



GOSDEN HOUSE SCHOOL GOSDEN NEWS

7th March 2025

In true Gosden spirit we celebrated **World Book Day** with our annual Book Character Fashion Show! Class teams and staff enjoyed strutting their stuff on the catwalk cheered on by the crowds - a magnificent display of colour, craziness and characters!

In time for World Book Day, Gosden House now has an amazing book vending machine, purchased through the fantastic fund raising by the Bramley Fete and Rotary Club. Books will be gifted to our learners on receipt of a special gold coin, which will be exchanged for a book of choice, from the machine.

Catherine Kneller, Foxes



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

6 MARCH 2025



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wednesday 19th March – Parent's Evening

Friday 21st March – Red Nose Day

Tuesday 25th March – Gosden's Got Talent

Friday 4th April – end of term, 1.30pm

7th – 21st April – **Easter Holidays**

Tuesday 22nd April – Summer term starts



RECENT PARENTMAILS

School Lunches – New Menu

Year 11 Residential Meeting

Surrey Hills and Rivers - SCC

Halal option for Summer Term

Payment reminder – Milestones Trip

Outstanding payment reminder – Warner Bros

Online Safety

Visit to Waterstones

Synergy Dance Workshops – Easter Holidays

Headlice

Outdoor Learning Newsletter

Falcons and Kestrels RSE Information

8A World Book Day

Literacy Focus Week – World Book Day

Year 5 Transition to Secondary

Parent Consultations

Visit to Guildford KS4

AMAZON WISH-LIST

We often get enquiries about how parents, carers and supporters can help and donate educational supplies to Gosden House, to benefit the learning and wellbeing of our students.

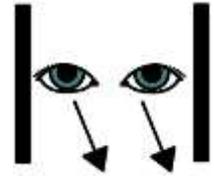
In light of this we have set up a wish-list on Amazon. The list has a variety of educational things that would benefit our children, both Primary and Secondary.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/registries/gl/guest-view/HLH16NVYVLGU>

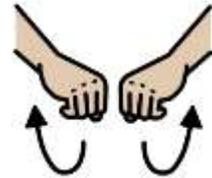
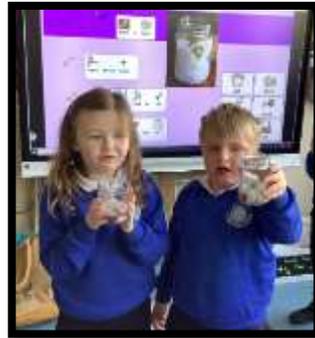


O W L S

In the first half of term Owls discovered lots of things about new cultures, countries, and climates through The Gingerbread Man on his travels, 'Around the World.' Starting in Wales, through to Portugal, Pakistan, the Amazon Rainforest, the Sahara Desert and finally the Polar Regions. Owls used their '**Noticing**' Learning Habit to spot postcards delivered by Gingie! Learning ranged from daffodil painting, to tasting different foods, participating in cultural dance, exposure to new language, use of technology to research, a rainforest Sensology session, and even temperature exploration! Owls had plentiful opportunities to showcase their hands-on '**Exploring**', '**Creative**' and '**Learning Together**' talents!



Our new topic is 'On the Farm.' So far, Owls have used their '**Noticing**' Habit to visit the animals at Gosden, their '**Keep Trying**' Habit to create a video to show the Makaton signs for farm animals, and also their '**Explaining**' Learning Habit to talk about the process of planting a bean! We can't wait to start our new focus book, '*What the Ladybird Heard*' by Julia Donaldson next week!



With the arrival of spring, we have been immersing ourselves in the beauty of nature. Our class has been diligently tending to our allotment, where the children have enthusiastically prepared the soil and planted onions and spinach.



This hands-on gardening experience has allowed them to explore plant growth and the importance of teamwork.



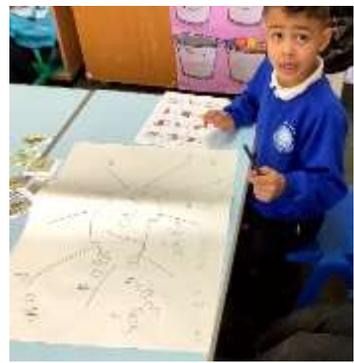
In connection with our farm topic, the children have been observing our school's animals, which include pigs, goats, rabbits, chickens, and guinea pigs. They have eagerly learned about the daily routines of farmers and the variety of produce we obtain from farms.



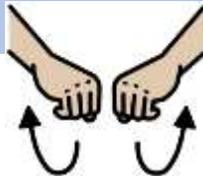
Our forest school sessions have introduced the children to exciting new crafts. They have learned skills such as fire lighting, planting, and using hand palm drills, fostering a deep appreciation for the natural environment.

R A B B I T S





Within the classroom, we have focused on developing our Gosden learning habits, such as **challenges**, **keep trying** and **learning together**. In maths, we have explored the concepts of teen numbers and how they are composed and most recently focused on odd and even numbers, providing the children with a solid foundation in this area of numeracy.



The children have been active in caring for our school courtyard, ensuring it is well-tended and resources are maintained. Their dedication to looking after shared spaces is commendable and reflects the pride they take in their learning environment.



We are looking forward to embracing the continued joys of spring at Gosden, with more opportunities for growth and discovery. Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement in your child's learning journey.

R A B B I T S

Tillingbourne vs Gosden House

3-1, Goal 5' James



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Spring has sprung - just in time for the match of the season. The sun was shining, a slight chill in the air and as midfielder Leo P said "A lovely day to kick the ball".

Looking brilliant in blue, Team Gosden took to the field of dreams. In classic Gosden style, our professional bucket-fillers gathered into a huddle and created a positive buzz that could be felt across neighbouring Chilworth village.

Kick Off! Gosden had a string of chances, spearheaded by attacking duo Porscha-Mae and James which ultimately secured the first GOAAAAAAL of the game. Aiden showed bravery volunteering to stand in goal to face our well-rehearsed opposition. He was supported by defender Ollie who displayed an almighty goalmouth scramble, keeping the score tied at halftime. Box-to-box midfielder Leo L worked hard, winning a penalty opportunity in the last play of the game.



After the final whistle, both teams formed a 'respect' tunnel to celebrate the great game and demonstrate good sportsmanship. Shiny GOLD medals were presented and all the children had BIG, shiny smiles! Harry, Head coach said, "I am proud of the team. They used their 'keep trying' learning habit throughout the match. The game really opened up and showed the spectators how much sporting talent there is at Gosden".

A big thank you to Tillingbourne School for being gracious hosts and Julie 'not competitive at all' Clarke for finding time in her schedule to manage the team. Plus, Team Gosden backroom staff; first aider Imogen Wort and top cheerleader Luella Lewis.

Extra praise for Planet Soccer's Harry Good for boosting our learners' footballing confidence and organising the event



One of the highlights of last half term was a trip to Fishbourne Palace in Chichester, celebrating the completion of our 'Ancient Rome' topic.



We were fascinated to see the original mosaics and had lots of fun taking part in a workshop. Amongst other things, we learnt how to play Roman games, write on a wax tablet, cook in a Roman kitchen and go on an archaeological dig.

Our current topic is 'Feathers, Fur and Fins' and we have enjoyed using our 'Exploring' learning habit to find out about habitats with Nicola in the outdoor classroom. She helped us set up paw print 'traps' and a camera to discover which animals live in the woodland habitat.



To help our understanding we investigated what barn owls eat. To find this out, we dissected specially prepared owl pellets. We were amazed to discover tiny bones in the pellets showing us what the bird had eaten for their meal.

We felt like science detectives and were very excited solving the food chain mystery.

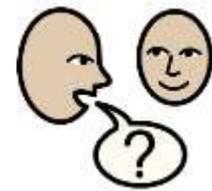




Last week, we were very fortunate to watch a modern version of William Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet', performed by the Polka Theatre group and organised by Elise.



The famous story was re-told through rap, rhythms, and harmonies. After the show, Kestrels and Falcons were able to use their '[Asking Questions](#)' learning habit to find out more from the actors and then took part in a fun beatbox workshop.



Y E A R 7

Year 7 have been having a great time this term exploring their new topics!

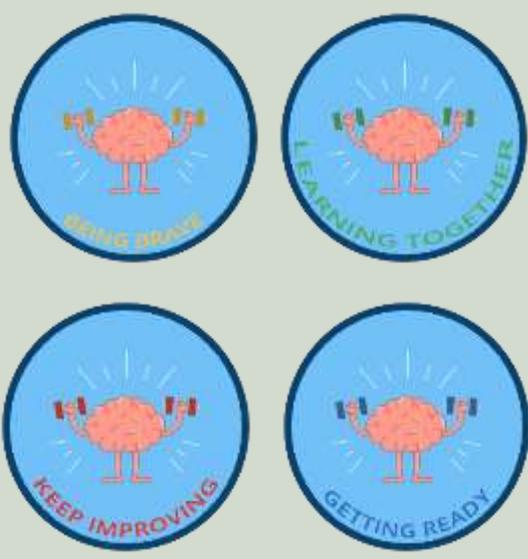
In Maths we have been looking at 3D shapes, exploring their properties and investigating whether they can be stacked. We enjoyed creating towers out of the shapes, some of them were even taller than Wilson!



In Literacy, we have started our new book – George's Marvellous Medicine. We were very excited when a parcel arrived with lots of ingredients to create our own marvellous medicines. There was lots of experimenting and a very messy classroom, but we had a great time!



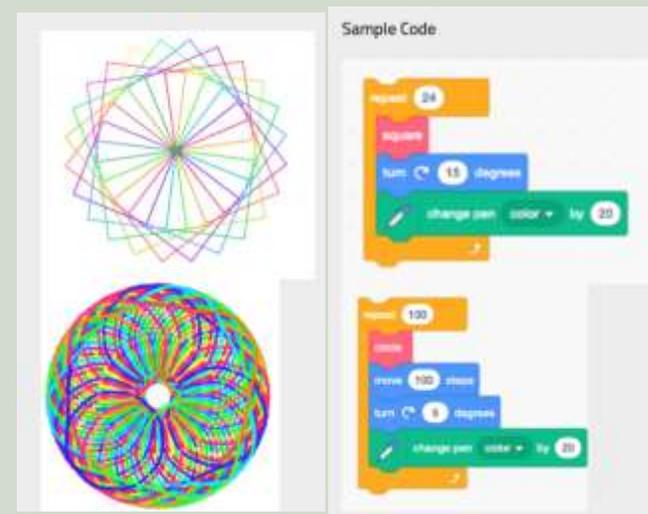
The Year 7 Learning Team are incredibly proud of Year 7, for their dedication and enthusiasm to their learning as well as them stretching all of their Learning Muscles. Great job team!



In English some of us have been watching a silent film called 'The Black Hole' where a man discovers he can magically put his arm through a black hole! He uses this to steal things from a vending machine! We've really enjoyed learning about this.



The rest of us have been learning about George's Marvellous Medicine and had an amazing time making some potions of our own. We mixed hair mousse, toothpaste, bubble bath and even sun cream together to make our own mixtures



In Computing we have been learning about Scratch. We had to work out how to write code to create different shapes. We were then challenged to try and write the code for a Spirograph. We were amazing at debugging- this means finding the mistakes and correcting them.

In RE we started learning about Humanism. This is a belief and not a religion as there is no God, no Holy book and humanists don't have a place of worship. They think about making themselves and others happy. We also enjoyed thinking about what makes us happy.

Finally in Our World we have been learning about the first vaccines. We learnt about Edward Jenner who created the smallpox vaccine. The class were outraged that he decided to test his theory by infecting children with cow pox and small pox. Thankfully his theory was correct!



Upcoming Open Events

Brooklands Technical College

Thursday 24th April 4.30pm – 7pm

[Brooklands Technical College - Vocational training in further and Higher Education](#)

Nescot (North East Surrey College of Technology)

Thursday 15th May

You need to register online for these dates.

[Nescot Open Events | Nescot](#)

Farnborough College of Technology

All the Open Days for Farnborough are 4pm – 7.30pm

[Events from 15 October – 18th June 2025 – Farnborough College of Technology \(farn-ct.ac.uk\)](#)

Guildford College

Wednesday 23rd April 4.30pm – 7pm

[Guildford College \(activatelearning.ac.uk\)](#)

Merrist Wood College

Wednesday 7th May 4.30pm – 7pm

[Merrist Wood College \(activatelearning.ac.uk\)](#)

If you have any questions or worries please don't hesitate to contact me via email on: s.tidbury@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk or on the school number 01483 892008.

E-SAFETY

At The National College, our differentiated ready-to-use guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerningly common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': scrolling through social media and aimlessly viewing anything past they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of aimlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to have awareness of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something outside and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screen-time; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screen-time can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screen-time, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the apps in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish real life from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screen-time and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also scrolling social media, it can turn screen-time reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screen-time is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

Meet Our Expert

John Bailey is a senior teacher in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 10 years – including the development of computing curricula across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/top-tips-for-safety-on-social-media>

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**NEURODIVERSITY
ADVISOR PADLET**
FOR PARENTS/CARERS

We understand that navigating life with a Neurodivergent child can be overwhelming. We have brought together key resources and information in a easy to use format.

Please scan the QR code to access our Padlet for Families.





Coming soon
Young Carers Action Day
Theme: "Give Me A Break"
Wednesday 12th March

SAVE DATE



Young Carers
Action Day is
on
**Wednesday
12th March.**

The Young Carers Action Day 2025 theme, '**Give Me A Break**', highlights the important need for young carers to have time to rest and recharge, helping them balance their responsibilities and achieve their full potential. If you, or your child, would like to speak to someone at school about being a Young Carer, and finding out what support is available, please email Jo or Beth at jmcgee@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk or bsutton@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk for more information.

For information about Surrey Young Carers, visit <https://www.actionforcarers.org.uk/who-we-help/young-carers-under-18/>

For any concerns or support, please do contact Beth Sutton, Child and Family Support Worker (Mon-Fri) or Jane Cowles, Pastoral Assistant (Mon-Weds) at

bsutton@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk
jcowles@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk
pastoral@gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk

You can reach us at 07864 721931 or by phoning the school on 01 483 892008.

<https://www.gosden-house.surrey.sch.uk/our-pastoral-support/>

Speech & Language Therapy Team

☆ Makaton Champions ☆

Signs of the week w/c 3rd March 2025
(Theme: professionals)

This week's champions are:

☆ Chloe and Henry - Kestrels ☆



Hand
moves
down
slightly



AMAZON WISH LIST



Gosden House School

Gosden House Wish List

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/registries/gl/guest-view/HLH16NVYVLGU>

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>

You are able to donate directly or to a particular fundraising page that you would like to support.

