



# GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

## GOSDEN NEWS

10 November 2023

With anti-bullying week approaching, and celebrations of World Kindness Day (and odd socks!) on Monday, it seems appropriate that this week's newsletter should be headed by the Pastoral Team.

We work within the school to support the wellbeing of all families and children within our community, and what a fantastic community it is! We are very proud to see so much respect and kindness from our students towards each other. Understandably, sometimes things go wrong and words and actions are not what they should be. We come to school, not only to learn our core subjects, but to learn how to interact well with each other and build resilience when things go wrong. We are fortunate enough to work alongside a fantastic body of staff, governors and parents/carers who work hard to support our children to learn these skills. Next week, classes across the school will make this learning their focus.

If you have any worries, please remember the pastoral team are here to offer support and guidance; signpost to appropriate agencies and sometimes just to listen when things get tough for parents/carers and children.

As the weather outside turns colder, we're reminded of the warmth Gosden brings. Our school remains a source of joy and excitement, and we hope that this issue of the newsletter shares joy in the wonderful things our students are achieving.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

*Beth and Jane*

Pastoral Team

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

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



## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Monday 13 November – Odd Sock Day

w/c 13 November – Anti-Bullying Week

Thursday 7 December – Pantomime

Thursday 14 December – Christmas Jumper Day  
and Christmas Lunch

Thursday 13 December - Primary Christmas  
Presentation

Friday 15 December, 1.30pm – End of Term

We will be starting off Anti-Bullying Week with Odd Sock Day where we will be celebrating that we are all different and it is okay to be different.

We would like the children to come to school wearing odd socks and to bring in a £1 donation for the Anti-Bullying Alliance. See flyer on next page.

### **Parent Survey**

If you have not yet managed to do so please do complete our short Parent Survey by clicking on this link

<https://forms.office.com/e/XY3Aw6rjRT>

### **RECENT PARENTMAILS**

PTA Mufti Day on Friday 10 November

Year 8 Butser Farm Trip Reminder

Odd Sock Day on Monday 13 November

KS3 Lunchtime Judo Club

Flyer for Guildford Festive Family Fun Day on  
Sunday 19 November

School Photographs Monday 13 and Tuesday 14  
November

HAF Vouchers for Christmas Holidays

Year 9 Residential Trip

Year 7 Trip to Cineworld



Dear Parents/Carers,  
**WOOHOO... MONDAY**  
**13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER IS**  
**ODD SOCKS DAY!**



### WHAT IS ODD SOCKS DAY?

Odd Socks Day is part of Anti-Bullying Week! To celebrate that we are all unique, we ask that children wear odd socks to school on Monday 13th November. Last year over 13,000 schools took part in Odd Socks Day. Andy Day (CBeebies/CBBC) and his band Andy and the Odd Socks are supporting the Anti-Bullying Alliance to help bring Odd Socks Day to life again this year. Have a listen to the brilliant song they have recorded especially for Anti-Bullying Week, Make a Noise.

### WHY IS ODD SOCKS DAY IMPORTANT?

The day sends an important message to pupils that they should be allowed to be themselves free from bullying and helps us celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a fun and positive way.



### WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?

It's so easy ☺ Here's what you do:

1. Make sure your child wears odd socks to school
2. Donate £1 to help the Anti-Bullying Alliance carry on important work
3. If you want to, you can share a photo online using #OddSocksDay #AntiBullyingWeek and tag @abaonline and @AndyOddSock on Twitter. Or @antibullyingalliance and @andyandtheoddssocks on Instagram.

Monday  
**13<sup>TH</sup>**  
 November

### THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Every penny goes to the Anti-Bullying Alliance to help continue all their work. We can't wait to see all the Odd Socks on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November ...

If you have any questions please ask:

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0203 049 4000



0207 252 6000



0753 800 000

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# GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

## WHO TO SPEAK TO

Nov 2023

### **SAFEGUARDING TEAM**

**Cindy, Beth, Emily & Max**

These are the Designating Safeguarding Leads (DSL's). Anything you discuss with them as DSL's will be treated and recorded as confidential. Information will only be shared with staff on a need to know basis. This means that other staff will not know some things about your family life if we are supporting you in that capacity.

### **ONLINE SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR**

**Charlotte**

She is a whizz with advice and guidance to keep your children safe and happy online. She works closely with the Pastoral team and our IT Support provider.

### **PASTORAL TEAM**

**Beth, Jane**

They are both here to support you and help with anything you need beyond educational needs. This could be Early Help Services, food, family support, parenting advice, health support, DLA forms etc.

### **CLASSROOM STAFF**

**Teachers and Learning Assistants**

**Emily – Deputy Head**

**Julie – Assistant Head,  
Primary Co-ordinator**

### **SEND TEAM**

**Hayley – SENCo**

**Lucy – EHCP Co-ordinator**

**Max – Assistant Head**

This team will help you with everything around your EHCP, Annual Reviews, Section F provision and SEND needs. Please note that this team operate separately to the DSL's and will not have access to confidential information. The SEND team will help you with referrals for diagnoses etc.

### **ADMIN TEAM & SCHOOL OFFICE**

**Karen – School Business Manager**

**Sarah – Finance Officer**

**Debby – Data, Admissions and  
Attendance**

**Imogen – Admin for SLT**

**C J – Receptionist**

**Kelly – Admin Assistant**

**Sandra – Work Experience and  
Exams Officer**

Owls had a fabulous time during Problem Solving Week before half term. They helped cars cross the classroom without getting stuck in mud, animals cross crocodile infested waters, moved water so they could water the plants with no watering cans available, and even rescued our toys from the ice Elsa had accidentally trapped them in!



# O W L S



A real highlight was our visit from Harry and Henry the hedgehogs last week. The children learned all about hedgehogs and afterwards made their own model hedgehogs – what a great inspiration!



After half term the Owls came back raring to get in to their learning! We have been making potions, counting out spooky ingredients, writing recipes and turning each other into different animals. We planned a Halloween party, writing invitations and making cakes.



This week we are starting our new topic – learning all about different kinds of toys old and new.

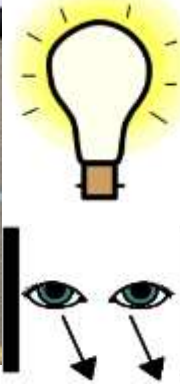
Fox Class started the new half-term with some Halloween celebrations. We had lots of fun choosing a pumpkin from the Gosden Patch and then transforming it into some delicious muffins!



# F O X E S



In Maths, we've been using our Learning Habits '**Problem Solving**' and '**Noticing**' whilst learning about 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional shapes. We followed shape monster recipes, looked at works of art inspired by shapes and then created our own masterpieces. We also made our own 3d shapes using different materials, including marshmallows!



Hedgehog visit

In Literacy, we have been reading the story 'Vladimir the Volcano'. This inspired us to use our '**Creative**' habit to make fire music, perform volcano dances and create our own actions for telling the story.



Year 7 Forest School Team visited Blackheath Common last week. Whilst there we engaged in a range of activities, mainly exploring the woodland and the surrounding area. We spotted a range of fungi which captured everyone's interest. We explored as a team and helped each other along the way. The team enjoyed racing in the sand and finding lots of interesting natural objects. We used landmarks and maps and to find our way back to the carpark.

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In PE we have been learning about gymnastics and have tried to create key shapes such as the straddle, pike and tuck. We have enjoyed doing our lessons in the drama studio so we can see the shapes of our bodies in the large mirror.



Over the last couple of weeks, Year 7 have been potty about performance poetry in our Literacy lessons! We have read 'Chocolate Cake' by Michael Rosen and 'Me Stew, by Shel Silverstein. We have been exploring language through rhythm, rhyme and repetition through drama and performing to our peers. We are looking forward to finding out about other poets and creating poems of our own to perform and share.



This week in citizenship we have been preparing for Children in Need (which is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November) by thinking about why it is important to support charities and how we can help other people. We are looking forward to sharing our posters with the whole school so they know how we are supporting this good cause. We have used our learning muscles of **Learning Together**, **Being Brave** and Emotional Wellbeing.





This week we have had another successful School Council meeting where we had a jam-packed agenda to cover.

We began by creating our own job description of what we think a School Councillor should be. Highlights of this conversation included: listening to others, taking ownership and representing our classes and seeing ourselves as ambassadors of our school. We were able to share our ideas and demonstrated respect by listening when others spoke.

We also discussed our two charity events for next week, which are **Odd Socks Day on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November** and **Children in Need on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**. As we talked, we made suggestions about why these events were important and how we could create posters during our citizenship lessons to make the rest of the school aware of the details for the days.

Our meeting ended with a suggestion that was discussed in great detail that we shall be emailing Cindy about, and another vote - which was unanimous. We are aware of how important it is to make a democratic vote. We also talked through why we wanted to make a change and tried to problem solve any issues which may arise. The whole team realised that our suggestion may not be approved but we wanted to try and make a formal suggestion by writing an email. We know this is an important part of the decision making process.



Later this week, we will be meeting our local MP Angela Richardson. We shall be asking her questions which are important to us and also we shall be showing her how amazing our school is. We will let you know how the meeting goes in the next Newsletter!

A group of Year 10 and 11 students, who have taken Food Studies in Key Stage 4, had a very exciting trip this week to Pizza Express in Godalming, where we learnt how to make tasty margherita pizzas.



We stretched the dough, added toppings and cooked them in the big pizza ovens. Afterwards we did a quiz on all of the different ingredients, using what we had learnt in our practical lessons to come up with some brilliant answers. We used our **Learning Together** Learning Muscles to work in a new environment and speak politely and confidently to the staff at Pizza Express.



In Food Studies we have been baking with fresh Gosden grown produce. Last week we made a pumpkin pie with a pumpkin grown in the school pumpkin patch by Plant Care students. We were really interested to learn how we could use a vegetable to make something sweet – and used our **Being Brave** Learning Muscles to do a taste test. We thought it was delicious!



In DT we have had a brilliant first term working hard on our clocks, which we have designed and made from scratch. We have now chosen our own personal projects, many of which are things to improve our school including some new signs for the garden area and a 3D mural showing all the best parts of Gosden.



On Monday afternoons in PSHE we have been working on our Emotional Wellbeing by setting ourselves goals for the year, and regularly working at these. Some examples of our goals are 'Improve my handwriting', 'Learn how to play tennis', 'Learn how to pay for something in a shop by myself' and 'Teach my class about the Severn Valley railway'.

In KS4, we are very excited that our **Social Enterprise Project** is up and running again, and we are so pleased to be back at The Forge on the Green, in Shamley Green, working with the wonderful owners, Robyn and Osha.

On Thursday afternoons, a small group of learners visit the café and work with the trained staff to learn about the catering and hospitality industry. They become experts on using the tills, making coffee, baking in the kitchen and customer service.

During the project, learners raise money through the sales of their cookies and have the opportunity to decide how that money is spent to benefit the Gosden House.



Last week, four learners went to visit The Forge, to introduce themselves. This week they begin their exciting five week journey. Their first job is to decide on their team name, as well as make a big decision as to how they would like to spend their profits.

Click on the link to find out all about The Forge on the Green and the wonderful work that they do.

<https://www.forgeonthegreen.co.uk/>

# 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 7W  
Phoenix  
Ryan

Lamarie  
Jessica

Year 8  
Madiha  
Jack

Year 9  
Melissa B

Year 10  
Alexie  
Aicha

Year 7S  
Alex P

Year 10  
Leo C



For any concerns or support, please do contact Beth Sutton, Child and Family Support Worker (Mon-Fri) or Jane Cowles, Pastoral Assistant (Mon-Weds) at

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

[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)

You can reach us at 07864 721931 or by phoning the school on 01483 892008.

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

### Services in Surrey

For a general overview of services in Surrey that can support over the half term, including financial support, families can visit [Community Connector newsletter – helping families find support - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#) on the Surrey Family Information Service Website.

For advice about staying safe and well as it gets colder, visit [Home :: Children and Family Health Surrey \(childrenshealthissurrey.nhs.uk\)](#).

<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. Visit [Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health support in Surrey | Surrey Education Services \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#) for more information on Mental Health support in Surrey.

### 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)

### It's Guildford's free Festive Family Fun Day on Sunday 19 November 11am-4pm.

Roll up! Roll up! Get ready for a free Festive Family Fun Day, with lots of activities and magical moments to enjoy across Guildford town centre all for free. With Christmas market stalls, cheeky elves, Bigmouth's Christmas Disco, dance, choir and brass band performances, there's so much to see. We also have a fantastic free photo opportunity as our very popular Giant Snow Globe makes a welcome return to Phoenix Court. Check out [www.visitsurrey.com/whats-on/guildford-festive-family-fun-day-p2281991](http://www.visitsurrey.com/whats-on/guildford-festive-family-fun-day-p2281991) for full details.





Part of my role as Aspirations Adviser is to help our learners find out about themselves, what they are interested in and their aspirations for a possible future pathway. I have already introduced the Vocational Profiles to our Year 9 learners this week.

The National Careers Service is a really useful website to look at, offering free advice and guidance. There is an area with information to help make choices of what to do next if you have learning difficulties or a "disability such as autism, attention deficit disorder (ADHD) or dyslexia".

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/careers-advice/education-advice-disabled-special-educational-needs>

I will be looking at the website with Year 11 in the Summer term but I just wanted to post for everyone to have a look and a browse out of interest...(especially now the evenings are drawing in and the weather is more wet than dry!)



## Upcoming Dates

### **Work Experience for Year 11**

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

Work Experience plans are coming together for the Year 11's. 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.

### **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

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

### **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.

# 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*

## **Brooklands College**

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 10.00am -12.30pm  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 4.30pm -7.00pm  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024 10.00am - 12.30pm

## **Guildford College**

11<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am-12.30pm

## **Merrist Wood**

18<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am-12.30pm

## **Nescot**

22<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:s.tidbury@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk)

**Sandra Tidbury – Aspirations Adviser**

Hello,

Lots of us use social media to keep in touch with family and friends. Increasingly, children and young people are using social media for the same reasons as well. A few things to remember if your child does use social media -

**Age ratings and features** - Get to know the age ratings of the apps. Many have a minimum age of 13 years old so can not be used before this age. However, you know your child best, and you might decide that they need to be a little bit older before it's suitable for them.

**Review the location settings** - Review the location settings on apps to ensure that their location is not being shared.

**Get to know the safety and privacy settings** - Explore the safety and privacy settings on any app, to decide which are right to use for your child. Each app has slightly different ways to set up an account, but most have the option to set an account to private, to not allow friend requests, and to hide the user's location. All of which can be helpful.

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 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
(Theme: Remembrance Sunday)

This week's champions are:

★ Jess and Zack – Foxes Class ★



# DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Friday 10 November**

PTA Mufti Day – donations to Christmas Fair



**Saturday 2 December**

Gosden House PTA Christmas Fair.



## KEEP A LOOK OUT



Please look out for a Parentmail and watch our Socials for the launch of pre bookable Santa slots for the Christmas Fair.

These slots are pre bookable for each family and each slot can include siblings too, you will need to pay for each child/young person in the slot.

Don't worry if you don't pre-book one, walk-ups will be available on the day.

### 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)



**GOSDENHOUSE PTA**



## *Multi Day Donations 10th Nov*

**Robins & Owls**

**Kids hamper items i.e. crafts, colouring books, pens or play doh.**

**Rabbits, Badgers & Foxes**

**Mens hamper items, i.e. toiletries, beer, or chocolate.**

**Squirrels & Woodpeckers**

**Biscuit hamper i.e. any biscuits.**

**Year 7W, Year 7S & Year 8**

**Ladies hamper items i.e. toiletries, spa items, chocolates, or make up.**

**Year 9, Year 10 & Year 11**

**Christmas food hamper items i.e. chutney, jams, biscuits, shortbread, or crackers.**

**Every child can wear mufti even if they do not bring a donation. We are grateful for all donations.**

**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!**

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.

