



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

GOSDEN NEWS

25th June 2021

Before working at Gosden House I didn't really appreciate how much goes on behind the scenes for all the events that go on within a school. As you will see from this newsletter, this term at Gosden is crammed full of lots of exciting activities for our students, including a month of various centenary celebrations.

We are very fortunate at Gosden to have a huge community of people who pull together to make everything happen, and without them it just wouldn't be possible and we are very thankful for their support...

Etta and the volunteers looking after our gardens and allotment who keep it looking so beautiful, especially all the extra touches that makes it such a special place.

The ex-staff and supporters who are coming into to school to support the students during history week and dance exhibitions.

The staff who baked and purchased cakes in the bake-off to raise funds to help support the centenary celebrations and the PTA who continue to support the school.

And then there is the small army of volunteers who gave up their time for Prom... putting up tents, decorating, making things, lending things, entertaining, cooking for the troops, looking after everyone on the night. Nina who masterminded the whole event, staff and their families (parents, children, dogs), parents of students, school governors and their friends and families, local businesses, local community (Bramley Dad's) and everyone who helped make PromFest 2021 a night to remember!

Clare Sykes - SLT Admin Support Assistant

Clare

Don't forget to keep an eye on our website for updates and useful information: [Home Page](#) [Class Pages](#)



PromFest 2021

YEAR 11 PROMFEST

On Wednesday our Year 11's celebrated their final days at Gosden with a festival themed Prom in the walled garden. We were joined by our friends at Carwarden & The Park School.



The walled garden was transformed into a sea of colour to create a stunning festival venue. Students enjoyed a fun filled night of dancing to a the band Space Drive & DJ, photo booth, giant inflatable games, delicious burgers and sweet treats. Even the sun come out!!



YEAR 11 PROMFEST



YEAR 11 PROMFEST



Many thanks to the local businesses and organisations for their support



Lighting by
Justin

DJ VICKY
SPACE DRIVE



Bramley
Village Fete



Hosting by
Martin Hope

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Our centenary celebrations have got off to a great start. So far we have taken part in History week and 1920's dance workshops.

The celebrations continue over the next two weeks and we will have a full report of all activities in the next issue.



CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS



CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

The children have been learning about ex-pupil Violet Simon who attended Gosden House from 1939 – 1945.

She kindly shared some of her
memories with us.

A few extracts are below...

“The death of my father left my mother penniless with three children to bring up. We were poor. I would not have had a healthy childhood or good education if my headmaster, Mr Tucker, had not enquired about the Lord Wandsworth Foundation and put my name forward for a place at Gosden House.

“I arrived on a sunny day and some girls were outside tending little patches of garden. I was introduced to a girl named Olive James who was busy with her small, allocated area. She was asked to show me around and look after me. We made friends and shared that small garden from then on. I made a few good friends, including my best friend Sheila Smith, who shared my birthday and whose farm I often visited in the school holidays.”

“Although it was wartime, we were fed extremely well. The local Home Farm provided milk and fruit in abundance. We were given an apple every single day. We had a substantial two-course lunch at school and high tea when we returned to Gosden House at the end of the day. Sweets were on ration, so we had very little chocolate or candy.”

“Hot water was used economically and we had a bath with a measured depth of water every other night. We brushed our hair, 100 strokes, every night. And on Sunday nights, we lined up at the dispensary for a dose of Senna or liquorice, which was a vile green muddy liquid laxative.”

“As it was wartime, we had an air-raid routine and drill. We placed a warm set of clothing at the foot of our beds so that we were ready to dress quickly when the air-raid sirens went off. We lined up calmly and proceeded to our allocated underground air-raid shelters carrying our gas masks. As the war intensified, the sirens sounded ‘take cover/all clear’ sometimes twice a night.”

“Throughout our time at Gosden House, all train fares to and from home at holiday times were funded by the Foundation. When I left school in 1945, I was kitted out, as we all were, with a set of clothing. We were taken to Selfridges and allowed to choose the following items: three vests, three pairs of knickers, three pairs of stockings and ankle socks, a two-piece suit, a blouse and jumper, a coat and two pairs of shoes, one pair of high heels and one pair of walking shoes.”

GREAT GOSDEN BAKE OFF

To help raise funds towards our centenary the staff organised a bake off and we had some amazing cakes on offer.

The winner was number 2, Lisa James our School Business Manager and nearly £100 was raised.



NUMBER HUNTING IN ALLOTMENT

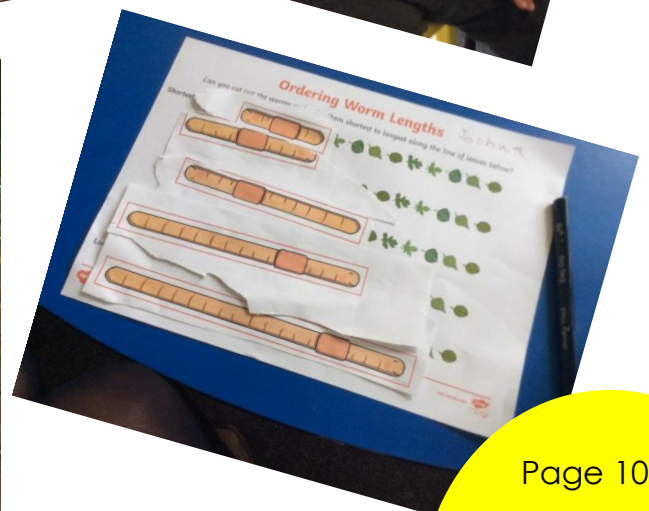
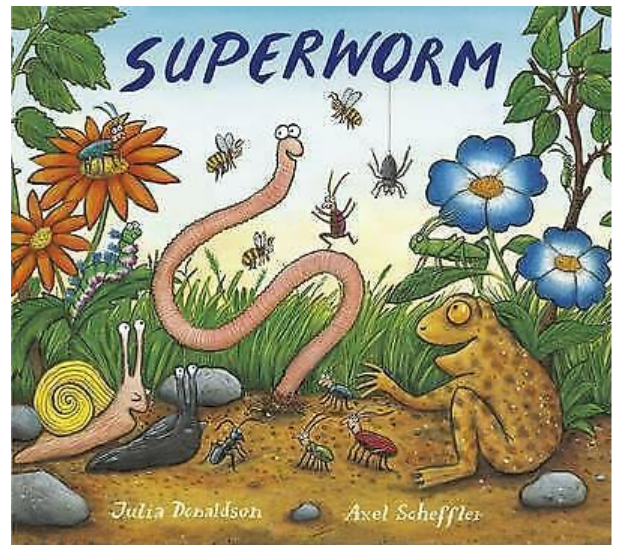
Our amazing and dedicated volunteer Etta put lots of Gosden creatures in the allotment for children to come in and count.

Also we have a new friend the frog in the garden. He was purchased by the senior students using profits from their garden shop as they thought primary would like him.



UPDATE FROM ROBINS

In Robins we have been learning all about Superworm during our mini beast topic! We learnt our Makaton sign for worm, made our own Superworms from pasta, counted and compared worms during numeracy, went worm hunting, and much more!



UPDATE FROM OWLS

This half term we are learning all about the seaside in Owls. We are lucky to have our own ice cream van in the classroom and have been enjoying lots of role play, taking and writing down orders for our friends and making them up. We have used coins to count how much we need to pay. We have also been doing some seaside art for our summer display in the classroom.

We have been celebrating our school being 100 years old. During history week, we learnt about other things that are 100 years old including Winnie the Pooh. We did some 1920s dancing and had a party with Rabbits and Robins where we tried some 1920s food. It was great fun!



We made 'Oh Henry' bars using no sugar like they had in the 1920s to eat at our party.

We made our own 1920s bunting.



UPDATE FROM RABBITS

Rabbit class have been really busy celebrating 100 years of Gosden House. They learned some playground games, 'In and Out the Dusty bluebells' was their favourite. They looked at differences over the years in seaside visits, toys and clothes, they even visited an old school room with a very strict teacher and learned how different life was in school long ago. At the end of the week was a big party to celebrate. They decorated bunting, grew their own cress and made cucumber sandwiches for the celebration. Watch this space for more exciting events and activities.



UPDATE FROM SIMMONDS

This week we finished writing our stories. We have been preparing them for a few weeks. First we thought of a character and a setting then we thought about what would happen at the beginning, middle and end of the story. We decided if there was going to be a problem in our story and how we would sort it out. Finally we thought about the end of the story. We wrote up our story and made sure we had a title and picture on the front cover. We all worked really hard in Simmonds!



Alfresco dining!

We have enjoyed our picnic lunches!



We have been making the most of the local area and Gosden's grounds.
We have spent lots of time outside learning!

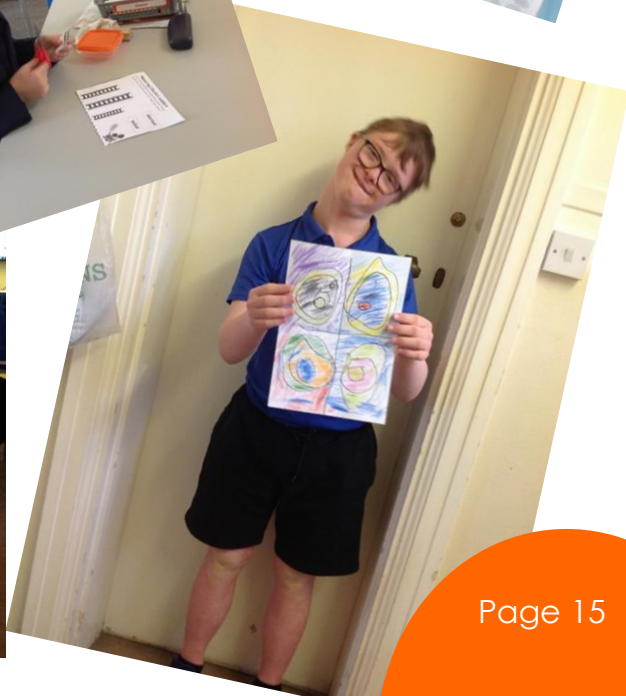
UPDATE FROM SIMMONDS



History Week! Learning about the past.



UPDATE FROM SIMMONDS



UPDATE FROM SIMMONDS

Celebrating achievements!!



Class responsibilities



Great work Simmonds!

The class team are very proud of how hard you work, how helpful you are and how kind you are to one another.

Three cheers to our wonderful Simmonds students!

GUILDFORD SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

TOGETHER: SEND HOLIDAY CLUB (12-19 yr olds)

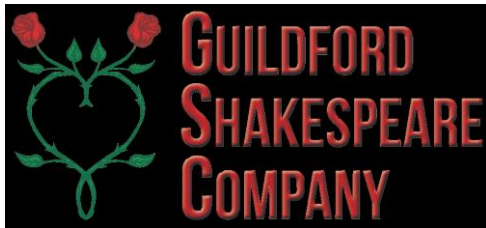
'Together' is a free holiday club for any children aged 12-19 with special educational needs and disabilities. Run by professional facilitators, we'll rehearse scenes and play fun drama games. Every member will leave with plenty of new skills, games and friends.

Dates: Monday 16 August – Friday 20 August
(10am - 3pm each day)

Venue: To be run in person at GSC HQ
(subject to government guidelines)
Greenark, Stoke Park, Guildford GU1 1HB

Fee: Free for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

For more information
call 07956 000759 or visit [website](#)



GOSDEN HOUSE PTA UPDATE

Raffle Tickets - please return completed stubs and monies to school office ASAP in envelope marked 'Gosden PTA Summer Raffle. Raffle will be drawn on 9th July. If you want more tickets please contact debbybrown@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk



octopusenergy

PARENT POWER ⚡

Help us raise money for Gosden House School

We are trying to raise money for Gosden House School. Make a difference through fundraising for your child's school!

How does this work?

For every person who signs up to Octopus Energy through this link, we will donate £50 towards the school and better yet they'll also get £50 on their new Octopus Energy account!

What is Parent Power?

We want to do good not only for the planet, but for the amazing schools within it. Parent Power will connect with schools to help raise money for organisations in need of a certain something that can further their mission. If you have any questions, email parent-power@octoenergy.com



gosdenhouseschool.octopus.energy

SEND ADVICE SURREY ADVOCACY

Advocacy

The Information, Advice and Support Network (IASN) that we are part of uses this definition of Advocacy:

“Advocacy means getting support from another person to help you (parent, child or young person) express your views and wishes and help you understand and exercise your rights”

SENDIAS (SEND information, advice and support services) do not fulfill the role of statutory advocates or provide legal advocacy as provided by a lawyer.

An advocate can:

- listen to your views and concerns
- help you explore your options and rights (without pressuring you)
- provide information to help you make informed decisions
- help you contact relevant people, or contact them on your behalf
- accompany you and support you in meetings or appointments.

An advocate will not:

- give you their personal opinion
- solve problems and make decisions for you
- make judgements about you. The support of an advocate is often particularly useful in meetings when you might not feel confident in expressing yourself.

They can:

- support you to ask all the questions you want to ask
- make sure all the points you want covered are included in the meeting
- explain your options to you without giving their opinion
- help keep you safe during the meeting – for example, if you find the meeting upsetting, your advocate can ask for a break until you feel able to continue.

What are my legal rights to an advocate?

In some situations you might be legally entitled to get the support of an advocate. This is called 'statutory advocacy'.

There is a list of Advocacy services in Surrey on the Local Offer website:

Search Local Offer Surrey and then search Advocacy.

<https://advocacyinsurrey.org.uk/> are funded by Surrey County Council and NHS Surrey, 0800 335 7330 or text 07561 392 818

TICK SEASON

Lyme Disease

Just a reminder that it is tick season.

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection that can be spread to humans by infected ticks. It's usually easier to treat if it's diagnosed early.



Symptoms of Lyme disease

Many people with early symptoms of Lyme disease develop a circular red skin rash around a tick bite.

The rash can appear up to 3 months after being bitten by a tick and usually lasts for several weeks.

Most rashes appear within the first 4 weeks.



The rash is often described as looking like a bull's-eye on a dartboard.



The skin will be red and the edges may feel slightly raised.

Not everyone with Lyme disease gets the rash. Some people also have flu-like symptoms in the early stages, such as:

- a high temperature, or feeling hot and shivery
- headaches
- muscle and joint pain
- tiredness and loss of energy

For more information please contact school or visit

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/lyme-disease/>

HOME COVID TESTING UPDATE

Covid Home Testing Kits

Thank you to the secondary students that are now testing at home twice a week.

Please continue to test and let us know if you need more kits.

Please also keep reporting the results to us following this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/z2bNLS03TM>

KEEP SURREY SAFE

SYMPTOM-FREE TESTING
for households and bubbles of school pupils, and of staff

BOOK • COLLECT • ORDER surreycc.gov.uk/symptomfreecovidtesting

STAY AT HOME • PROTECT THE NHS • SAVE LIVES

Anyone who is in the same household, childcare bubble or support bubble as a school or nursery pupil or someone who works in a school, nursery or college, is eligible for twice weekly symptom-free testing.

Please note, children and young people will continue to be tested via their school or college testing scheme. School and college staff can access home testing kits via their workplace.

Please read 'How to get a test in Surrey' and full details; [COVID-19 Testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and of staff](#).

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS



School is always willing to provide advice or support and extra help

You can call and speak to Annie Welch, our Home School Link Worker.
Tel: 07864 721931

Web Page Information:

[School Web Site](#)

Keeping Children Safe Online:

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

For any child or family worries for which you may need additional support or advice you can request it by contacting the Surrey Children's Single Point of Access Team on 0300 470 9100 and press 1 and then option required.

For support and advice around domestic abuse, mental health or safety in the home:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-anddomestic-abuse/coronavirus-covid-19-support-forvictims-of-domestic-abuse>

<https://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/domestic-abuse>

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS



Surrey and Borders Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

Adult Services Mental Health Crisis Line

The helpline is for people living in Surrey experiencing a mental health crisis.
Telephone: 0800 915 4644
(24 hours, 7 days a week)

If you have speech or hearing difficulties, you can contact the helpline through:

- SMS: 07717 989024
- Next Generation text service: Dial 18001 0800 915 4644 from your text phone or smart app

The [Crisis Helpline](#) is staffed by professionals who are experienced in working with people with mental health issues and is managed according to the NHS Code of Confidentiality which respects individuals' personal information. However, the service has a duty to respond when someone's thoughts, intentions and actions indicate a specific and significant risk of harm to self or others particularly children). Such cases will be followed up and the relevant service or authorities will be contacted. In an emergency please call 999 or go to Accident and Emergency (A&E) – many of which have psychiatric liaison services. You can find local A&E services at [NHS Choices](#).

Out of hours crisis support for children with a mental health need.

Out of hours crisis support for children, young people and their families has been increased in response to Coronavirus. Children, aged 11 and over, and their families can continue to call our Extended Hope Service for crisis support between 5pm-11pm, 7 days a week. Calls to this service are handled by the Emergency Duty Team and we have now put in place a triage worker to provide an immediate response to anyone calling this number: 01483 517898. In addition, our Mental Health Crisis Helpline is now providing telephone support to children, young people and their families between 11pm and 9am, seven days a week, to ensure they always have access to out of hours crisis support. During normal working hours people can talk to their GP or go to A&E for support and children, aged 10-18, can contact one of the CYP Havens.

Due to public health advice the CYP Havens are currently closed. Instead we are running a virtual service for young people to access support by phone. This service is available every day of the week including bank holidays

"A safe place to get support when I am feeling distressed and worried about how I am feeling"



Call: 01483 519436

Monday to Friday, 4pm-8.30pm. Saturday and Sunday, 12pm-6pm