



# GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL GOSDEN NEWS

10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

As we reach the end of another busy and successful school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful staff, pupils, families, governors and volunteers for their continued support, commitment and dedication.

This year has been filled with memorable experiences, exciting learning opportunities and many achievements. From curriculum successes and enrichment activities to community events such as Sports Day, Tea Under the Tree and GOSFEST. Also, a special mention to Etta and her team for winning Guildford in Bloom. As always, the gardens look fantastic and add such a valuable space for learning.

Thank you to our parents and carers for your partnership throughout the year. Your encouragement and support make an enormous difference to our pupils' success and wellbeing.

Most importantly, thank you to our fantastic pupils. I am incredibly proud of everything you have achieved this year and the enthusiasm, resilience and positivity you bring to school each day. May I wish all members of our school community a happy, restful and well-deserved summer break. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year ahead.

***Mrs Smale, Headteacher***



The new early years play kitchen, built by Adam & Brian



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July** – Year 6 Leavers Assembly

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July** – Last day of Summer term, 1.30pm finish

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September** – Inset day

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** – Start of Autumn Term 2026

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October** – Half Term

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December** – 1.30pm finish for pupils

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – End of Autumn Term 2026, 1.30pm finish

## RECENT PARENTMAILS

End of Year Reports

Changes in Parent Communication

Changes to Free School Meals

Primary Learning Teams for September 2026

Secondary Learning Teams for September 2026

Heatwave Guidance & School uniform

## AMAZON WISH LIST



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

We have just updated our Amazon wish list with lots of exciting new items and categories. Please take a look in case there's anything you would like to purchase for our students.

## LOST PROPERTY

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

## Important Reminder! Nut-Free Environment!

- Gosden House School operates as a nut-free environment to protect pupils with severe allergies.
- Parents/carers must ensure packed lunches and snacks do not contain nuts or nut products.
- Pupils are supervised during eating times and reminded not to share food.





A big Thank you to Maggie & Tony from San Rizz hair salons for their very generous donations of backwash sink units, chairs, trolleys, products and other accessories in preparation for our new hair salon at Gosden House School. We are extremely grateful to San Rizz for inviting us to visit their warehouse in Potters Bar yesterday to collect all the equipment. The redecoration work has commenced and the salon will be ready for our vocational students to learn from September 2026. This is a very exciting project and we look forward to sharing progress updates with you.



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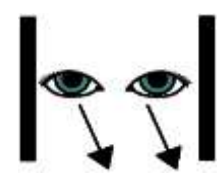


# ROBINS

It seems that within the blink of an eye, we are arriving at the end of the year. It feels like only moments ago that we were welcoming the Robins to Gosden, but what an incredible year it has been! It has been a true privilege to watch the children grow, learn and flourish.

The Robins have made fantastic progress, not only in their learning, but also in their confidence, independence and friendships. We could not be prouder of each of them for how they have embraced new challenges, shown kindness to one another and developed into curious, resilient young learners.

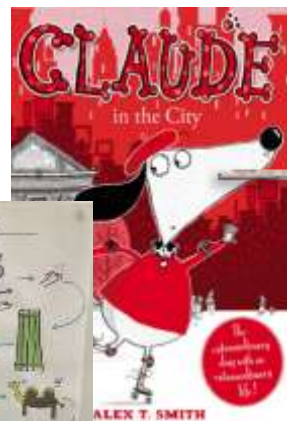
It has been wonderful to be able to reflect back on all of the activities, events and experiences that we have shared together. We wish you all have a safe, happy and relaxing summer holiday when it comes, and we hope you enjoy spending quality time together, making more memories and celebrating all of your achievements!



This half-term, Owls have had so much fun 'Exploring', 'Learning Together' and 'Explaining' as part of our **Pets at Home** topic. The children have loved creating Makaton videos, finding out about the pets owned by their teachers and friends, and proudly sharing stories about their own furry, feathered and scaly family members too!



For our Literacy learning, the children thoroughly enjoyed reading *Dear Zoo*, where they enjoyed identifying the differences between a pet and a wild animal before confidently retelling the story using our class story map and recording their own versions with the green screen. In addition, the book, *Claude in the City*, has encouraged Owls to make fantastic predictions about where Claude and Sir Bobblysock might go on their next adventure!



Our Wild Learning Focus Week is definitely a highlight of this term! The children were amazed when the 'pets' appeared to take over Gosden, and the mysterious 'CCTV' footage captured everyone's imagination. From that moment, the classroom was filled with wonderful role play, exciting treasure hunts and brilliant problem-solving as the children worked together to solve the mystery!



What a fantastic year in Owl Class it has been - Owls you have been truly amazing!

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# S Q U I R R E L S

We have had a busy and fun term of learning in Squirrels class. One of the classes favourite lessons at the moment, is Geography, where we are learning about 'Extreme Weathers'. They have learned all about snowstorms, tsunamis, volcanoes and tornadoes to name a few. They particularly enjoyed learning about how volcanoes are formed and why some erupt and others do not. We built model volcanoes and had them erupt in the classroom and have become the champions of a Kahoot quiz, displaying great knowledge and teamwork.



In Maths we have been learning about division and place value in greater depth and are always helping 'Tiny the turtle' to solve Maths problems. Great investigative skills! In our literacy learning we have added stage directions to plays and used a well-known story to write our own play scripts. We are so proud of all the Squirrels learning this year and look forward to sharing their excellent performance at Gosfest this week.



We are delighted to share the fantastic news that our school has been awarded both the Overall Winner and the Gold Award at this year's Guildford in Bloom Awards.

The judges were particularly impressed by our allotment being a truly year-round space, providing a wealth of opportunities for learning, wellbeing and outdoor engagement across the school. They praised how the allotment is used throughout the seasons, creating meaningful experiences for primary and secondary pupils while also offering a calm and nurturing environment for all of the community to enjoy.

A special recognition was awarded to Etta for her outstanding contribution to the allotment. Etta volunteers tirelessly throughout the year to help keep the allotment thriving and also supports our students by leading the KS4 Plant Care Vocational Course on Fridays.

The judges loved seeing the wide variety of produce growing across in our class beds. They were particularly impressed by the abundance of crops including radishes, sugar snap peas, onions, strawberries, spinach and tomatoes—the list goes on! These growing areas provide invaluable hands-on learning opportunities, helping pupils develop practical skills and a deeper understanding of nature, sustainability and healthy eating.

Louisa and Alex also did a fantastic job explaining to the judges the variety of crops that have been grown and sold throughout the year. Their enthusiasm, confidence and knowledge highlighted the many learning opportunities the allotment provides and impressed the judges.

During their visit, the judges also enjoyed exploring our Forest School, where they were shown around by George and Jake from Primary. The judges were delighted by the boys' enthusiasm, knowledge and passion for nature and the outdoors. It was wonderful for them to see how this love of the natural world has been nurtured and developed through the work of Mrs Hall, our Outdoor Learning Lead. They were also able to see first-hand how we care for our animals and local wildlife.

In addition, the judges were impressed by our EYFS outdoor area, where beautiful planters bring colour, nature and sensory experiences into the children's learning environment.

This award is a testament to the hard work, commitment and enthusiasm of our staff, pupils and volunteers who help make our outdoor spaces so special.

We are always looking for additional volunteers to help maintain the beautiful beds in our allotment. If you have a little spare time and would like to get involved, please contact the school office. It is a wonderful opportunity to spend time in a beautiful, peaceful and calming space while helping our allotment continue to flourish.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this achievement. We are incredibly proud of this recognition and look forward to continuing to grow and develop our wonderful outdoor learning spaces.

# Diversity Day

by Mr F-P

## Primary

We celebrated Diversity in our school community last week

We learned from members of staff across the school and celebrated a range of cultures and countries.

The children in Primary learned to speak some Spanish, attended an RE workshop and learned all about South Africa and all about Portugal.

They tried foods from the countries, learned about their native wildlife, weather and traditions. It was a really immersive and fun learning experience for all – thank you to all staff who shared!

## Secondary

The children in Secondary took part in a variety of engaging activities to celebrate Diversity Day.

They enjoyed a food-tasting experience, trying new foods from around the world, explored sport and disabilities, learned about Australian and Indian culture, participated in an origami session, and took part in a session celebrating the LGBTQ+ community.



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Everyone had a fantastic day, and the children are already looking forward to next year's Diversity Day.

## Year 9 Visit to The Grange Centre



As part of Preparing for Adulthood, 9H enjoyed a whistle-stop visit to **The Grange Centre** in Great Bookham, a specialist provision for young adults aged 19+ with learning and additional needs.

Although our visit was brief, it gave us a wonderful insight into the wide range of opportunities and support available. We began our morning with a refreshing cold drink and a delicious piece of cake in the welcoming Courtyard Café, before enjoying a tour of the beautiful sensory garden, which provides a calm and therapeutic outdoor space for people to relax, explore and enjoy nature.

The Grange Centre provides vital services that support people with learning and/or physical disabilities to lead independent, fulfilling lives. Their person-centred approach helps individuals develop practical life skills, build confidence, and achieve their personal goals.

One of the highlights of the visit was meeting a former Gosden student, now aged 34, who has been supported by The Grange Centre and now lives independently in one of their lovely apartments. It was wonderful to see what can be achieved with the right support, opportunities and encouragement. It provided an inspiring example for our students as they begin to think about their own futures.

As The Grange Centre explains:

*"We believe everyone is different but everyone has potential and our support workers have seen people learn to cook, improve their communication, get a work placement, paid work or even move into independent living in the community."*

Although it was only a whistle-stop visit, our students came away with a better understanding of the exciting possibilities available after school and were inspired by the positive, welcoming environment they experienced. We are very grateful to everyone at The Grange Centre for making us feel so welcome.

**Below is the website – have a look and see their wonderful opportunities**

<https://www.grangecentre.org.uk/>



## **LIFE (Leaping Into Future Education and Employment)**

LIFE is an Alternative Provision (AP) for young people aged 16–19, based in Frimley Green, Surrey, with places for up to 20 students. It supports students whose primary need is **Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)** and most students have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Many students value LIFE because it is a place where they feel they can truly "fit in". Students often progress to further education, including Level 2 vocational courses, Surrey Choices, or colleges with SEND support.

### **What does LIFE offer?**

The programme runs **three days a week** and provides opportunities, experiences and challenges in safe, supportive environments. These include:

- Functional Skills Maths and English (from Entry Level 3)
- Laser Progression qualifications (Entry 3 to Level 2)
- Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award
- Life skills, including travel training, teamwork, communication, work preparation and independent living
- Outdoor and fitness activities
- Arts and cooking workshops
- Cultural visits, trips and residential opportunities
- Work experience placements

### **Supporting students**

LIFE promotes independence in both learning and everyday life, helping students overcome barriers to education, training and employment. Preparation for adulthood is embedded throughout the programme and includes college visits, CV writing, work experience, application support and interview preparation.

Lucy and I recently visited LIFE and were impressed by the welcoming, spacious and quirky community hall setting. During our visit, students were engaged in an upcycling project, following instructions and developing practical skills. One student was restoring a garden table by sanding, painting and creating a colourful decoupage design.

If parents/carers would like to find out more about LIFE, please feel free to contact either Lucy or me.





# E-SAFETY



## Staying Safe Online This Summer

The summer holidays are a great time to relax, have fun and stay connected with friends and family. Technology can help Gosden Learners learn, play and explore interests, but it's important to stay safe online.

### Top 5 Online Safety Tips

#### 1. Keep Personal Information Private

Never share:

- Full name
- Home address
- School name
- Phone number
- Passwords

✓ Check with a trusted adult if you're unsure.

#### 2. Be Kind Online

- Use kind and respectful language.
- Never send hurtful messages.
- Treat others online as you would in person.

#### 3. Only Talk to People You Know

- Communicate only with people you know and trust.
- Never meet someone you've only met online.
- Tell an adult if an unknown person contacts you.

#### 4. Think Before You Click

- Be cautious with links, messages and pop-ups.
- Don't download unfamiliar files or apps.
- Ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

#### 5. Balance Screen Time

Remember to:






- Spend time outdoors
- Enjoy hobbies
- Read books
- Spend time with family and friends
- ✓ Regular breaks from screens support wellbeing.

#### Who Can You Talk To?

If anything online makes you feel worried, upset or unsafe, tell:

- A parent or carer
- A family member
- A teacher
- A teaching assistant
- Another trusted adult

## Helpful Organisations

| Organisation     | Contact   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Childline</b> |  0800 1111 •  <a href="http://www.childline.org.uk">www.childline.org.uk</a> |
| <b>CE</b>        |  <a href="http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre">www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre</a>  |
| <b>NSPCC</b>     |  0808 800 5000 •  <a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk">www.nspcc.org.uk</a>    |

We hope all Gosden Learners have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

**Stay safe, stay kind and enjoy the summer!**

# 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 9H**  
Lily W  
Safa



**Year 7**

Lucy  
Jessica C  
Tyler C  
George L  
Leo P  
Kerina  
James  
Ollie  
Zack

**Year 8**  
Ruby



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](mailto:pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk)  07864 721931



**WE'RE  
IN YOUR  
CORNER**



**DOMESTIC ABUSE  
CROSSES THE LINE**  
Reports can rise around  
key matches.



<https://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/domestic-abuse/white-ribbon/domestic-abuse-crosses-the-line>

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 **farnham maltings**

# SUMMER FUN FOR FAMILIES

discover summer fun at farnham maltings and the museum of farnham

enjoy a season packed with live performances, creative workshops, and family-friendly festivals.

  @farnhammaltings [farnhammaltings.com](http://farnhammaltings.com)  
Bridge Square, Farnham GU9 7QR

The poster features three circular images: a woman lifting a child, a woman and child working at a table, and three women talking. It also includes a sun icon and a star icon.

<https://farnhammaltings.com/summer-family-fun>

Speech & Language Therapy Team

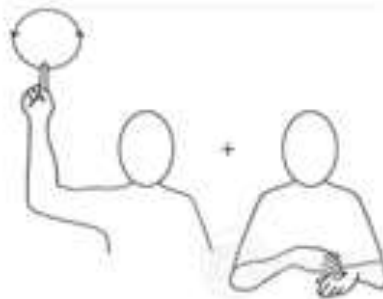
★ Makaton Champions ★

Signs of the week w/c 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026

*Warm Weather*

This week's champions are:

★ **Bonny, Jake and Leo – Rabbits Class** ★



All invited to come to Gosdenberry. It's a lovely live music and cream tea event in the school walled garden on 6/9 (the Sunday after the kids return to school). It's a relaxed event raising money for the school. Come along and bring your friends and family, and/or get your class together!

There's an open mic slot and it would be great if any of the kids would like to perform. You can buy tickets via the QR code or contact Louise 0777 6208991 (Skylar in Badger's mum) if you want any further info.

**Rotary**  
Club of Guildford Wey

**GOSDENBERRY 2026**

**GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL  
BRAMLEY GU5 0AH**

**SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> 2026**  
2pm to 6pm  
Gates open at 1:30 pm

**About Our Event!**

Join us in the School's magnificent Walled Garden for an afternoon of entertainment whilst supporting Rotary Charities and Gosden House School

**£15 TICKETS**  
available using the QR code and also available from the website at [www.rotaryinguildford.org](http://www.rotaryinguildford.org)  
No cream tea included with Tickets bought at gate for £13  
Child aged under 15 free

**Event Highlights**

- Live Performances** Musical entertainment from local performers and Surrey Bands. Also an open mic for those with the ability!
- Cream Teas** Cream Tea included with Adult entry tickets bought on line before 31st August
- Bar** Soft drinks, beer and Pimm's bar by School Parents' Association.
- Raffle** Raffle in aid of the Guildford Mayor's Charity
- Fun** Bring your chairs, rugs and picnic to enjoy the relaxing fun afternoon. (sorry , only Guide/Sensory dogs allowed)

LOCAL VOLUNTEERS | MAKING A DIFFERENCE | TAKING ACTION | CHANGING LIVES TOGETHER

**TOGETHER, WE CAN DO MORE**

## 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.

