



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL

GOSDEN NEWS

23rd September 2022

This is one of my favourite times of year as a head teacher – Teacher observations! It gives me an excellent opportunity to get into classes and really enjoy the experience of being a learner at Gosden. Over the last couple of years I have learned to dress for these occasions – wellies, a coat, sunglasses. One of the real strengths of our Gosden offer is that it is about learning – not about “outcomes, assessments, scores”, but about learners. And so we learn, learn, learn – in the classroom, in the orchard, with the animals, at the swimming pool, alone, together, staff and pupils. It brings a real buzz to the school, and is always mentioned by new visitors.

Building Learning Power is our vehicle for that learning journey, and you are well aware (even the new parents/ carers I'm sure) of Learning Habits in Primary and Learning Muscles in Secondary. Our concept of ourselves as successful learners is a definite tool in our toolboxes, one that builds self-confidence and resilience as well as helping us to achieve our goals.

Just a little tip for helping your children in almost every conceivable way: Reading! This is no surprise: Reading to, with and by children develops the imagination, language and communication, regulates emotions and opens the world to them.

Check out all the learning we have been doing in today's newsletter, and if you fancy a stint as a guest editor, please contact Imogen in the office to volunteer.

Cindy O'Sullivan, Head Teacher

Cindy

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



NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

PARENTMAIL COMMUNICATIONS THIS WEEK

- Spare Trouser Bottoms for ages 11-14
- HPV Vaccination E-consent Online Registration – deadline 28th September
- Nasal Flue Vaccination for Reception to Year 11
- 'Out and About' – Wisley Gardens
- RDA Autumn 1st Half-Term Instalments
- Data Collection Sheets reminder
- School Official Photographs
- School Lunches for w/c 26th September

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 7th October	'Out & About' to Wisley (Gordy)
w/c 17th October	Learning Outdoors Focus Week
Thursday 20th October	Rags 2 Riches Clothing Collection
Monday 24th – Friday 28th October	Half Term Half Term Smarties Challenge
Monday 31st October	Children return to school
Wednesday 2nd November	Bugs for Books Virtual Book Fair
Wednesday 9th November	Parents Evening
w/c 14th November	Anti-bullying Week
Wednesday 16th November	INSET Day – Staff only
Thursday 8th December	Whole School Panto Trip
Sunday 4th December	Christmas Fair, 2pm – 4pm
Wednesday 14th December	Primary Christmas Production
Thursday 15th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 16th December	Father Christmas visiting Last day of Autumn Term, 1.30pm

OWLS

The Owls have settled into their classroom really well and this week we started exploring the outside environment. We visited the Forest School area and found Gosden's new outdoor classroom! Children used magnifying glasses to become detectives and showed great enthusiasm and exploration skills!

Last week we read the story of Stick Man, collected our own resources and made our own stick people. We used them to act out and retell the story.



This week we have been learning the story 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We retold the story, and matched the bears to their big, medium and small bowls respectively. Owls created their own 'nature porridge' for the bears, using all the resources they found in the forest!

FOXES

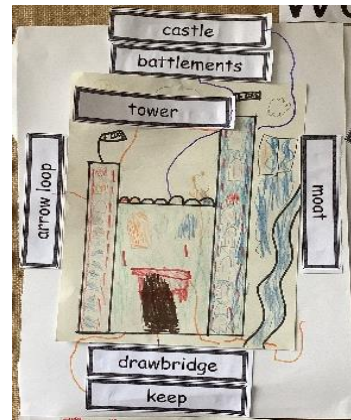


Fox Class have had a wonderful and busy start to the new school year. The children have accomplished so much in such little time.



The story, Rapunzel, Two Hoots - by Bethan Woolven is one of our key texts this half term, a modern take on a traditional tale. Amongst other things we have created story maps and abstract artwork inspired by the story so far.

Our Outdoor Learning has seen us making our own individual tipi's and whimsical, forest themed art for our new Outdoor classroom.



Inspired by our Creative and Curious topic 'Castles and Dragons', we changed the familiar 'Bear Hunt' story into 'We're Going on a Dragon Hunt'. We made our own books and included lots of unusual obstacles on our journeys. We then acted out our stories to each other.



In Topic Maths we are learning about shapes. We have been on a Shape Hunt and then made 'Shape Monsters' carefully following our 'Shape Recipes.'



YEAR 7

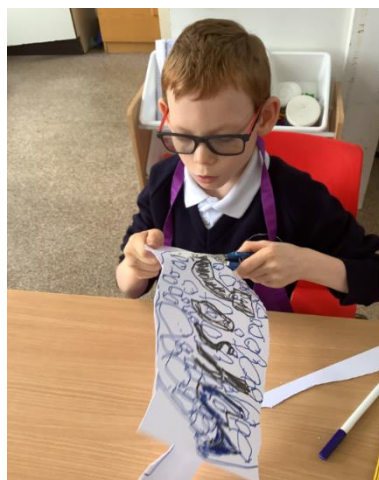
There has been lots of fantastic learning happening in Year 7!

In 'Our World', we have started our project on 'Movement and Migration'. We started by discussing the question 'Why do people leave their homes to live somewhere else?' There was plenty of interesting discussion and Year 7 demonstrated their 'Learning Together' Learning Muscle. We worked in groups to read and discuss case studies and then we presented our findings to our class; there were posters, PowerPoints and even drama used!

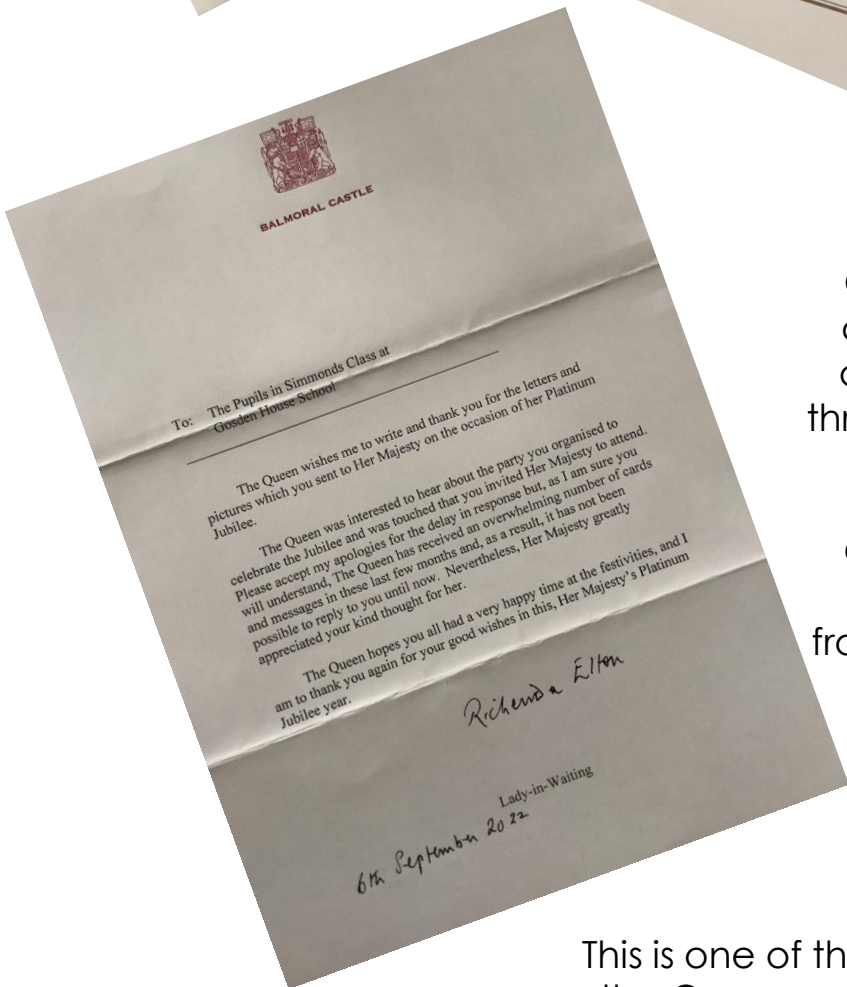


In Art, we began our Identity Wall project. We have looked at using different techniques and resources when creating our masterpieces. This project is focused on individuality, creativity. Everyone's Art is different, and we are celebrating that.

All of Year 7 have made a fabulous start to Secondary School Life and we cannot wait to continue with all of our fantastic learning!



Last year Simmonds Class hosted a Jubilee tea party. They created a guest list of all the important people they should invite and sent invitations, including one to the Queen.



On Friday 9th September, the day after Queen Elizabeth II's death, we received this letter through the post. It was written in Balmoral Castle on Tuesday 6th September, the day the Queen appointed Liz Truss as Prime minister. It was posted from Buckingham Palace on the 7th September .

This is one of the last letters sent by the Queen and the envelopes is franked with her Initials. A very special letter indeed.

YEAR 10

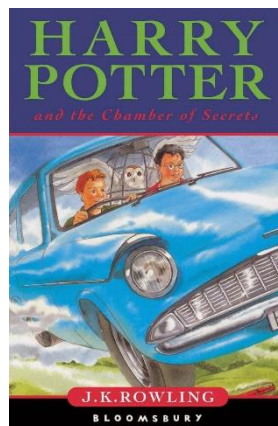
Year 10 have made a brilliant start to the new school year. We are loving being in our new building and have been getting to know our new teachers and learning assistants.

We are really enjoying our vocational options on Thursdays and Fridays. Some of these subjects are new to us so we are working hard on 'being brave'. In Food studies and DT we are preparing to open the Gosden House Coffee Shop and we are hard at work; making decorations and signs, as well as practising our baking skills.



We are having to wrap up warm now and wear our welly boots for plant and animal care – we are loving being outside.

To practise our 'learning together' and literacy skills we have chosen a class book to read each afternoon - Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets.



Sports leaders are practising their leadership skills in their PE lessons and have been really helpful supporting their teachers in setting up the different activities.

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.

Daisy - Year 8
Joseph - Year 8
Harry - Year 8
Melissa - Year 8
Rayan - Year 8
Ryan - Year 9
Skye- Year 9



SPEECH & LANGUAGE TEAM

Speech & Language Therapy Team



★ Makaton Champions ★

Signs of the week w/c 19th September 2022
(Theme: School)

This week's champions are:
James & Ruby – Squirrels Class



Speech & Language Therapy Team



★ Makaton Champions ★

Signs of the week w/c 26th September 2022
(Theme: School)

This week's champions are:
Mahla and Ryan – Year 8 & 9



**We have a busy term with PTA Events.
Make a note of the dates below!**

Thursday 20th October – Clothing Collection
Half Term Smarties Challenge
Wednesday 2nd November – Bugs for Books virtual Book
Fair
Sunday 4th December – Christmas Fair, 2pm – 4pm



Rags 2 Riches

This year they are donating all the clothes collected to Ukraine. Please start saving any unwanted clothes, paired shoes, jewellery, accessories, belts and handbags, in good condition. Once you receive your bag, fill it up and return it to school, on your transport on the morning of 20th October. You can use extra black bin bags if you need to.

If anyone has some extra time during drop off on the 20th, some helping hands would be appreciated to take the bags off the transport.

Contact PTA gosdenpta@outlook.com

School Lottery

Did you know one of the many ways you can help one is Your School Lottery. Your School Lottery is a fun and effective way for your school to raise funds. Joining is easy and FREE. You can choose to enter from as little as £1 per week. There's great prizes up for grabs as well please follow the link for more information

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/gosden-house-school>

Class Reps

If you fancy being a Class Rep, we are still looking for help with Owls, Foxes and Year 11

Please drop us an email at gosdenpta@outlook.com and follow us on Facebook @GosdenPTA

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES



Hello, I'm Jane Cowles, Gosden's new Pastoral Assistant supporting the work of Annie, Home/School Link Worker and expanding the Pastoral Team😊. Many of you may already know me, as I have been a Teaching Assistant here for the last 8 years.

My new role is to provide support for children and their families with worries outside the classroom and to work closely with Annie and the Teachers across the school. We are aware that for lots of reasons, there are many challenges to families currently. If you have any concerns or need support, please feel free to phone the school and ask for me, or contact me on my email address: jcowles@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk. I work from Monday to Wednesday.

Annie is in school Tuesday to Friday (anniewelch@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk) and we can both be reached via pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

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.common sense media.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-and-domestic-abuse/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-victims-of-domestic-abuse>

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

<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.

