



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL GOSDEN NEWS

24 November 2023

Already we seem to have started the journey towards Christmas, along with a rise in excitement and anxiety. Please do get in touch with the Pastoral Team or anyone else at school if you would like support or advice with anything.

Surrey Libraries have advertised their Winter Reading Challenge <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/children/5-to-12-year-olds/winter-mini-challenge>. We loooove reading at Gosden – reading wonderful stories to each other, curling up with a good book (even if we are making up our own story!) and sharing a book with an adult at bedtime. Reading changes lives for the better, so please encourage your children to join in the challenge!

Next Saturday is the PTA Christmas Fair, one of Gosden's great annual events. Pop in, have cake, enter the raffle. And of course, it's the first appearance of Father Christmas – in our very own Gosden grotto! You know, I always plug our wonderful PTA – they are absolute gold. Come along to the AGM on the 7th December – the whole Gosden community welcomes your support.

And soon it will be December – when the whole school goes to the Yvonne Arnaud for panto, we have our Primary Presentation, and the term finishes with the Big Man himself visiting all the children in his orange sleigh. Look closely, you might recognise the small, black reindeer.

For now, keep calm and carry on!

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](#)



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thursday 7 December

Pantomime at Yvonne Arnaud

Wednesday 13 December (afternoon)

Primary Christmas Presentation

Thursday 14 December

Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Friday 15 December

1.30pm – End of Term



LAST CHANCE TO COMPLETE OUR 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

Measles Information

Primary Christmas Presentation

Letters from Head Teacher & Chairs of
Governors

Synergy Dance Company Workshops

Raffle tickets reminder

Booking link - Father Christmas at Christmas Fair

Save the Date – Year 11 School Prom 2024

Healthy Schools letter from Cindy

PREVENTING SCAMMERS

Buckinghamshire & Surrey Trading Standards is cracking down on telephone scammers this festive season by encouraging people with vulnerable family or friends in Surrey or Buckinghamshire to support them in applying for a FREE [trueCall device](#), to prevent telephone scammers and nuisance callers getting through.

Trading Standards helps to protect the vulnerable from telephone scammers year-round by providing these easy to plug in home devices. Once fitted, they enable all known contacts to dial straight through, with anyone else being screened on the various settings available. To check eligibility for a FREE device call 0300 123 2329.



Together is a FREE holiday club for any children aged 12-19 with special educational needs and disabilities. Run by professional facilitators, we rehearse scenes and play fun drama games.

[TOGETHER: S.E.N.D. HOLIDAY CLUB - Guildford Shakespeare Company \(guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk\)](#)

WINTER MINI CHALLENGE

Sign your child up for the Winter Mini Challenge so they can be rewarded for keeping up their reading skills over the winter holidays.

www.surreycc.gov.uk

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/children/5-to-12-year-olds/winter-mini-challenge>

WWW.SYNERGYDANCEOUTREACH.CO.UK ADMIN@SYNERGYDANCE.CO.UK

SYNERGY DANCE[®] OUTREACH

SENSational Activities for All

Suitable for children aged 6-12 years. Saturday's term time. 11.00 - 14.00

Synergy "SEN"ational Activities for All will deliver a unique combination of dance, fitness and movement classes with a little (optional) Cheer leading, dance and body conditioning skills - to work on fitness, dance skills and partner work. Don't miss this opportunity to try something new.

Suitable for participants with learning difficulties and SEN.

Saturday 13th January - 16th March 2024

Chapel Lane, Milford, Godalming, GU10 5E2

Book Today: <https://bit.ly/sensationalmilford>

Themed Holiday Activities at Guildford Spectrum

Come and join us for our holiday themed holiday workshops. If you book onto our SEND CP Adventure Party you'll also get a FREE personalised badge and certificate!

Book Today: <https://bit.ly/synergy-workshops>

YOU CAN NOW ALSO BOOK A RESPOKE THEMED DANCE PARTY WITH US!
Choose from a variety of popular themes to create your own.

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3ELC456](https://bit.ly/3ELC456) 07713 294260



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 – Aspirations Advisor



ROBINS

This half-term, the Robins have been **Exploring** our topic of Toys. We had a very special visitor. Her name was Pat, and she works in a toy museum - though she did look very much like CJ from the office with a very curly wig!

Pat came to see us because she desperately needed our help. She had just started her new job, and needed the Robins to help her to label all of the toys. Everyone sprang into action, and did their most beautiful mark making to help Pat, making labels for cars, Lego, blocks and iPads! Pat was so grateful, but needed some more help! She asked us to help her to sort some toys into old and new. The Robins were happy to help, especially as they got to play with lots of different toys as they sorted them into their categories! The Robins have also decorated their own toys using different art resources, and did a brilliant job of moving toy soldiers, spinning tops and dinosaurs in our PE session.



In our Maths learning, we have **explored** a range of 2D shapes, matching them regardless of colour or size, and beginning to identify the properties that we could see. We have also been counting amounts up to 10 out of groups, and this week, we have been working on recognising amounts without counting them (super challenging!). We have also started our Phase 2 Phonics session, and have been working hard to form sounds and orally blend CVC words.



It has been a brilliant half-term for the Robins, and we are so proud of all of their learning achievements

The second half term for Badger Class has been just as busy as the first!

We have been finding out about the Great Fire of London. We have used the '**Listening**' Learning Habit to listen to historical fiction and non-fiction books to find out how it started, how people escaped the flames and how the fire was put out. We have created sentences using Widget, and have practised saying them. We are working really hard on our pencil control. We can also sing and sign a fantastic song about the Great Fire!

Badgers use their '**Keep Trying**' Learning Habit every morning as we work really hard on our phonics. We know the sounds and cued articulation signs for more than half of the Phase 2 sounds and we are making words with magnetic letters and beginning to blend.

We love using our '**Creative**' Learning Habit in PE as we are doing gymnastics this half term. We have made shapes and practised balancing on different parts of our bodies.

Come and watch us dance in the Christmas Production!



BADGERS



In Maths, we have been finding out that numbers are made up of smaller numbers and have even been working on the part, part, whole model. This week we have started work on position and direction and we have been dancing to a left and right rap!

Woodpeckers have been using all their Learning Habits recently. This half term they have been '**Challenging**' themselves by taking part in Yvonne Arnaud's Discover Theatre Workshops as part of achieving their Arts Award. Each week we '**Explore**' a different aspect of pantomime, looking at characters, costumes, scenes and script.

This week we used our '**Learning Together**' skills to create 'Slosh Scenes' - comedy scenes involving getting messy. Lots of fun, laughter and action has been had - luckily without too much mess!

Woodpeckers have amazed the Yvonne Arnaud theatre team with how well they have all participated and their developing confidence in performing actions and scenes.



WOODPECKERS

On Friday 10th November, a select group from the School Council had the opportunity to meet Angela Richardson MP. The children were excellent ambassadors for our school and showed all of our Gosden values as they asked her questions and told her about our special school.

The students explained why they liked Gosden.



We have friends and our adults are brilliant!

Our learning is creative – we love art and being outdoors

Even though I am new to Gosden I feel like I have been here ages

Angela was very excited to hear about our learning and how we look after the animals. We asked her questions about her job and about her office to see if she would like some art work there. James wanted to invite her to our special school events and she said she would love to receive an invite. Skye asked about work experience and opportunities to visit The Houses of Parliament. After our discussion we had a very important job to show Angela around our school and see our wonderful learning in our classrooms.

The School Councillors had some positive comments about their experience of meeting an MP.

I felt like I had some good confidence and that I could speak if I wanted to. Ryan

It was a life changing experience. Chance



In 'Our World' lessons we have been learning about the Celts. To learn more, we visited Butser Ancient Farm where we were able to experience Celtic Life. When arrived we were shown into an Iron Age Roundhouse with an open fire. It felt very strange and we needed to use our **'Being Brave'** Learning Muscles a lot - soon we started to feel at home!



We learnt many new skills including jewellery making, spinning sheep's wool into thread and pottery making. It was great to find out how the Celts were able to do so many things with basic resources, and it was wonderful to take our goods home. We also visited a re-creation of a Roman Villa, where we learnt a Roman board game. After a quick visit to the animals, it was time to head back home.



Well done Year 8 for being so brave and for learning so many new skills!



In Science lessons we have learnt about how different substances behave when we mix them with water and, when we heat and cool them. We set ourselves the challenge of trying to separate flour and rice and sugar from a sugar-water solution. We had to use our **"Getting Ready"** Learning Muscle to plan different experiments and our **"Learning Together"** muscles to complete everything in a safe way. Good work Year 8!



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

Kelsie
Kaylum
Elaina
Bethany

Year 7S

Finley
Lily
Chance
Donna

Year 9

Rayan
Micaela
Daisy

Year 8

Melissa
Alfie
Casper
Owen
Elaina
Madiha
Louisa
Ruby

Year 11

Sofia
Harry
Harry
Rebecca



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

jcowles@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

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/>

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

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.

Shout Out



“Would you be willing to come into school to talk to our young people about your job/career?”

We have a fantastic careers programme at Gosden and this would add another layer for our students to enable them to understand the world of work.

If you would like to or are able to support us with the work we do for our careers programme then please contact me on:

s.tidbury@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

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.

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

Wednesday 28th February 2024 4.30pm -7.00pm

Saturday 18th May 2024 10.00am - 12.30pm

If you have any worries or questions please don't hesitate to contact me by phone on 01 483 89200 or by email

s.tidbury@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

Sandra Tidbury, Aspirations Advisor



E- Safety



Hello,

Here are some e-safety games!



Interland - This game lets children play as a little robotic "internaut", learning all about cyberbullying, phishing, data protection, and more. This is taught through a variety of mini-games that are spread out across floating islands. Learning and having fun!

Privacy Pirates

It is important for children to know how to protect their personal information online and Privacy Pirates is a great game to help teach them. The aim is to put together a map that will eventually lead to some pirate treasure.



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

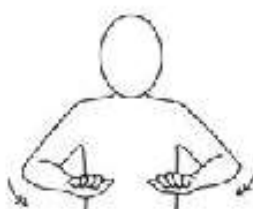
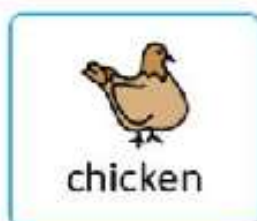
★ Makaton Champions ★



Signs of the Week w/c 20th November 2023

This week's champions are:

★ Hayden & Tyler - Squirrel Class ★



DATES FOR THE DIARY

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



**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.

