



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

GOSDEN NEWS

1st July 2022

I write this welcome piece today from my own sofa, as I am (not) enjoying a visit from an old friend: Covid! I sincerely hope we don't have a repeat of last year's end of year disruption, but we have planned to hold events outside just in case.

As you will see on the last page of the newsletter, we have quite a few events coming up. The end of the school year is a big transition, as we say goodbye to some things and prepare for new classes. Annie has included a piece from Beacon House about how staff and parents/ carers can support transitions.

It is a real pleasure for me to read the newsletter and see how much learning has been taking place in all the classes. The learning habits and muscles are very much a part of how we learn now, which has helped pupils to articulate the process of learning – a really important lifelong skill.

Our Diversity Week was a great success – these events are so affirmative for our children families and staff as we celebrate the joy of living in a diverse community.

As Squirrel Class will tell you: **We are all awesome and we are all different.**

Cindy

Cindy O'Sullivan, Head Teacher

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



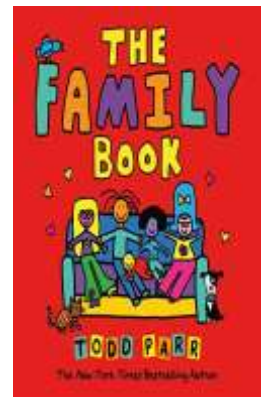
UPDATE FROM OWLS



Owl class really enjoyed all of their learning during Diversity week. We learned about different kinds of families and things that people do to show love in their families – we had some great ideas from cooking dinner to playing dinosaurs together and dancing as a family!

When learning the story 'and Tango makes three' we decided on the qualities that would make a good penguin parent. The children loved the penguin family and agreed on some great qualities for a penguin parent - **kindness, helping, fun** and **being good at playing**.

We also read the story 'My Shadow is Pink', which explores gender stereotypes and roles. We learned that it is great to be who you are and love the things that you love. We spoke about the things that make us happy and our own likes. Then we each drew around our own shadows outside and decided what colours our shadows would be to reflect ourselves. The children choose their own colours and coloured in their shadows using chalks.



On Thursday, we made our own rainbow flags using printing techniques and colouring using various mediums. During our whole school celebration, the children spoke about their learning to the rest of the school showing great confidence in sharing this with everyone! We then had a dance to celebrate diversity.

UPDATE FROM OWLS



UPDATE FROM FOXES

Foxes are really enjoying their Green & Blue Planet learning topic. Planting our own beans and seeing them grow has really helped us to understand what a plant needs to survive. The children have observed the different parts of their plants closely and have cared for them really well. We prepared our garden patch and have planted our beans and sunflowers out.



We have also been learning about plant habitats and studied the features of a meadow and woodland. We are lucky enough to have a meadow and woodland area on the Gosden grounds so using our '**noticing**' and '**exploring**' learning habits we found different grasses, wildflowers, herbs, bees, insects, dragon flies and butterflies in the meadow. We also investigated tree types and insects. We compared the two habitats and realised they were quite different!

In Drama as part of our Plants topic, we have been very creative with movement. The children explored all the components needed to make a seed grow and performed a movement to show soil, seeds, water, sunshine and growing. Foxes used great imagination and said they used the '**listening**', '**learning together**' and '**creative**' learning habits, which we agreed with!



Planting seeds and showing how water flows



UPDATE FROM FOXES

In Literacy we have focused on two books; 'Jasper's beanstalk' and 'Dear Earth'. We are very proud of hard Foxes have been working.



Exploring the different landscapes in the story, 'Dear Earth'



More recently we have been learning about the Water cycle. Foxes loved the story of 'Raindrop Bill' and acted out the main events brilliantly. This helped us to understand the process of the Water cycle.



As well as consolidating our Number skills, in Maths, Foxes have been Coin Detectives; sorting copper and silver coins, recognising 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p (& more in some cases!) and understanding the value of different coins. Using our **'problem solving'** learning habit we realised that coins are worth different amounts and found varying ways of making the same totals. We have enjoyed turning our Maths area into a shop and have been buying items using different coins. Keep up the great work Foxes!



UPDATE FROM HAWKING

We've started the last half-term of this academic year with new learning opportunities.

Besides the regular lessons, we have been splitting into smaller sub groups and learning Art, Music and DT.

We have also carried on with music, judo and horse-riding.

Gosden Pride was one of the highlights of celebrating diversity at the school. We designed our own flag and wrote what each of the colours meant to us. In the afternoon, we shared our learning with the entire school and danced together in the playground. It was fun!



Creating the setting and characters for our World's Worst characters, based on the David Walliams' stories we have been reading and learning about in English.



We had our Moving Up day on Wednesday, which gave us the opportunity to meet our new teachers and adults in September. We will be going back to our individual year groups.

In Maths we have been learning how to count and use money.

UPDATE FROM YEAR 10

Over the last few weeks year 10 have been working towards their transition to Year 11. We have been busy moving our classroom back over to the Lighthouse and making it feel comfortable for us again, with everyone having their own tasks to get the job done. We had a happy but emotional day saying goodbye to our friends in the current Year 11 last week. What a send off they had! We wish them all the best.

This week we have been busy making "Hall of Fame" frames to put up in our corridor to remind us of how amazing we really are. We included our skills and qualities and some of our interests too, as well as pictures of ourselves and of our favourite things. We used our brilliant ICT skills to make these, learning skills we hadn't used before and even teaching some of the teachers new skills too!



On Wednesday we had an exciting "Moving Up" day with our new teacher Mrs. Phillips in our new classroom. We did a team building exercise, using our learning together learning muscles to work as a team to build a cushion for our egg. We were given a cardboard tube, some felt, a pipe cleaner, 5 pieces of sellotape and a cotton ball. Each team had a hard boiled egg and was set the challenge of creating a cushion that would protect the egg if it was thrown from a window. Once we were happy with our creations, we put it to the test. Most of our eggs cracked when they hit the ground but we did have a clear winning team. Well done Toby and Jay. We are feeling excited and confident about moving up to Year 11 and we look forward to being top of the school.

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.

Jamie - Gordy

Jack - Gordy

Josh - Gordy

Charles - Simmonds

Jacob (2) - Simmonds

Leo - Simmonds

Sofia - Parks

Micaela - Parks

Skye - Parks

Lulu - Parks

Rebecca - Hawking

Amr - Hawking

Jessica - Hawking

Ryan - Hawking

Tai - Hawking

Joanne - Hawking

Janet- Year 10



SPEECH & LANGUAGE TEAM UPDATE

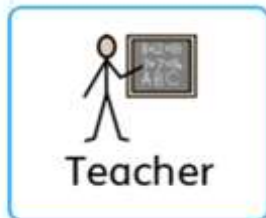


Speech & Language Therapy Team

★ Makaton Champions ★

Signs of the week w/c 27th June 2022
(Theme: People who help us)

This week's champions are:
Sophia & Sam – Robins Class



SPEECH & LANGUAGE TEAM UPDATE

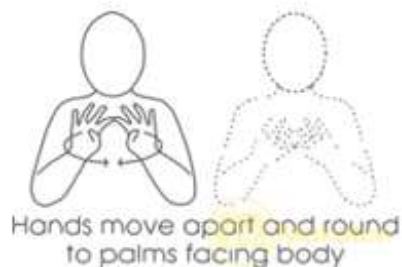


Speech & Language Therapy Team

☆ Makaton Champions ☆

Signs of the week w/c 4th July 2022
(Theme: Sports Day)

This week's champions are:
Melissa & Jack from Woodpeckers





SUMMER FAYRE

PLEASE BRING YOUR
OWN PICNIC

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
SUNDAY 3RD JULY 2022

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
STRAWBERRIES & CREAM ★ PIMMS ★

★ GAMES ★ FACE PAINTING ★

TEDDY BEAR STALL ★ RAFFLE ★

REFRESHMENTS ★ & LOTS MORE ★

1 HOUR SYNERGY DANCE WORKSHOP

LOCAL FIRE ENGINE VISIT

SUBJECT TO NO CALL OUT

1-4pm

GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL
BACK FIELD

★
★ FREE ENTRY
★

★ ALL WELCOME
★



Parent and Carer Adviser joins Surrey Welfare Rights Unit

We are really pleased that we have successfully recruited to a new post in the unit.

The Parent and Carer Adviser's work will be specifically directed towards helping the parents and Carers of young people aged between 14 and 25 with special educational needs and/or disabilities to navigate their benefit options as they transition between childhood and adulthood.

The Adviser will be offering talks, information, advice and targeted casework. This could be about:

- claiming New-Style ESA at 16
- claiming Universal Credit as a disabled student
- Migrating from DLA to PIP

Contact the Unit via advice@swru.org for further information.

For more information for Carers see: [Carers-Booklet-24th-edition-July-2021.pdf \(swru.org\)](#)

Parents' Voices Matter: a survey for parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs (including special educational needs) and disabilities.

[Parents' Voices Matter survey - Surrey County Council - Citizen Space \(surreysays.co.uk\)](#)

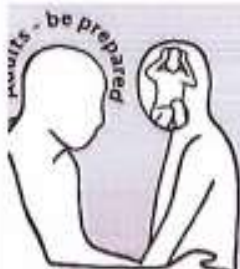
[Parents' Voices Matter survey - Surrey County Council - Citizen Space](#)

Parents Voices Matters survey_competition T&Cs.pdf 93.9 KB (PDF document) Parents' Voices Matter survey_large print.pdf 511.1 KB (PDF document)

www.surreysays.co.uk

TRANSITION SUPPORT

Here are some of our favourite transition top tips for parents/carers and for teachers:



- It's useful for adults to emotionally prepare themselves for the 'transition storm' that is about to begin. Put your seatbelt on and hold tight! The child needs you to be grounded.
- Remind yourself that the child's behaviour is a sign of their inside pain, and they need you to see through the behaviour to help them feel safe, secure and loved.
- Digging down past behaviours to the inside pain, can be hard and tiring work. Take good care of yourself and reach out to your support network for extra help.
- Remind yourself that punishments, withdrawal, consequences and shaming will make the transition harder for everyone.

- Help the child to see the storm coming too. Say "the end of the school year can be a tricky, I'm here to help you through it"
- Help the child name the feelings that they have no words for. Try "I wonder if your 'moving up day' feels pretty scary right now?" or "When things are different like this, I wonder if it makes you worry about being left behind?"
- Help make connections between their behaviour and their feelings, try "When you run away like that it makes me wonder if you don't know where to be to feel safe? You are safe right here".



Tell the child the things they need to hear, don't wait for them to ask you because they don't know what they need! **Tell them:**

- How much you care
- That you are not going anywhere
- That they are in your mind even when not in your class/not at home
- That they are safe and protected
- That they will not be taken away

- Tell them what is going to happen that day if the routine is different - use pictures and 'steps' to prepare them.
- Remind them throughout the day what is going to happen and when
- Keep to as much of the usual routine as you can

Children feel fear in their body. Help the child's body to calm by:

- Doing short bursts of physical activity (star jumps, wall push ups, walking, running) frequently
- Playfully ask them to breathe deeply in the mornings and evenings - e.g. blow bubbles, blow away the feelings
- Do body calming activities with them
- Use sensitive touch to let them know you are there. Touch can be a great calmer.



Use 'transitional objects' to let them know that you are connected, even when apart. How about:

- As a parent, draw a little heart on your hand and the same heart on your child's hand as they go off to school.
- Give your child a special stone, or photo to hold on to at school that reminds them of you
- Teachers - give the child a 'transition card' - a piece of paper with a special message that they look after until you see them again.
- Let the child use their special teddies whenever they need to

Remind the child (and yourself) that the Transition Storm will come, and it will go. You will stick it out together, and soon it will be over.





Surrey and Borders Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust



Call for Parents/Families and Carers!

Would you like to help develop a service for mental health support in specialist schools across Surrey?

Our team (two clinical psychologists and an emotional wellbeing assistant) is based within Surrey and Borders NHS Partnership Trust.

We are currently designing a service to support the Mental health and wellbeing needs of Specialist Schools.

We want to hear what you think are the main priorities for emotional wellbeing and mental health for your child and your needs as a parent.

Join us for a conversation, introduced by Family Voice, on Wednesday 20th July, 12pm-1pm via MSTeams

There will also be an optional follow up meeting to let you know how your feedback was used.

For more information, or to be sent a meeting invite, please email FamilyfeedbackMHSTss@sabp.nhs.uk



Please note: The above email address is an administrative email for the purpose of arranging this meeting and is not a point of clinical contact, if you have any concerns which require assistance please contact local services.

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>

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/>

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>

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

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Sunday 3rd July	PTA Summer Fair 1pm – 4pm
Tuesday 5th July	Gordy and Simmonds to Roberts Fruit Farm
Wednesday 6th July	Rabbits to West Wittering
	Simmonds, Parks and Hawking to Shalford Mill
	Online 9/10 Exam Options Evening, 6pm – open to current Year 9 & 10. Letters have been sent out to parents.
Friday 8th July	Whole School Sports Day. Parents arrive at 10am – 10.30am to meet their child's new class teacher for September. Parents leave approximately 1pm
Monday 11th July	Gordy to West Wittering
	Simmonds to Dylan's Ice Cream Parlour (morning)
Tuesday 12th July	Badgers to Roberts Fruit Farm
	Year 7 – 9 Girls to Panthalon Football event
Wednesday 13th July	GOSFEST
	Woodpecker Class Assembly 11.30am – parents and carers
Monday 18th July	Robins and Owls to West Wittering
Wednesday 20th July	1.30pm End of Term