



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL GOSDEN NEWS

26 January 2024

I started my Gosden House journey as a parent and was lucky to follow my son and become a teacher here. Currently I work across all year groups and am fortunate enough to be able to get to know and teach every class. The children are all so welcoming and keen to share and talk about their learning. The excitement and buzz around the school makes it a pleasure to be here - no such thing as a dull day at Gosden House School!

A big excitement this week has been interviews for a new head teacher. The School Council were involved in the process and had the opportunity to interview the candidates. Their confidence in asking and answering questions was a real credit to them and their honesty to the candidates was wonderful. A big well done too to those who were interviewed as being met by a team of students who wanted answers could have been more daunting than the adult panel!

We have such a generous school community here. We have been collecting unwanted gifts and have received a great selection to sell on, to raise money for school. We also have a good supply of second hand uniform and coats so please do get in touch with your class team if you need any uniform or winter coats. A big thank you to all who have donated and who have helped keep it tidy by using the uniform!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and hoping that you get a chance to get out and enjoy the dry weather.

Jo

Jo McGee



DATES FOR THE DIARY

29th January – 9th February – Yr. 11 Work Experience

2nd February – Number Day

8th February – Shrek and Safer Internet Day

HALF TERM – Monday 12th – Friday 16th February

22nd February 1.15pm – Transition to Secondary meeting for Year 5 parents

w/c 4th March – Focus Week – English

7th March – World Book Day

15th March – Red Nose Day

28th March @ 1.30pm – End of Term

RECENT PARENTMAILS

UKHSA – advice for keeping children healthy this term

Headlice

Clothing in cold weather

Squirrels & Woodpeckers – Look Out trip

Introducing 'Kiwi' the PAT Dog

Evisense issues

Missing Coat

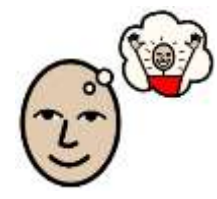
Letter from Julie Clarke

Norovirus Case

Year 5 – Transition to Secondary School Meeting

Year 7 Winchester Science Centre Trip contribution

So far this term, Rabbits have been busy **'Listening'** to and **'Exploring'** the story of The Three Little Pigs! Rabbits have been using their **'Creative'** Learning Habit to re-enact the story in our role-play corner and have thoroughly enjoyed creating our very own story map to help us remember the correct sequence! Rabbits have enjoyed being creative in their investigation of materials; designing and testing the strength of their very own straw/stick/brick houses!



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Rabbits have demonstrated fantastic use of their **'Learning Together'** Habit to participate in learning outdoors! They particularly enjoyed a treasure hunt to find straw, sticks, and bricks and used their wonderful **'Noticing'** Learning Habit to follow a set of instructions to successfully find and rescue the 3 little pig before the big bad wolf arrived!



In our Happy and Healthy lessons, Rabbits have been learning about 'Health, Lifestyle and Wellbeing.' So far, Rabbits have enjoyed using their **'Learning Together'** Habit to explore how we can keep healthy. Rabbits particularly enjoyed 'Exploring' the germ experiment, practicing their teeth brushing skills, and participating in whole-class yoga! We will continue our learning by focusing on 'Feelings' and strategies that we can use to help us.



In our Maths learning, we have been using our **'Keep Trying'** Habit to engage in simple addition and have been working hard to consolidate our skills to count out correct quantities! Rabbits have enjoyed various Three Little Pig-themed Numeracy activities and have enjoyed playing dice games in small-groups.



Squirrels have been doing lots of great learning this half term!

In Maths we have been learning about addition. We used our **Creative** Learning Habit to create our own addition number stories. We have also been doing lots of **Problem Solving**, and Challenging ourselves by explaining how we got the answer. Next week we will start learning about time.

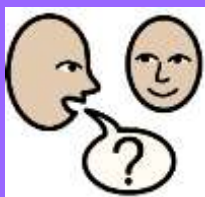


S Q U I R R E L S

In Literacy, we read the book “There’s a snake in my school” by David Walliams. In the story the children have a “bring your pet to school day”. We made predictions about what would happen next in the story and did some fantastic **Explaining** about the plot when doing our book review. We have been **Creative** in thinking about what our ideal pet would be, and what things it might get up to if we had a “bring you pet to school day”.

Our topic this term is the human body. So far we have learned about skeletons, muscles and the heart. We have been very excited and asked lots of questions and eagerly shared facts we already know.

Did you know that the human body has 206 bones?



We have enjoyed getting outside for some outdoor learning. One of our highlights was **Working Together** to build a giant spider web. We then had a challenge to find a path through without getting stuck in the it. Squirrels did brilliantly, they were very encouraging and problem solved as team to get everyone through the web!

Year 9 enjoyed the start of our new Topic using all of their problem solving skills. They used their Learning Muscles to explore and question the clues that had been placed around the classroom. The learners used their **Being Brave** muscles by picking up objects and trying on costumes. They then used their **Learning Together** muscles by asking each other questions about each clue. The clues included; a banquet, a chamber pot, some old-fashioned clothes, maps, roses and a beheaded queen! Someone suggested our topic might be about a “King that killed his wives” which sparked another idea “King Henry”. Before the teachers could introduce our new topic, we realised it was the “Tudors”. We went on to find out who the Tudors were and focused on Henry VIII and his wives. Divorced, beheaded, died. Divorced, beheaded, survived!



Year 9 have been entered into a competition called Art Bytes. Art Bytes is a national art programme which combines an art competition with a virtual gallery. The programme nurtures talent, raises ambition and helps develop confidence, as well as supporting mental health and developing vital skills for future employment.

The students have chosen their favourite animal to draw and create a background for. They have used their ICT skills to find step by step guides to support their drawing. We look forward to telling you all about the next steps of the competition.





The Gosden Bakehouse has re-opened this term, just in time to lift everyone's spirits and warm us up during the cold month of January! We have an amazing team of hardworking young bakers this year who are making our coffee shop bigger and better than ever.

This term 7 students are providing a hot drink and snack service to the adults of Gosden. Every week we decide on a baked item to make, and half the team bake these in the morning whilst the other half of the team take orders from adults around the school. This gives us a great opportunity to practise our communication skills, ensuring we use loud voices and ask questions to make sure we get the right orders. We are also developing our money handling skills as we make sure we collect the right amount of money and give change if needed – there is lots to think about.



After we have collected all of the orders, we deliver our freshly baked goods and hot drinks to our happy customers. We are learning how to be safe and hygienic whilst making hot drinks, as well as having to be really organised to make sure no one gets the wrong order!

We think its really important to cater to different dietary needs that people may have and so far this term we have served sausage rolls (with a veggie option) and gluten free blueberry and white chocolate muffins.

We are really enjoying growing in confidence in the kitchen, developing a range of skills...although our favourite part is definitely the taste testing!



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
Jessica
Kelsie
Bethany
Alex

Year 11
Lucie
Jude

Year 9
Harry
Daisy
Tia

Year 8
Melissa
Madiha
Alfie
Owen
Ellie-Mae
Jack



Parent Mental Health Day 2024

27th January marks Parent Mental Health Day, a day to raise awareness of the importance of supporting the mental health of parents and carers. Stem4, teen mental health charity, are encouraging parents and carers to take time to connect, play and rest, as this year's mental health day theme focuses on creating positive relationships. See their website for some excellent tips and resources:

<https://stem4.org.uk/parentmentalhealthday/>

For further help and mental health advice, you can reach out to:

· Your GP · <https://www.mind.org.uk/> · <https://togetherall.com/en-gb/>

· Text 'SHOUT' to 85258 to contact the Shout Crisis text line, or call 116123 to talk to Samaritans.

Please reach out to the Pastoral Team to find out more accessing support, by emailing pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk or calling 07864721931.



The Flying Child Project



This week, 'The Flying Child' visited Gosden House staff to deliver a training session on Child Sexual Abuse (CSA). These training sessions support staff in recognising early signs of abuse and managing disclosures in the best possible way. The Flying Child Project encouraged us to reflect on our existing safeguarding practise and policies, whilst developing our confidence in using skills and judgement to best safeguard our children.

The Flying Child is a survivor-led, non-profit organisation, founded by Sophie Olson – a survivor of intrafamilial CSA. Their core aim is to normalise speaking about child sexual abuse, in society, in professional settings and within the survivor community itself. For more information on their work, please visit

<https://theflyingchild.com/>

The Flying Child offer free support and creative spaces for any adult CSA survivors. If you would like to speak to someone at The Flying Child, please email groups@theflyingchild.com or see this webpage for more [help and signposting](#).

Surrey Connect is a digital on demand bus service available across West Guildford, Farnham and Cranleigh. For more information, please check out the following link:

https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/buses-and-other-transport/community-transport/surrey-connect?utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Orlo#who

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/>

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 \(childrenshealthisurrey.nhs.uk\)](#).

<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.

Year 11 Work Experience

Work experience starts next week!
We are all looking forward to it.



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

Guildford College

Wednesday 7th February 2024 4.30pm – 7.30pm
Wednesday 24th April 4.30pm – 7.30pm

Merrist Wood College

Wednesday 28th February 4.30pm – 7.30pm
Wednesday 1 May 4.30pm – 7.30pm

If you have any worries or questions please don't hesitate to contact me by phone on 01483 892008 or by email s.tidbury@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

Sandra Tidbury, Aspirations Advisor

CAN YOU HELP?

Would you be willing to come into school to talk to our young people about your job and career? We have a fabulous careers programme at Gosden and having you come in and talk to our students would add another layer of understanding for them. If you can support us please contact me, s.tidbury@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

FRIMHURST ENTERPRISES



..... are an exciting community interest company dedicated to offering adults with learning disabilities a chance to develop independence and work related skills.

They aspire to create a thriving and vibrant community that encompasses both Frimhurst and the wider community. They aim to be innovative and imaginative in creating real jobs.

"One of the main activities at Frimhurst Enterprises is growing vegetables, fruit and flowers in our community garden. We have helped to re-develop and improve the area into a now thriving garden. The food grown ends up in the Frimhurst kitchens. The food you enjoy at one of our cafes may have been grown by our own fair hands. We have just developed a new sensory garden at Frimhurst with a beautiful shaded area funded by a grant from Greggs Foundation. We produce hanging baskets in Autumn and Summer and Christmas Wreaths"

Contact: Referrals are through social services or direct from parent/carer. If they have space they offer visits, then taster days where they carry out an assessment.

"We are funded via individual Direct Payments and not directly commissioned by Surrey"

"We run a cafe on Tuesday afternoons from 1pm to 3pm. Join us for a light lunch and homemade cake.

£4 jacket potato with choice of fillings / choice of homemade soup

£2 for a slice of homemade cake

£1 for choice of drink



"We have set up a new Performing Arts company. The Jolly Good Company gives our team members the opportunity to showcase their talents to a wider audience.

We have already performed in local nursing homes and have more performances lined up.

We will also be doing performances at Frimhurst and have invited local SEN colleges, day services and residential homes"

Hello,

Ofcom create a research report about the use of media by children and young people. Last years report titled 'Children's and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes' was released in March 2023 and their next report will be due to be published soon. If you would like to read it, you can find it here [childrens-media-use-and-attitudes-report-2023.pdf](#)

Aged 3-4
Supervised Explorers



Aged 5-7
Increasingly Independent



Aged 8-11
Developing Skills



Aged 12-15
Connecting and Creating



Aged 16-17
Branching Out



One of the things it highlights is a reminder of the age restrictions on social media sites and apps and how old you must be to have your own account. This is outlined below:

Facebook – must be 13 years or older

Instagram - must be 13 years or older

Tik Tok - must be 13 years or older

YouTube - must be 13 years or older

WhatsApp - must be 16 years or older

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



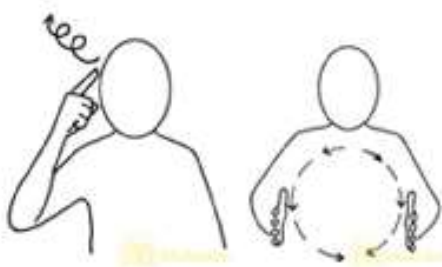
Speech & Language Therapy
Team

★ Makaton Champions ★



Signs of the week w/c 29th January 2024
(Theme: National Storytelling week)

This week's champions are:
★ Charles and Safa – Yr 7 ★



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.

