to find resources that might be useful for a new settlement, and were astonished to find that almost everything we need to build a home and survive can be found right here within our grounds. We also learnt about how people survive living in the Arctic Circle. We are all looking forward to our upcoming trip to Butser Farm, where we will learn about Celtic Settlement and life.



To celebrate a great start to the year, and to improve our social skills, we headed off to Snoxhall Fields Park in Cranleigh. Everyone was impressed by Alex driving the minibus for the first time, and his handling of the speed bumps. We enjoyed a picnic and then had lots of fun in the adventure playground, especially on the swings and zipwire. We also did a workout at the outdoor gym, which was good exercise.



Well done to Year 8 for settling so well. Keep up the great work!!



A P P L E



D A Y



Yesterday, our Primary learners took part in our Gosden Apple Morning. The morning proved to be, engaging, active, and more importantly fun was had by all. We were very fortunate with the weather, the sun shone down on us and despite it not being the best year for apple crops, we still managed to still produce enough apple juice for everyone. Children participated in activities such as; apple bobbing, apple throwing, and apple and spoon races. Children from a local primary school also joined in the autumn celebrations and our Gosden learners were, kind welcoming and proved to be great hosts. Thank you to all involved a healthy and wholesome morning to remember at Gosden.

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
Phoenix

Year 11
Shannon

Year 10
Lexie

Year 9
Daisy
Joseph
Mahla
Melissa
Micaela
William





I am Beth Sutton, Gosden's new Child & Family Support Worker.

It is my role to safeguard and provide pastoral care to the children and young people across the school. I work closely with professionals in and outside the school, signposting and supporting families to access other key agencies and support where needed, including; Early Help, CAMHS and voluntary and charity organisations.

I first worked at Gosden House as a Teaching Assistant, and have returned following further training and experience, developing my skills and knowledge in working alongside children and their families.

If you need support or have any concerns, please do contact me at bsutton@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk. I work Monday to Thursday.

Jane Cowles, is our Pastoral Assistant, and she is in school Monday to Wednesday.

You can call either of us on 01483 892008 or by email:

jcowles@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

bsutton@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.

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

Upcoming Dates



Work Experience for Year 11

Dates: 29/01/24-09/02/24 inclusive

I have just started chatting with our new Year 11's about Work Experience and they are all really excitedly nervous - I am really enjoying networking and exploring some new placements. We have a couple of new ones who will hopefully support us this year so I am looking forward to working with them.

Year 11 Annual Reviews:

I am hoping I will see most of you either in person or on Teams at the upcoming Year 11 Reviews. It is always so exciting hearing about the students' Aspirations and how and where they may see themselves in the future.



Careers Evening:

November 8th – A great opportunity to talk to Lucy, our EHCP Co-ordinator, and myself with the support of HALOW, Future Choices, Guildford College, County Care and more. The focus will be around transition and next steps in Preparation for Adulthood.

Functional Skills Exam Weeks:

The year 11 learners are currently settling in to work on their Functional Skills Maths and English.

They will be sitting their Maths and English exams in a two week period next year in a couple of slots. Ideally, we will have the Year 11's first, in March and the Year 10's will have their turn in May

Dates: TBC

We will then have a two week "mop up" period where the learners can sit a different Maths or English paper if they didn't quite pass the first time

There will be lots of support around these exam weeks and much preparation around exam tips and techniques so the young people have the best possible chance to achieve their level as reward for all their hard work throughout the year

Open Events

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*

Guildford College

11th November 9.30am-12.30pm

Merrist Wood

18th November 9.30am-12.30pm

Farnborough College of Technology – *Farnborough,*
11th October 4.00- 7.30pm - *Fleet and Aldershot areas*
12th October 4.00-7.30pm - *Surrey, Berkshire and*
Basingstoke areas

Nescot

14th October 10.00am – 1.00pm
22nd November 4.30-7.30pm

If you have any worries or questions please don't hesitate to contact me by phone on 01483 89200 or by email s.tidbury@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

Sandra Tidbury – Aspirations Adviser



Hello,

Talking to your teenager about their online use can be stressful and at times – awkward! However it is clear that having open discussions is the most effective way to safeguard children online.

CEOP have made a series of videos and resources called #AsktheAwkward which explores how parents can support young people covering themes such as 'making connections', 'building trust' and 'facing challenges'.

Find out more and have an explore here
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/ask-the-awkward/>



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

Thank you,
Charlotte



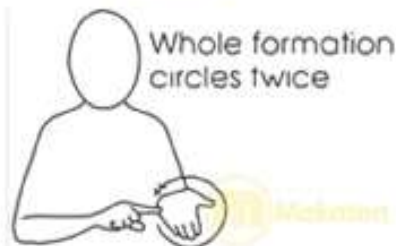
Speech & Language Therapy
Team

★ Makaton Champions ★

Signs of the week w/c 9th October 2023

This week's champions are:

★ Donna & Kai – Yr 7s ★



DATES FOR THE DIARY

19th October

Rags to Riches Clothing Collection

Please start collecting any unwanted clean clothes, paired shoes, belts, handbags and jewellery. Bags will be sent home nearer the day; you can use black bags as well.

2nd December

Gosden House PTA Christmas Fair.



Cauliflower Christmas Card Project

You will soon be receiving a template of the fantastic design your child has created. This will have details with the school's reference and a unique code for you to place your orders online. Once the items are ordered they are delivered to school and sent home during December. Details are how to order are on the order form you can also order

online www.cauliflowercards.co.uk/parents-shop

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



GOSDEN HOUSE PTA



Mufti Day Donations 20th Oct

Primary classes

Please send donations of wrapped sweets, fun size chocolate bars, or boxed chocolates i.e. Heroes, or Selection boxes. No chocolates with nuts in.



Secondary classes

Please send donations of bottles of any description i.e. wine, beer, bubble bath, prosecco anything in a bottle.

Every child can wear mufti even if they do not bring a donation. We are grateful for all donations. If you have anything from the list above please do send it in i.e. if you are in primary and have any bottles we would be grateful for them.

Please send all bottles in with your escort.

If you have any items for our tombola i.e tins, packets non-perishables please send them in.

THANK YOU





**GOSDEN HOUSE
PTA**

Christmas Fair



**2nd December
2pm - 4pm**



**SAVE THE DATE
FOR LOTS OF FUN!**

Here is some useful information about free on-line courses provided by Surrey.



**FAMILY
LEARNING**

First Steps to Understanding my Child (ADHD, Autism and Neurodivergent) Course



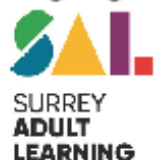
This **FREE** three-week course for parents and carers is delivered online in 2 hour sessions. The course is suitable for parents of children with a diagnosis or those awaiting assessment.

What will I learn?

- Develop an understanding of terms, key features and behaviour of neurodiversity
- Apply techniques for understanding a child's profile and behaviour
- Develop language and skills for recording information to present to schools and professionals

For course dates, more information and to book your place please click on [this link](#) or scan the QR code

Course also available for practical cooking ideas for neurodivergent children and a workshop to support the language of neurodivergence for English as an additional language (EAL) parents



Web : www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning

Email : family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk

Tel : 0300 200 1044



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.

