



# GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL GOSDEN NEWS

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

I know that many in our community are fasting or abstaining from certain habits for Ramadan or Lent. Whether we practise a certain religion or not, there is merit in taking the time think about how we act and interact in society, to reflect, to be grateful for what we have, and to do charitable acts.

We are all lucky to be part of a community which is respectful and supportive of our children, each other's children, and the parents, carers and staff who care for our children. This is down to the individual decisions and actions of every one of us.

At school we have much to celebrate, as you will see in the newsletter. Mostly today we are celebrating chocolate! Don't panic – we are a Healthy School, and Mel serves us the best and most nutritious food in the county. It's nice to have a little treat sometimes though isn't it?

Over the holidays Angus will be walking for Cancer – no challenge for Angus TBH, but a very good cause. Thanks to Year 9 – his support crew!

Please enjoy a positive and peaceful break. Happy Easter for those hitting the chocolate on Sunday, and Happy Eid al-Fitr for those feasting on Tuesday the 9th.

Cindy O'Sullivan, Head Teacher

*Cindy*



**DATES FOR THE DIARY****15<sup>th</sup> April** – Summer term starts**6<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday****23<sup>rd</sup> May – PTA Coffee Morning – 10am****27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May** – Half Term**w/c 17<sup>th</sup> June** – Cultural Celebration Week**26<sup>th</sup> June** – Sports Day**28<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 11 Leavers**28<sup>th</sup> June** – PTA Coffee Morning – 10am**10<sup>th</sup> July** – GOSFEST and Meet the Teacher**15<sup>th</sup> July** – PTA Coffee Morning – 10am**19<sup>th</sup> July** – 1.30pm End of Summer term**MESSAGE FROM SaLT**

Our SaLT team would like to know if parents and carers are interested in attending workshops run by the SaLT team on Makaton Signing or other forms of ACC (Alternative and Augmentative Communication) – such as Aided Language Displays, Symbols, PECS, Talkers and High tech devices. Please click on the Forms link below. This has also been sent to you via Parentmail.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=RbVh2UwQ0E6FgH9XDwWVzTZ-Yp5GaXFAt3N7Jv1G3RUMzE2RV15SzVRRDZEWIUVThFN1FEWFBTni4u>

**TRAVEL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS**

**All** parents of current Year 6 and Year 2 pupils need to reapply for transport for September. This includes all students, even those who are staying at Gosden House for their next key stage. If you have not already applied please follow this link:

[Apply for under 16 travel assistance to school - Surrey County Council](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/transport/apply-for-under-16-travel-assistance-to-school)  
([surreycc.gov.uk](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk))

If you have any queries about this please do let me know. Lucy Ellis EHCP Coordinator [lellis@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:lellis@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk) 01483 892008

**LOST PROPERTY**

We have a number of water bottles, coats and scarves in the office. If your child is missing something please do let us know. Items can also be returned to their owners if they are named.

Thank you!



Angus has signed up to complete the **WALKIES CHALLENGE!!!**

With the help of Year 9, Angus is committing to walking **60 miles** in **April.**



Scan the QR code to take you straight to our donation page!

Every pound raised through the Stand Up to Cancer Walkies Challenge will fund lifesaving research.

**PLEASE SUPPORT ANGUS AND DONATE !**

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/cindys-giving-page-127>

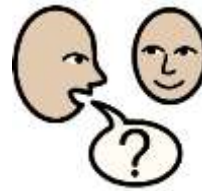
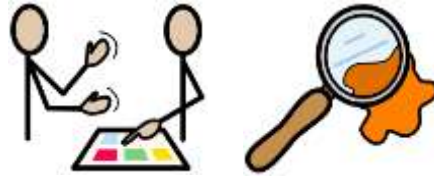






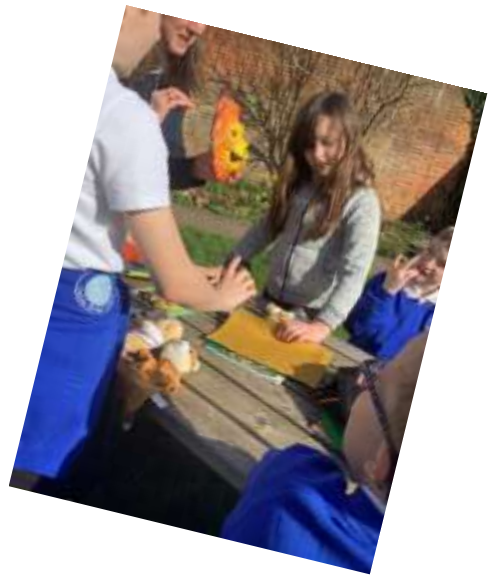
The School Council ran a very successful Easter Egg Raffle.

**£170** was raised and this money will go towards Pets as Therapy. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets.



# S Q U I R R E L S

We have had a lovely term full of learning in Squirrel class. In Science we have continued our topic the human body. We had lots of fun learning about the digestive system, the names of the different organs involved and what they do. We did a great experiment using some bananas and crackers and digested them using a potato masher (for teeth) a plastic bag and orange juice (for the stomach and stomach acid) and some tights (for the intestines). Squirrels did brilliantly – ask us to explain the digestive system to you!



We also really enjoyed our reading and careers focus week. We met a fire fighter and asked some great questions and learned how they make pizzas at Pizza Express. We also loved doing a fairy tale scavenger hunt and guessing what books the characters were from.





# FOXES

Foxes have been using lots of their Learning Habits this half term!

In Literacy, we have been reading the story 'Beegu' by Alexis Deacon to inspire our lessons. We used our '**Creative**' Learning Habit when we imagined what Beegu's planet might look like by creating some beautiful paintings. We then used lots of 'WOW' words to describe it. We felt sad for Beegu so we used salt dough to make a friend for Beegu. We made comparisons between Beegu and her friend, finding similarities and differences between them.



In Science, we have been learning about rocks. We discovered there are 3 types of rocks and enjoyed using our '**Exploring**' Learning Habit when we carried out experiments to discover their different properties. At the end of this topic, we created some beautiful sand art by layering coloured sand.



We enjoyed a fun gardening session with Rob and Gill. We learnt about planting seeds and propagating rosemary and lavender. We found out what we need to do to look after our plants and are looking forward to watching them grow.





# F O X E S



We are all very excited about the Easter holidays. To help celebrate we made yummy Easter nests and Easter baskets by weaving wool around a plate. We then used these baskets to collect eggs on our Easter egg hunt.





As part of Focus Week, Year 7 went to Sayer's Croft for an activity day. We worked together to solve problems using our **Learning Together** learning muscle, working as a team. Later on, we had the opportunity to pond dip and explore the nature around us. Some of us even found fish! After a very tasty lunch, we visited the roundhouse (which was very dark!) and sat around a camp fire making s'mores. They were delicious. We had an amazing adventure at Sayers Croft.





There has been lots going on in the last few weeks in Key Stage 4.

We are continuing to work towards our ASDAN PSHE qualification, and as part of this we have to complete travel training. We took a trip on the train to Redhill just before Christmas and this term we took the train to Guildford. Everyone felt a lot more confident this time around – we all remembered to stand behind the yellow line and even pointed this out to the adults! On the return journey we travelled by bus, so now have done travel training on buses and train!



We have also been very creative this week, by starting a special project for Sandra called an aspirations tree. We created a wooden cut out of a tree and wrote down all the things we would like for our future on the leaves. Lots of great teamwork and 'Getting Ready' Learning Muscles.



We are continuing to work hard in our vocation subjects. This week the DT group have completed their projects ready to hand in – we have some signs for the garden, animals and Bakehouse, cushions and a beautiful wall hanging. Well done to Harry E, Zac, Charity and Sofia for their hard work.



Also as part of PSHE we have been working with groups called Generation Girls and Guys. In these sessions we have been learning about a variety of topics including healthy friendships and relationships, puberty and good mental health. Last week we completed our programme, received certificates and celebrated all the brilliant learning we had done.



Within Careers education, there are eight Gatsby Benchmarks that act as a framework for world-class careers provision and have been adopted as part of the Government's Careers Strategy within schools and colleges. I have discovered a brilliant website that is interactive and it covers Labour Market Information (LMI) which is Gatsby Benchmark 2. It is aimed at SEND so really accessible for our learners.

"This platform was created to ensure young people educated in special schools or those that have an EHCP can access careers information relevant to their needs. Every SEND student and their parents/carers should have access to good quality information about future study options, labour market opportunities and the Local Offer. The Coast2Capital Careers Hub, Your Future site aims to offer this information in an accessible and easy format" Please have a look and browse with your young person, and there are audio bars accessible if reading is tricky. I will aim to share with staff in the summer term. This is the website:  
<https://coast2capital.yourfutures.uk>

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> May 2024 10.00am - 12.30pm

### **Guildford College**

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 4.30pm – 7.30pm

### **Merrist Wood College**

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

**Sandra Tidbury, Aspirations Advisor**





Charity did her work experience at Guildford House Care Home and loved her time there. When she left, Mickayla, the Activities Manager, asked her if she would be willing to support them in their quest to collect Easter Eggs. Their very own Easter Bunny wanted to deliver them to the Shooting Star children's hospice in Guildford.

We delivered them to Guildford House so they could be boxed up and ready to be taken on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March, just in time for Easter Sunday.

The response from Gosden staff was fantastic. Mickayla and the team were SO grateful and were overwhelmed with what Charity had organised. Thank you to everyone who donated eggs! I am sure you will agree a worthy cause.



**New Shoots - the RHS'** nationwide initiative to promote horticultural careers and to increase the number and diversity of people entering the sector

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024 between 10:30 and 15:30.

"The RHS is there for everyone on their lifelong adventure with gardening. We aim to ignite ambition for future careers through bespoke taster sessions, work experience and youth volunteering, with the aim to provide information about opportunities in the horticultural, horticultural science and environmental sectors.

To support this mission, we are hosting a free Green Careers **Open Day at RHS Garden Wisley on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April between 10.30am and 3.30pm.**

There will be exhibitors from a range of further education and training providers, employers within the sector and not-for-profit organisations. In addition, there will be a series of guest talks, a CV clinic and behind the scenes tours of a variety of areas within RHS Garden Wisley

## TAX CREDITS

Tax credits are ending, and moving to Universal Credit. Anyone receiving tax credits will receive a 'Migration Notice' when it is time to make the move. Look out for a letter called a Universal Credit Migration Notice from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) explaining what you'll need to do, and by when. You won't be moved automatically, so it's important to follow the instructions in the letter, otherwise your benefits will stop.

[Understanding Universal Credit](#) should answer any questions and support your understanding of the move.

Support is available, by phoning Citizens Advice at tel:08001448848, visiting <https://www.turn2us.org.uk/> for support or financial concerns, or by reaching out to the pastoral team at [pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk)

**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](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)

<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.

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/>





### A Parent's Guide to Cyberbullying



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online

Many young people who are victims of cyberbullying suffer in silence.

They feel they can't turn to parents or a trusted adult for support as they fear they may get in trouble or have their devices taken away from them. It can carry on all day, all evening and all weekend for the world to see, causing a lot of emotional stress to the victim and their family.



It can very quickly lead to the victim feeling trapped, scared and vulnerable to grooming and blackmail.



**Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.**

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational | Email: info@skipssed.com | Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with





- Come and unwind, have a coffee, and a biscuit with us on:
- **THURSDAY the 23<sup>rd</sup> of MAY**
- **10am – 11am**
- In the Map room at our school
  
- **FUTURE** coffee morning **DATES** for your diary:
  - *Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> of June 10am -11:30am*
  - *Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 10am – 11:30am*
  
- All welcome, lets build our school community and sneak in a couple of calories too!



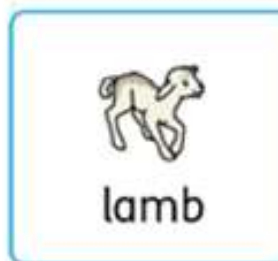
Speech & Language Therapy  
Team

★ Makaton Champions ★



Signs of the week w/c 25<sup>th</sup> March 24  
(Theme: Spring)

This week's champions are:  
★ Darcie & Jake – Robins Class ★



[Fantastic Mr Fox](#)  
[Easter Drama Club](#)

Join Peer Productions and Mr Fox for a fantastic Easter adventure from the 9th to 12th of April!

This drama programme is designed for young people aged 8 to 16 years with special education needs/disabilities and is FREE for anyone with an EHCP. Book now by clicking on the link below.



peer productions **FANTASTIC MR. FOX**  
**EASTER DRAMA WORKSHOP**  
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (8 - 16 YEARS) WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

**BOOK NOW**

9TH APRIL - 12TH APRIL 2024  
FREE FOR ALL SURREY YOUNG PEOPLE WITH EHCPs

club4

The poster features a cartoon illustration of a boy wearing a fox mask and headphones, holding hands with a girl who is also wearing a fox mask. They are standing on a path next to a large, friendly-looking fox. The background is a simple landscape with a tree and a fence.

[Holiday Workshops — Peer Productions](#)



**EASTER HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS 2024**

**YA** YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE

**Tue 2 – Tue 9 Apr**  
Workshops for ages 5-16

**Creative Make-up • Stage Combat • Poetry • Treat Factory Drama Workshops**

For further information email our Creative Learning team:  
[creativelearning@yvonne-arnaud.co.uk](mailto:creativelearning@yvonne-arnaud.co.uk)

**Book Now:**  
**YVONNE-ARNAUD.CO.UK**  
**BOX OFFICE 01483 44 00 00**

**PLUS, FREE FAMILY FUN DAY 3 APR**

The poster features a large photograph of two men in a stage combat workshop. Below this are three smaller images: a detailed face painting, a collection of colorful lollipops, and a group of children in a workshop setting. The background is a vibrant pink and yellow.

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# EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITY

**INFINITY**  
*presents*  
**Trolls**

EASTER  
PERFORMING  
WORKSHOP  
2 - 4th April



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[www.infinityperformers.com](http://www.infinityperformers.com)



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.

