Gosden News

Friday 27th November 2026



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Autumn Term

By Mrs Smale



The past couple of weeks have been full of excitement across the school, with the arrival of two very special new visitors, Halloumi and Clementine. The students have been enjoying learning about how to care for them during their stay with us.

It has also been a busy half-term for trips, with a fascinating visit to the Imperial War Museum for Year 9 and cinema outings for several classes. Preparations are well underway for our Primary Presentation, which will be performed for parents and carers (primary only) on Friday 11th December. We are also excited to see the progress being made on our new playgrounds, which are currently under construction. We know the finished spaces will provide wonderful opportunities for play, learning and exploration.



Parent Information

School Lunches: Please make sure that all lunch orders, including Christmas Lunch are placed as soon as possible. We would be grateful if you could place lunch orders for the remainder of this term and, if possible, for the first two weeks back in January.



VOLUNTEERING

We rely on wonderful volounteers for setting up and on the day to run stalls. Please see below a link where you can sign up to help make the day festively fabulous! An hour makes a huge difference if you can spare it!

SIGN UP HERE

WWW.SLOTTR.COM/SHEETS/18296469



Dates for the Diary

Friday 4th December – Early finish 1.30pm
Saturday 5th December – Christmas Fair 12-3pm
Wednesday 9th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
Friday 11th December 1.30pm – Primary Christmas Presentation (just for Primary parents)
Friday 18th December – End of Autumn Term, 1.30pm finish
Monday 4th January – Inset day
Tuesday 5th January – Start of Spring Term
Monday 15th - 19th February – Half Term

PRIMARY







This half-term, our **Robins** children have been exploring the exciting topic of 'Toys'. In Literacy, we have enjoyed reading *The Paper Dolls* by Julia Donaldson, creating and decorating our own paper dolls and sharing our favourite parts of the story. In Maths, we have been comparing amounts by exploring large and small collections, developing our early understanding of number. We have also been settling into our classroom routines and growing in confidence as we become familiar with our new learning environment. Through supported play, we have been building friendships, developing relationships with our peers and learning to play together.







Squirrels have really been enjoying our visits to the Art studio recently. We've been exploring clay and finding out about where it comes from. We looked at the use of clay in caveman times to modern pottery pieces. We've had fun practising 'dough disco' moves and learnt the 'pinch pot' technique and 'coil pot' skills.

SECONDARY



Year 7H learners have been working together to develop our employability skills; baking courgette and cheese scones, as well as creating our own paper bags to deliver the scones to customers.



In science, we have been developing our life skills; focusing on teeth hygiene by investigating how sugary drinks can damage the enamel on our teeth. We also explored the effectiveness of toothpaste on stains.









Learners have been exploring the theme of movement and migration in art. We have been building our confidence in expressing our creative ideas through chalk pastels and charcoal.



In **KS4**, we have taken part in a range of different leisure-based activities that include cooking, arts and crafts and sport. We have accessed the school gym and taken part in a gym induction. This week we also went to Guildford cinema to watch Ocean with David Attenborough.
During our self-development sessions, we have also been focusing on the Zones of Regulation and designing our own check-in charts, which we can use during our lessons.

SECONDARY TOOLKITS

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 7D
Rose
Jess L
Sulayman
Freddie L-B
Jack S

Year 7H
Destiny
Tiff
Maia

Year 9
George G
Kayson F
Aalia S

Year 8
Finley R
Zack P
Leo P
Austin F
Ray
Ollie M
Emily S

COMING SOON FOR SECONDARY...



PASTORAL CARE

pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

07864 721931

By Jen,
our Pastoral Assistant



Starry Night Sky Family Activity

Following on from kindness week I wanted to introduce a lovely activity that is easy to use. Using a sheet of black card, a family member can put a star sticker on it if they recognise someone in the family being kind and helpful. Over time, this will build up a beautiful picture which can be celebrated.

ASPIRATIONAL UPDATES // *By Mrs Tidbury*



Both myself and a Year 11 student, Melissa, were lucky enough to visit Mill Court Care Home in Shalford last week to discuss working together with an offer of a new work experience placement. Melissa was unsure what she wanted to do and so together we spoke to Bridie Watson, the Home Services Adviser.

Bridie has created a bespoke work experience for Melissa which involves learning about sales and marketing, making sure the home has enough residents, updating their Facebook page, editing photos, supporting events, advertising events and even being a "tea trolley hostess" for a day 😊

If anyone knows of a fabulous company/business that could potentially be a work experience option please let me know.

SEND INFORMATION AFTERNOONS

Click on the dates below to book your places via Eventbrite.

ACTIVATE LEARNING
GUILDFORD COLLEGE

Upcoming Guildford College Events:

[02/12/2026]
[25/02/2027]
[19/05/2027]

ACTIVATE LEARNING
MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE
AND UNIVERSITY CENTRE

Upcoming Merrist Wood College Events:

[08/12/2026]
[09/02/2027]
[11/05/2027]

E-SAFETY *By Mrs Mainwaring*

We would like to make you aware of an online safety concern involving large WhatsApp groups with names such as "*Add the Whole World*" and "*Add Everyone You Know*". These groups can include large numbers of people who do not know each other and may expose children and young people to inappropriate content or contact from strangers.
We encourage you to talk with your child about the risks of joining groups involving people they do not know and to check the WhatsApp groups they are part of. If they have joined one of these groups, we recommend that they leave it as soon as possible.

To help reduce the risk of your child being added to these groups, you can check their WhatsApp settings:

- Open **WhatsApp**
- Select **Settings**
- Tap **Privacy**
- Tap **Groups**
- Select **My Contacts**

This means that only people saved in your child's contacts can add them to a group chat.

It is also worth remembering that even group chats with friends can sometimes be challenging for children and young people. Keeping up with messages, managing disagreements, and feeling pressure to respond can be overwhelming for some of our learners.

As always, please encourage your child to speak to a trusted adult if they see or receive anything online that makes them feel uncomfortable or worried.



COMMUNITY / LOCAL EVENTS / FUNDRAISING

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



Woking Wolves football club aim is for children and adults with disabilities play football in a safe, supportive environment, growing confidence, connection and having fun on and off the pitch. This is open to adults and children across Surrey. The club is low on numbers, especially girls. [Inclusive Football | WDFFA | England]









COMMUNITY / LOCAL EVENTS / FUNDRAISING

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



We are currently raising money to buy bikes and trikes for the new track area on the playground. Any donations would be very welcome. You can donate by scanning the QR code above.

Thank you for your support!