



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

GOSDEN NEWS

19th September 2025

We are delighted to welcome you all back to school after the summer break. As we begin this new academic year we are filled with fresh opportunities to learn, grow and succeed together.

For our returning students I look forward to seeing how you continue to build on your achievements. To our new pupils and families, I extend a particularly warm welcome – you are now part of a supportive and vibrant school community.

Our dedicated staff have been working hard to prepare engaging lessons, enriching activities and a safe, nurturing environment where every child can thrive.

Let us step into this year with enthusiasm and determination and make it a truly memorable and successful one.

Mrs Smale, Headteacher



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 26th September – School Council Elections

Monday 29th September – Next Steps Meetings,
Year 11, with Sandra and Lucy

Monday 27th – Friday 31st October – Half Term

RECENT PARENTMAILS

Maths@Home Boxes

Return of Data Collection Forms, Dietary and Medication
Bakehouse Donations KS3



Breakfast Club
will move into The
Bakehouse from
Monday 22nd
September



VACANCY

We are recruiting for a
new Parent Governor.
A letter and timetable
of recruitment will be
sent out via parentmail
shortly.

LOST PROPERTY

Please remember to name all your children's items
of clothing, water bottles and bags. We cannot
return items that are unnamed .



WOODPECKERS



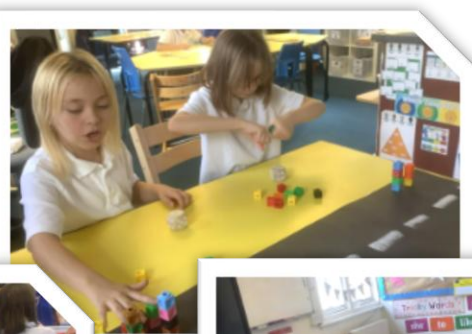
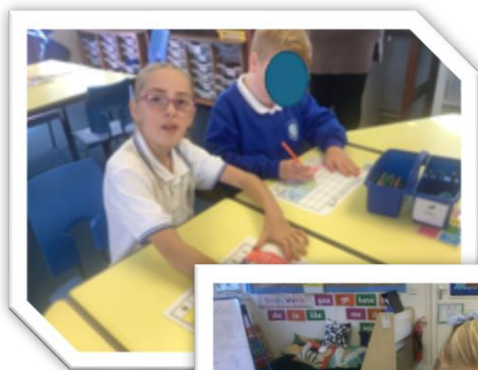
What a fantastic start we have had in Woodpecker class! On our first day we celebrated the fact that we are now top of primary and the privileges and responsibilities that that holds. We became superheroes for the day and thought of all the reasons why each of us are 'super'. We even made our own capes and decorated them with all the things that make us special and unique. We then worked as a class thinking of how we are going to make this coming year 'super' for Woodpecker Class.



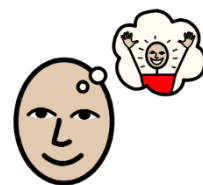
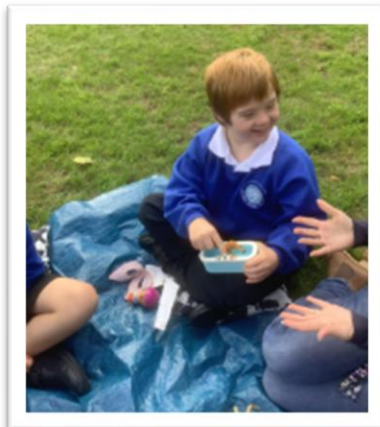


WOODPECKERS

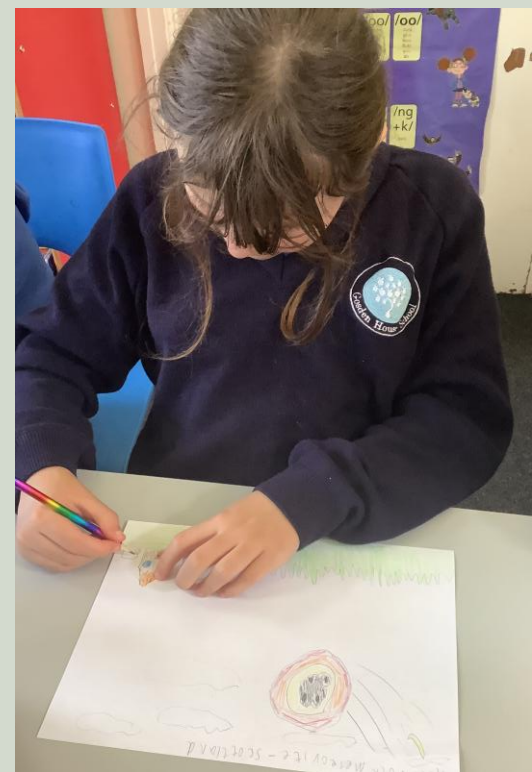
As well as lots of team building activities, we have got stuck into our maths and literacy learning. In maths we have been using our 'Problem Solving' learning habit as we found different ways of representing the same number. We have also been playing games helping our understanding of substituting (see the amount but don't count'). We had fun using different types of dice to play 'Twister', 'Build a City' and 'Race to the Top'.



In literacy, we used our 'Creative' learning habit to make up our own stories. First, we chose some props to help us. We then planned the setting, characters, a funny thing that would happen and a solution at the end. We rehearsed the story and we went outside in the sunshine and retold our stories to our friends. Whilst story telling we thought about the importance of using a loud voice, looking up at our audience and using our props. As an audience we made sure we listened carefully, watched the storyteller and showed our appreciation.

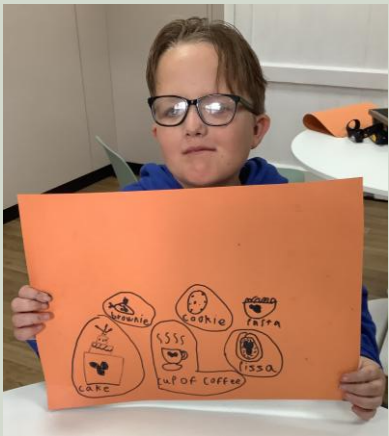


Year 7 have settled into their new secondary routines and have been using their **Learning Together** and **Being Brave** muscles to create new friendships and welcome new students into our school. We are very proud to wear our new uniforms and the staff have been so impressed with how smart the class look. A huge thank you to all of our adults for helping us prepare for our secondary journey.



There have been lots of first time experiences since the start of the new term.

We have explored the new Bakehouse and have created a list of all the things we would like to make. Our lists do include a lot of chocolate so we may have to revise some of our initial ideas! We were impressed with how clean and sparkly it is and are learning about how we can keep it that way and how to use the new equipment.



We also visited the Life Skills flat and had a grand tour of the accommodation. We thought about what we'd like to learn to do and made another list of ideas! This includes cleaning, washing and making beds. We will keep you updated on our progress. We have discussed how learning and practicing these **Life Skills** will help us be more independent when we are older.



During Citizenship lessons, we have been investigating news stories and chose a particular story we found interesting. By understanding what is happening in the news, we are beginning to develop our understanding of what being a citizen is and means. This helps us achieve our **Sense of Belonging** toolkit.

Toolkits are new for all of our learners and underpin all aspects of our curriculum. It will not be long before we have completed toolkits and these will be shared with our adults in and out of school.

A great start Year 7!



Year 11 have had a great start to the school year. They have managed the transition to a new classroom and a new teacher very well! We started off the term by selecting our new class jobs which include receptionist, class PA, recycling manager and daybook manager.

Everyone has really been enjoying their vocational options on a Thursday and Friday morning, those in Animal Care and Plant Care have been managing the changeable weather. We were also excited to start some new vocations of Haircare, The Duke of Edinburgh Award and Performing Arts. The Catering and Hospitality students got to have their first cooking session in the new Bakehouse and baked some very tasty bread rolls.

Some students have been lucky to go to Brooklands College on their Friday morning vocation, to explore the courses they have to offer there. Starting with half the group joining digital skills and the other half taking a care course. They had lunch in the canteen there and enjoyed the environment the college had to offer. They are very much looking forward to continuing to visit there.



UPCOMING COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS



All of these events must be organised online.

Brooklands Technical College

22/10/25 - 4.30 - 7.00pm

4/02/26 - 4.30 - 7.00pm

29/04 - 4.30 - 7.00pm

SEND & Transition Tours : Tuesdays starting from 14/10/25 at 10.30 - 9/12/25

Please contact isupport@brooklands.ac.uk if you have any questions about the tours

Farnborough College of Technology

14/10/25 - 4.00 - 7.30pm

15/10/25 - 4.00 - 7.30pm

19/11/25 - 4.00 - 7.30pm

Nescot College

11/10/25 - 10.00 - 1.00pm

Guildford College

11/10/25 - 9.30 - 12.00

12/11/25 - 4.30 - 7.00pm

Merrist Wood College

15/10/25 - 4.30 - 7.00pm

8/11/25 - 9.30 - 12.00

**YEAR 10
PARENTS/CARERS**
Please don't forget to let Lucy and I know if you would like to book a slot for the one-to-one discussions about transition on Monday September 29th. They are going fast!

Welcome back from the pastoral team ☺

Hi, we're Mrs Cowles and Miss Sutton, your pastoral team. We are looking forward to another wonderful year at Gosden House School. If you have any questions, are looking for a little guidance or advice, please contact us on:



pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk



07864 721931

Helpful sites and resources

Below we have highlighted a few of our favourite helpful websites and resources for information, guidance and advice.

L-SPA- help and support for concerns regarding development and/or learning needs of your child <https://www.surreylocaloffer.org.uk/lspa>

SEND Advice Surrey- information and guidance for families

<https://www.sendadvice.surrey.org.uk/>

National Autistic Society (NAS)- provide a free family support service to Surrey families, with courses, resources and a free Autism advice line <https://www.autism.org.uk/>

Family Voice Surrey- independent guidance to parents and carers of young people with additional needs <https://familyvoicesurrey.org/>

Surrey Family Information Service- provides free information and signposting for families in Surrey

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/support-and-advice/families/contact/about>

Mindworks Surrey- emotional wellbeing, neurodivergent and mental health services for children and young people

<https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/>

Stripey Stork- services for families experiencing poverty including clothes, food, school uniform <https://stripeystork.org.uk/>

Barnardos positive parenting service- run 8 week courses for parents/carers of children with, or waiting for, an ADHD diagnosis

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/get-support/services/surrey-positive-parenting-service>

Surrey Family Centres- see here for a list of family centres in your local area and the support they can provide

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/support-and-advice/families/support-and-advice/family-centres>

Surrey County Council are offering Free Solihull Approach classes for parents and carers. More information can be found online at <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/support-and-advice/families/support-and-advice/parenting-courses-and-advice/online-guides> . Use access code ACORN to register for courses today.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD

SOLIHULL APPROACH

inourplace

NHS

Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

Free online course for all parents, carers, and grandparents.

- Reading your child's behaviour and understanding their feelings
- Effective communication techniques
- Reflecting on your relationship and how to nurture your child's emotional health
- A transformative journey that can strengthen your bond with your child at every age

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents



www.inourplace.co.uk



Residents of SURREY

In paid partnership with:  

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD

SOLIHULL APPROACH

inourplace

NHS

Understanding your child with additional needs

Free online course for all parents, carers, and grandparents.

- Reading your child's behaviour and understanding their feelings
- Effective communication techniques
- Reflecting on your relationship and how to nurture your child's emotional health
- A transformative journey that can strengthen your bond with your child at every age

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents



www.inourplace.co.uk



Residents of SURREY

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD

SOLIHULL APPROACH

inourplace

NHS

Understanding your teenager's brain

Free online course for all parents, carers, and grandparents.

- Understanding your teenager's brain development in adolescence
- Reading your teenager's behaviour and understanding their feelings
- Reflecting on the importance of your relationship and how to nurture your teenager's mental health

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents



www.inourplace.co.uk



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Use Access Code
ACORN

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Online
Course

Stronger Relationships



For parents and other adult carers living together or apart **For parents of neurodivergent children only. Group starting 13th November @ 7.30pm**

- Do you want to get some new ideas to help you be an even better parent?
- Would you like to reduce the arguments and disagreements in your family and cope better with stress?
- Would you like to enhance your relationship with your current partner, or improve communication with your ex or the other people helping to raise your children?
- How about learning at a time that suits you?



**6 online
sessions**



**6 group
discussions**



**Certificate on
completion**

What to expect...

- Information on strategies to identify and reduce arguments.
- Hear from other parents and carers.
- Downloadable worksheets and hand-outs.
- Videos, quizzes and interactive activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Weekly support from our course experts.

Topics covered...

- Healthy adult relationships.
- Identifying and managing disagreements.
- Understanding how conflict affects your children.
- Enhancing parent-child relationships.
- Managing stress, anger and emotions.
- Strategies to resolve conflict and create a parenting agreement

Group discussion...

1. Speak to a course expert and get answers to some of the questions you might have
2. Talk about how the strategies are going at home.
3. Address other difficulties relating to your relationships.
4. Hear from others about what works for them.

Find out more or register for the course by scanning the QR code or emailing us at: sfscparent@racefound.org.uk



strengthening
families
strengthening
communities

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Speech & Language Therapy Team

★ Makaton Champions ★

Signs of the week w/c 22nd September 2025
(Theme: Days of the Week)

This week's champions are:

★ Elaina & Jack – Year 10 ★



 Monday	<p>Tap 'M' on edge of hand twice</p>  <p>Gradually uncover eyes</p> 
 Tuesday	<p>Tap 'T' twice</p>  <p>Gradually uncover eyes</p> 
 Wednesday	<p>Tap 'W' twice</p>  <p>Gradually uncover eyes</p> 
 Thursday	<p>Tap 'Th' twice</p>  <p>Gradually uncover eyes</p> 
 Friday	<p>Tap 'F' twice</p>  <p>Gradually uncover eyes</p> 
 Saturday	<p>Tap 'S' twice</p>  <p>Gradually uncover eyes</p> 
 Sunday	<p>Tap 'S' twice</p>  <p>Gradually uncover eyes</p> 



Gosden House PTA Meet-Up

Date: 23 September 2025

Time: 9.30 – 11am

Where: Gosden House School Hall (please come to reception)

We will be holding a meet-up next Tuesday for any parents/carers/family/friends and would love you to come along, have some refreshments, meet other parents and hear a little more about the PTA at Gosden House.

There will be much more coming out from the PTA in the coming week around dates for the diary, PTA plans for this academic year and how you can get involved, so please do look out for the communication!

Looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible and feel free to email/call me below if you have any questions or just to say hello!

Lucy Hogg

Chair of PTA

lucystiven@hotmail.com

07939 317610

AMAZON WISH LIST



Gosden House School

Gosden House Wish List

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/registries/gl/guest-view/HLH16NVYVLGU>

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.

