



# GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL GOSDEN CHRISTMAS NEWS

10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Ho ho ho... it's not long to go now until the big day! I'm busy getting everything ready for my journey around the world delivering gifts.

What an exciting term it has been and I know that you have been celebrating the festive season in true Gosden style.

I have seen that you have all been enjoying performing festive songs, taking part in sensory nativities and walks, and making cards. I know that next week you are all looking forward to eating your Christmas lunch and taking part in more festive fun activities... and even I am planning to pop in for a visit to deliver some presents!

Wishing you and your families a very Happy Christmas. I hope you enjoy the holidays and all the Gosden team are looking forward to seeing you back in school ready for an action-packed 2022!

*Father Christmas*



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



# CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY





Ryan in Hawking Class even created an 'Angus in a sparkly Christmas jumper' decoration



# NEWS UPDATE

## And it's goodbye from me.....

After 30 years in teaching and 7 of them at Gosden, I have decided it is time for a change of career.

Education has changed so much in that time. I started teaching on a blackboard with handwritten worksheets and have ended using interactive whiteboards and accessing the internet for information.

I have loved my time at Gosden. The students are so endearing and have completely captured my heart – I will miss them so much. I also want to thank you as parents for your support and encouragement.

I will miss Gosden but am looking forward to pursuing new ventures.

Much love  
Katy Gidley

We are also sadly saying goodbye to Kate Gardner, TA in Parks Class.

But we are very happy to welcome

Emmah Klein to the Gosden Team who joins us in January as the new Teacher for Parks Class.



We are very proud of all of our students who took part in the Virgin Giving Virtual Mini London Marathon during this term. Gosden House pupils ran, jogged, or walked 2.6 miles around our grounds. They were joined by more than 500,000 other children who were registered to join in and be part of the world's biggest marathon.

Students that successfully completed the challenge received a commemorative pin badge.

The Virgin Money Giving Mini London Marathon in schools is all about inspiring children and young people of all ages and abilities to be physically active. Regular exercise has a positive impact on children's health and fitness and taking part can help start a habit that stays with children for the rest of their lives. Physical activity also supports good mental health and wellbeing – everyone feels happier after they've been for a run!

# CHARITY NEWS

Thank you to everyone who  
took part in Children in  
Need day... we raised an  
impressive £73



Massive thank you to  
Charlie's mum from  
Foxes Class who  
recently completed  
the Great South Run  
and raised £1830 for  
our school.

# UPDATE FROM SQUIRRELS

What a wonderful half term we have enjoyed in the Squirrel classroom! The time has flown and before we knew it, we have arrived at Christmas.

This half term we delved deeply into various storybooks including, 'The Bee Who Spoke' about a young French girl from Paris who keeps a journal during her summer holidays in Provence. We loved learning about the French countryside, comparing it to the English countryside.

We also investigated the world of bees and created our own bee presentations after carrying out independent research. We also wrote journals just like the main character Belle.

Another favourite read of ours was 'Where the Wild Things Are'. This inspired us to make mind maps describing a story character and develop our very own story setting based on the book. We also used the story 'Funnybones' to create shadow puppet plays as part of our Science topic Light and Shadows.

In Numeracy, we have become experts at multiplication and have learnt some fun ways and strategies of helping us to solve multiplication problems. We have also enjoyed investigating the measurement of length during our topic maths lessons.



# UPDATE FROM SQUIRRELS



One of the many highlights of this half term was a visit from the music company, Rock Steady. We all got the opportunity to play an instrument in a live rock band and perform in front of an audience. It is fair to say we have lots of talented musicians and aspiring rock stars amongst us!

Yet another highlight for both children and teachers likewise was our Wild Learning Week. We were all engrossed in our CRAZY Connections invention, each spending lots of time and effort on creating a component for our group contraption. We also made the most of our wonderful morning out exploring The Chantries in Guildford.

This term we had an exciting opportunity to become archaeologists by going on an exploration dig in sand. We hunted for artefacts and sorted them into modern day and past.

The festive season kicked off in true Gosden style with Marion teaching us and choreographing the Christmas songs for our performance. Thank you to the Squirrel Team for doing an amazing job creating the backdrop. We are sure you will love the performance.

This time of year is always such fun, with lots of Christmas crafts including making Christmas cards, baking festive treats, and some surprises that we are not going to give away!

We would like to thank you for your continued support with your child's learning and wish you a very happy and healthy Christmas!



# UPDATE FROM WOODPECKERS

Woodpecker Class  
re-enacted the first  
Christmas and  
would like to wish  
you all a happy  
Christmas!





# UPDATE FROM WOODPECKERS



It has been a term full of learning in so many different ways in Woodpecker Class. We started back from half term with Wild Learning Week where the children impressed us with all of their wonderfully creative ideas as they created a squirrel feeding machine with some fantastically crazy connections. The chickens might have wondered why there was a tyre hanging over the wall but it was a crucial weight for the start of the machine.

We had a lovely walk in The Chantries where we were hoping to see many birds and squirrels. We saw a few brave woodland creatures but many heard us long before we saw them! The children had made special squirrel kebabs using sticks from the school grounds and Gosden grown cucumber and pumpkin. (They had researched what squirrels like to eat)



# UPDATE FROM WOODPECKERS

During anti-bullying week, we focused on being kind and the children were able to verbalise and show just how kind they are. They each wrote a poem- we have included a couple for you to read. (See below) They wrote letters to their friends in Squirrel class and even reduced one child to tears of joy as he was so happy to receive his letter.

In Maths, we have been learning about money. We set our classroom up as a shop, to help us think about how items were priced and then to practice buying and selling items: adding up totals and calculating change. Very important skills for the Christmas fair!



## **Kindness By Willem**

Kindness is a heart  
Showing that you love and care.  
Kindness is a friend  
Helping them feel happy.  
Kindness is a flower  
Given to someone.

## **Kindness By Jack**

Kindness is a friend  
Like my little Bear.  
Kindness is a present  
For my Daddy and Mummy.  
Kindness is a smile  
Makes me happy.



# UPDATE FROM GORDY

## Just a normal day in Gordy Class...

We did make the whole school laugh when the fire alarm went off and big bird and his crazy friends casually wandered out to line up in the playground.



# UPDATE FROM YEAR 10 & YEAR 11

Earlier on this term, we had the pleasure of meeting the Year 10 and 11's parents and carers at parents' evening to share how far all of our learners have come in the last year, and how incredibly proud we are of all of them! We had visitors from local colleges, HALOW and our lovely aspirations advisor Sandra Tidbury for everyone to chat to about what they plan to do after life at Gosden.

Although talking about life after Gosden can be very difficult at times for our learners because it comes with lots of different emotions, they have been excited to share with us what they would like to do when they are older. We are delighted to find out that we might have multiple mechanics, hospitality workers, animal carers, sports leaders and child carers that started out at our school one day.

Another aspect of school life that Year 10 and 11 have been hard at work at is helping the community in their Community Action lessons. So far this year they have helped to make the school a better place for everyone by washing the school gates and mini buses, fixing the rock climbing wall, organising Hello Yellow Day and raising money for different charities. Year 10 have made some hot chocolate reindeer to sell around the school to raise money for the NHS, and Year 11 have organised a Fair where they will have stalls that you need to pay to take part in, to raise money for another charity.



For now, after all of our hard work this term we are all looking forward to relaxing and celebrating this festive season, with our Christmas dinner, class parties and Santa's visit to come next week!

# SECONDARY TOOLKIT

WELL DONE to the following students in completing their 'Gosden Toolbox' Sticker Sheet this so far this term and successfully collecting 10 'Life Tools'. Developing these 'Life Tools' will help them now and also prepare them for their exciting future pathways.

Sofia – Parks

Lulu – Parks

Harry – Parks

JJ - Parks

Alisha-Paige – Hawking

Charles – Simmonds

Shannon – Simmonds

Jude – Simmonds

Aicha - Simmonds

Jay – Year 10

Lilly-May – Year 10

Elle – Year 10

Zack – Year 11

Esther – Year 11



# GOSDEN HOUSE PTA UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who helped and attended our Christmas Fair, in some very cold and breezy weather conditions we were able to spread the Christmas spirit.



We have a few gift bundles at a bargain price for Christmas Eve boxes £3 drop us a message at [gosdenpta@gmail.com](mailto:gosdenpta@gmail.com) or let your class rep know if you would like one.

If you are looking for something to do over the Christmas Season why not check out Painshill Park Snowsaurus Trail

<https://www.painshill.co.uk/events/snowsaurus/>

# COVID 19 UPDATE

## Covid Home Testing Kits

Thank you to the secondary students that are keeping our school community safe by testing at home twice a week.

Please continue to test at home and let us know if you require any more test kits to be sent home.

Please also keep reporting the results to us following this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/z2bNLS03TM>



## Vaccine Information

Useful resource designed by young people for young people - learn more about the vaccine, get answers to questions and when ready, organise getting the jab locally.



[www.everythingcovid.info](http://www.everythingcovid.info)

# MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS



## Surrey Against Domestic Abuse

Surrey domestic abuse helpline  
01483 776822  
9am to 9pm, 7 days a week



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>

## There is new service available from Surrey

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



Providing children, young people, families and carers with information about services, advice and resources. Includes how to ask for help in a crisis via the 24/7 crisis line.



# 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**