



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

GOSDEN NEWS

17th October 2025

Today we were delighted to celebrate the official opening of our school's Bakehouse, a wonderful event attended by the Mayor of Guildford. Guests enjoyed a delicious selection of homemade cakes and bakes prepared by our talented students, along with hot drinks served throughout the morning. There was also a raffle and a variety of plants available to buy. The Bakehouse will provide an inspiring space for students to develop essential life skills, from cooking and food preparation to teamwork and self-confidence. We are so proud of everyone involved in bringing this project to life and we look forward to using this space lots more in the future!



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 20th – Friday 24th October – Focus Week PSHE

Monday 27th – Friday 31st October – Half Term

Monday 10th November – Remembrance Assembly

Monday 10th – Friday 14th November – Anti-Bullying Week

Tuesday 11th November – First Aider Visit

(Y5,6 & Secondary)

Wednesday 12th November – Parents Evening

Sunday 30th November – School Christmas Fair 1-3pm

Tuesday 2nd December – Primary Presentation 2pm

Thursday 18th December – Last day of term 1.30pm finish

Friday 19th December – Inset Day

Monday 5th January – Inset Day

Tuesday 6th January – Spring term starts

AMAZON WISH LIST

A big thank you to the parents and carers who have purchased items from our Amazon wish list so far. We have just updated it with some wonderful new items so please take a look.

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

RECENT PARENTMAILS

Gosden House Christmas Fair and PTA Newsletter

Parent Evening Appointments – Wednesday 12th
November 2025

Payment of Deposit For Year 9 Residential

Save the Date: Primary Christmas Presentation

Challengers – Family After School – Stay & Play

Holiday Meal Vouchers

LOST PROPERTY

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

The poster is framed by a decorative border of gingerbread cookies and Christmas-themed items. On the left, there's a large gingerbread man, a star, and a candy cane. At the bottom left, a Santa Claus cookie, a star, and a blue snowflake cookie are visible. On the right, a Christmas tree cookie, a star, and a snowflake cookie are present. At the bottom right, a gingerbread house and a candy cane are shown. The top border includes a gingerbread boot, a red heart with a snowflake, a holly leaf, and a candy cane.

GOSDEN HOUSE CHRISTMAS FAIR

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2025

1 PM-3 PM

GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

SANTA GROTTO - RAFFLE

TOMBOLAS - REFRESHMENTS

GAMES - GIFTS - NEARLY NEW-

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW SOON!

SAVE
THE
DATE



R A B B I T S

We are delighted to share what a fantastic start Rabbit Class has had to the new school year. The children have settled in beautifully, and I've been particularly impressed by their stamina during teacher-led sessions and their positive attitude toward learning.

This term, we have focused on developing both academic and social skills. It has been wonderful to see the strong sense of community growing in the classroom. Every child has already made noticeable personal progress, and their enthusiasm for learning is clear in everything they do.



In **Literacy**, we have been building our oracy and sentence structure skills using *Colourful Semantics*. Our learning has been centred around traditional fairy tales such as *Goldilocks*, *Little Red Riding Hood*, and *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. The children are beginning to apply their developing language skills in their writing with growing confidence.

In **Maths**, we've laid the foundations for fluency by focusing on key skills such as careful counting, number representation, and number bonds. The children are now confidently partitioning simple number bonds and representing them in a variety of ways. Each child is progressing at a pace that suits them, and I couldn't be prouder of their individual achievements and growth mindsets.

Throughout the term, Rabbit Class has embraced our school's learning habits—particularly around **problem solving**, **explaining**, and **exploring**. These habits have underpinned all areas of the curriculum and are helping the children become more independent and reflective learners.



R A B B I T S

In **Topic**, we've been making the most of our environment through outdoor learning and Forest School sessions. These have supported a wide range of cross-curricular skills. For example, during our weather unit, the children made windsocks and measured rainfall, linking their learning to both Science and Maths (specifically, capacity and measurement).



To support wellbeing, we've introduced calming techniques such as bubble therapy during our daily relaxation sessions. These quiet moments after lunch help the children reset and get ready for an afternoon of focused learning.

It has been an absolute pleasure teaching Rabbit Class so far this term. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to sharing more of our learning journey with you soon.

This half term, Foxes Class have taken an exciting imaginary journey back to Ancient Roman times as we explored the fascinating story of the lost city of Pompeii. This topic has truly captured our imaginations and sparked curiosity across the class.



F O X E S

We've stepped into the shoes of those who lived in Pompeii, reenacting what it might have felt like to be in the city on the day Mount Vesuvius erupted. We've read the beautifully illustrated book *Escape from Pompeii*, tested our knowledge with interactive true-or-false quizzes, and were even lucky enough to hear from an expert who had recently visited the ancient site.

As part of our work on volcanoes, we studied two of the most well-known in the world: Mount Fuji and Mount Vesuvius. Inspired by Mount Fuji, we created our own artwork using the collaging techniques we learned in our art lessons with Trudy.



We've also enjoyed learning about the structure of the Earth and the anatomy of a volcano. To round off the half term, we'll be making our very own model volcanoes and conducting an exciting science experiment to simulate an eruption!

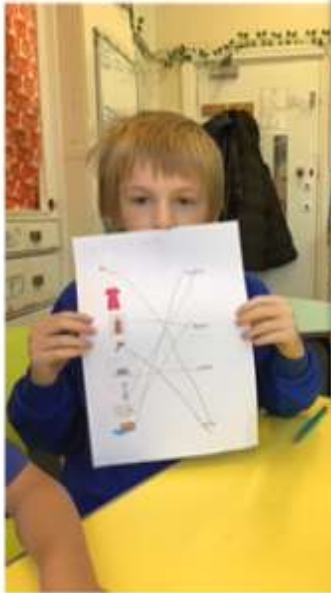


In Literacy, we've loved reading *The Naughty Bus*, a delightful and humorous tale of a toy bus and its mischievous adventures around the house. The children have particularly enjoyed imagining their own naughty bus stories!

Foxes love being out in nature, and we've made the most of the season with several autumn walks. We used the book *Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn* as inspiration, helping us to notice and talk about the beautiful changes happening all around us.



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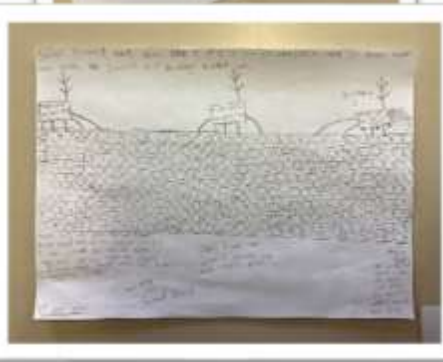
In Music, we've been learning to read musical notes. Our music teacher, Vicky, was incredibly impressed with our focus and problem-solving skills as we took on this new challenge.



It's been a fantastic half term full of learning, creativity, and discovery — well done, Foxes!

9H have made an amazing start to Year 9. They have been using all their learning muscles and been great role models for the rest of KS3.

We worked hard to complete competition entries for a sustainable engineering competition set for us by Atkins Realis. We designed green technologies for the future which had to fit on 1 A4 page and be made of recycled materials or drawn. We used our 'being brave' muscles to have a go at something new and our 'keep improving muscles' to continually adapt and problem solve whilst creating our designs. This is also an important 'life skill' helping us think about greener energy. Some of our entries included- a bike with dog storage, a horse bridge and an electricity producing road!



9H have also loved our life skills sessions. We have one session a week in the life skills flat where we have been learning how to Hoover, make a bed and make a hot drink.

We also have one cooking session a week. We have used our 'numeracy toolkit' to carefully weigh ingredients, our 'English toolkits' to carefully read the recipes and our 'learning together' muscles to work in teams to produce some yummy food. So far, we have made shortbread, school cake and some spooky Halloween spider biscuits.



Well, what a start to the year we have had! There has been lots of demonstrating of our class values and collecting lots of our Gosden Life Tools.

In Literacy we have been reading the book 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo, it is a story written from the perspective of a horse and its experiences of World War One. We have explored the contrasting characters and examined their relationships with others. We have written some fantastic recounts from the perspective of Joey the horse, there was a brilliant use of emotive language to really capture the impact and experience of the battlefield.

In Maths we have been building on our knowledge of place value and representation of numbers up to 10,000. We have been challenging the adults to several place value competitions; the adults are currently losing by three points! Hopefully, they can improve on their score!

In Our World we have started our new project of War. So far, we have explored the events that led to the start of World War One, life on The Home Front as well as The Western Front. We learnt about life in the trenches and the experiences that soldiers had. We then created our own trenches and our version of 'No Man's Land' in the classroom so we could immerse ourselves into the experience.



The Hub 

Family FUN DAY




Come and enjoy our soft play and outdoor playgrounds with all the family



Guildford and Farnham
Various Sundays 10am to 2pm



SCAN TO BOOK

CONTACT US WWW.DISABILITY-CHALLENGERS.ORG/THEHUB
thehub@disability-challengers.org

Challengers  **COMMUNITY FUND**

01483 961962

Challengers
The Hub 

As part of Challengers our Community Hub offers support for families, helping them feel better connected and less isolated.



We offer...

- ★ Family Fun Days
- ★ After school stay and play sessions
- ★ Coffee mornings and informal drop ins
- ★ Parent workshops
- ★ One-to-one support in person and online



We can help by...

- ★ Providing support and advice
- ★ Guidance and signposting
- ★ Support with completing forms
- ★ Help applying for benefits and grants
- ★ Providing co-working space

"We've attended a couple of Family Fun Days now and our family gets so much out of it! The facilities are brilliant and it's lovely to see my kids playing together with others."
- Maddie, local parent

"Last Friday's session was so helpful, thank you and thanks for your kindness.
So much to follow up on from that day." - Katie, local parent

Find out more by visiting our website!

www.disability-challengers.org/thehub



SCAN ME



The Hub at Challengers

Contact us: 01483 961962
thehub@disability-challengers.org

Registered Charity Number: 1099154 / Company Number: 4330734 Disability Challengers is a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Healthy Parent Carer Programme  **The Hub** 

Exploring realistic ways to look after your own health and wellbeing

★ Looking after yourself when you have additional caring responsibilities can be challenging. This programme is led by Maddie and Becky, who are parent carers themselves. It explores the different elements of health and wellbeing, the barriers that stop you giving time to yourself, and realistic ways to fit self care into your life. ★

Starting Tuesday 20th January 2026
6 week block
Excluding half term
Tuesday 17th February
Come along from 9.45am for a 10am start.
Finishes at 12.30pm
Farnham Play Centre,
St James Avenue, GU9 9QF

 **University of Exeter** 
Medical School

 **Healthy PARENT CARER**

Book your space by scanning the QR code or visiting our website



<https://disability-challengers.org/thehub/>



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National Manufacturing Day



SANDRA'S BLOG

On the 25th September 4 students from Year 9 went to Petra Jewellery in Basingstoke.

They closed their shop and workshop for the day in order to host us and we were greeted by Abi who gave us a little tour before taking us to our work benches.

The girls had to draw a design that would fit on a piece of copper already cut into a square. Bethany chose to draw a dragon, Esmee went with a gravestone (but was tempted to do a snake) Jessica drew a butterfly and Donna a heart, so that an M and a D could be stamped on.

Once the designs were drawn, they cut them out and stuck them on to their piece of copper. Next was the hard part – using a small saw they had to try and carve out their design! Major thumb ache!

Bethany chose to hammer hers and made lots of holes with a hammer and nail! They were so resilient as it was hard work and they had all sorts of aches in their arms and thumbs.

They definitely used their Being Brave learning muscle and everyone was given an Employability toolkit sticker at the end of the day! Their pieces were stunning!



UPCOMING COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

All of these events must be organised online.



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**BROOKLANDS
TECHNICAL
COLLEGE**

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



**ACTIVATE
LEARNING**

GUILDFORD COLLEGE

Guildford College

12/11/25 - 4.30 - 7.00pm



**Farnborough College
of Technology**

Farnborough College of Technology

19/11/25 - 4.00 - 7.30pm



**ACTIVATE
LEARNING**

MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE

AND UNIVERSITY CENTRE

Merrist Wood College

8/11/25 - 9.30 - 12.00

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 7

Emily
James T
Kerina
Zack
Austin
Leo P
Maddie
Tyler F
Ollie M
Lucy F
Tyler C

Year 8

Bailey
Katy
Kayson
Brooklyn
Ruby S
Henry
Ben
Aalia

Year 9W

Alex S
Donna-
Marie
Phoenix
Ryan
Kelsie

Year 9H

Kai
Max



Hi, we're Mrs Cowles and Miss Sutton, your pastoral team. 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>

Support programmes for parents & carers of children with autism

A variety of 6-part support programmes for parents and carers of children with autism (or suspected autism) are available online and in-person around Surrey. Your child must live in Surrey or attend a Surrey education setting.



Early bird programme for parents of children aged 5 years and under

- Understanding autism
- Communication
- Understanding autistic experiences
- Supporting daily living
- Health and wellbeing
- Connections

Cygnet programme for parents of children aged 5-18 years old

- Introductory session
- Overview of autism with parent and carer experience
- Thinking & sensory
- Social interaction & communication
- Understanding & supporting behaviour
- Analysing behaviour

Teen life for parents of children aged 10-16 years old

- Understanding autism
- Understanding autistic identity
- Stress, anxiety and understanding behaviour
- Health and wellbeing
- Puberty
- Education and transitioning into adulthood

Can I ask some questions?

Email us on parenttraining@freemantles.surrey.sch.uk

How do I join a course?

Please scan the QR code to register your interest & be part of our mailing list. We will email you each time a new set of courses are available for booking.

Surrey Parent Training Programmes



The Anna Freud website has lots of advice and guidance for parents and carers on how to support a young person's wellbeing and mental health.

<https://www.annafreud.org/resources/family-wellbeing/>

half term activities

Spark your child's imagination and creativity with our programme of fun events and activities

- Sat 25 October - Halloween Soap Making
- Sat 25 October - Theatre: Stories in the Dust
- Mon 27 October - Junk Puppets Workshop
- Mon 27 October - Filmmaking: Spooky Sustainable Horror
- Mon 27 October - Halloween Polymer Clay Jewellery
- Tue 28 October - Learn to Crochet Together
- Tue 28 October - Cinema: Flow
- Wed 29 October - 3D Design & Make
- Wed 29 October - Crafty Kids at Farnham Museum
- Thu 30 October - Crafty Kids at Farnham Museum
- Thu 30 October - Artbox Mixed Media
- Fri 31 October - Cupcake Decorating

Click the link below to book and find out more:

<https://farnhammaltings.com/half-term>



Award-winning Hatton Musical Theatre return to the Rhoda McGaw Theatre this October half term with their production of School of Rock!

Click below to get tickets:
<https://www.atgtickets.com/shows/hatton-musical-theatre-presents-school-of-rock/rhoda-mcgaw-theatre-working/>



Celebrate Railway 200 and
The Big Draw Festival 2025
at Guildford Railway Station

Free drop-in artist led workshops.
Be inspired by old photographs of Guildford
Station and drawings with a spooky twist to
create your own images.

All ages welcome, all materials provided
and no previous experience necessary.



Friday 31st October



Guildford Railway Station,
Guildford, GU1 4UT



10.30am – 12.30pm
& 1.30pm – 3.30pm



Speech & Language Therapy Team

☆ Makaton Champions ☆

Signs of the week w/c 20th October 2025
(Theme: Autumn)



This week's champions are:

☆ **Chloe and Leo - Woodpeckers** ☆



October



Finger spell 'O' then 'B'



Autumn



leaf



red



yellow



PTA NEWS

DOWNLOAD THE
CLASSLIST APP & KEEP
UP TO DATE WITH
COMMUNICATIONS



WHO ARE WE

The Gosden House PTA is a group of parents, carers & teachers building a social community at Gosden House, with the aim of developing closer links between home and school and raising money to support the funding of resources and experiences that enhance our childrens' learning journey.

We work closely with the charity Gosden Children First which is run by the local community in Bramley to support Gosden House initiatives.



Chair: Lucy Hogg

Lucy's son, Charlie, is in Foxes (Year 4) and she has been a member of the PTA for 1 year, recently taking on the role of Chair. She enjoys meeting other parents, organising events and is committed to working to support the Gosden family.

Christmas Fair - Sunday 30 November

We are in the depths of planning the annual Christmas Fair and would love your help!

We are asking for donations for the following:

 **TOMBOLAS** (donations can be sent to school with your child - collection dates on the right)

- Bottles - anything that comes in a bottle (drinks, bubble bath, fancy olive oil!)
- Toys & Games - new & nearly new

 **RAFFLE**

We need fabulous prizes so please do get in contact (details below) if you have something you can donate - vouchers, experiences, gifts all would be very appreciated

 **VOLOUNTEERING**

We rely on wonderful volunteers for setting up and on the day to run stalls and we will soon send out a link where you can sign up to help make the day festively fabulous! Half an hour or an hour makes a huge difference if you can spare it!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesday
21 October 9.30 - 11.00
Coffee Morning
School Hall

Tuesday
21 October Bottle donation
for Xmas Fair

Monday 3
November Toys & Games
donation for
Xmas Fair

 Sunday 30
November  Xmas Fair
1pm - 3pm

We would love any pre-loved clothes and gifts for our pre-loved stall too - please bring/send in on either dates above! Christmas themed items too!

FUNDRAISING



YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY

<https://www.your-school-lottery.co.uk/lottery/school/gosden-house-school>



<https://wonderful.org/charities/1049925>

CONTACT: ptagosden@hotmail.com

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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.

