

Gorrington News

Our school inspires our children to achieve in a safe, fun environment, so that they can take their next steps in life with confidence.

Dear Families,

We've had a great start to the summer term, the children have settled into their learning routines and have been excited to start their new topics.

Welcome to all the new families that joined nursery and various other year groups across school this week.

We have lots planned for the summer term ahead and look forward to seeing many parents at the events during the term. Please continue to check the newsletter weekly for new events and any updates.

Thank you to all the Brazil class parents that joined us this morning for our family assembly, well done to Brazil class, Miss Figiel and Miss Haria for their hard work. It was wonderful to see what the children have been learning about and how confident they were in sharing their learning.



Huge congratulations to Miss Tubb on the birth of her baby boy, Aron, who was born just before the holidays. Miss Tubb is doing well and finding some time to rest in between giving Aron lots of cuddles. We look forward to seeing them both visit school in the coming months.



If you would like to support with our summer fair this year or have a stall, do not hesitate in getting in touch with Vicky Ratcliffe, the Chair of The Friends of Gorrington Park. Any help would be appreciated.

As some of you may have noticed, we have had some building work done out the front of the school, we have new fencing and new signage. More work is due to take place during the coming year with new Astroturf and further works to the playground that will enhance both the children's learning and experiences at school.

Please continue to read to your children every night. We will be looking at children's reading records next week. Well done to all of the children who received a certificate this week for home learning and excellent behaviour.



Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Pearl Harris-Coke
Headteacher

Calendar Dates

April 2026

Fri 24th

India Family Assembly—9.10 am

India class parents to attend

May 2026

Fri 1st

Canada Family Assembly—9.10 am

Canada class parents to attend

Mon 4th

BANK HOLIDAY—SCHOOL CLOSED

Fri 8th

Nigeria Family Assembly—9.10 am

Nigeria class parents to attend

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility

Children have a right to be cared for and protected; protecting them is everyone's responsibility. Here at Gorrington Park Primary School we have a duty of care to ensure that all users of the school are kept safe from harm.

We are committed to provide a secure and supportive environment in which children can develop and grow into mature and responsible people. Safeguarding children is an essential part of our holistic approach to ensure that children are protected from abuse and neglect and that every child reaches their full potential.

To report a safeguarding concern or for any queries contact: safeguarding@gorringtonpark.merton.sch.uk

Stars of the week

Nursery: Holly/Sia

Scotland: Niam

Wales: Mohammed

Spain Y1: Amira/Isabella/Alina

Germany Y2: Bahisana/Parishka

France Y2: Franciszka/Aniyah

South Africa Y3: Mateusz

Nigeria Y3: Martin

China Y4: Hilda

India Y4: Sasha

Canada Y5: Anhelina

Brazil Y5: Hilton

Australia Y6: Ebenezer

New Zealand Y6: Fabien

Aspire Awards House Points

London Eye: 312

Big Ben: 319

Tower Bridge: 313

The Shard: 309



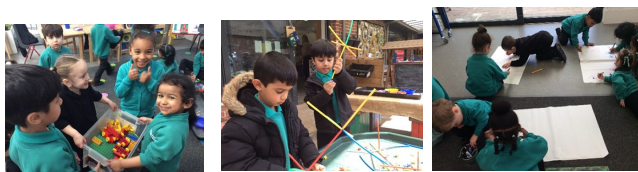
Year Group Blog - Nursery

This week, we are thrilled to extend a warm welcome to our new children and their families! It's heartening to see our little ones settling in so well and beginning to learn the daily routines that help create a nurturing environment. Establishing a sense of belonging is vital, and we are committed to ensuring every child feels at home here at Gorringe.

In our learning adventures this week, we have been practising our counting skills up to 5 using our fingers. The children have enjoyed rolling dice, subitising, and counting out the correct number of fruity treasures. These engaging activities not only enhance their numeracy skills but also promote fine motor development through playful exploration.

In the garden, the children splashed about with giant teapots, filling and emptying them, while also creating umbrellas with fine motor construction toys. This hands-on play encourages social interaction and collaborative play, essential components of early childhood development.

As they engage in counting and fine motor activities, they are not only learning but also building confidence and independence. We encourage parents to reinforce these skills at home by incorporating counting games into everyday activities, such as counting steps while walking or counting fruit during snack time.



Year Group Blog - Reception

Welcome back to another wonderful term in Reception! This week, both classes had a blast in the bikability programme, learning to ride balance bikes while focusing on road safety. The joy was evident as children rode their balance bikes, and we captured some fantastic moments of their excitement. Many shared how much fun they had learning to ride. In Talk Through Stories, we're excited to kick off our new topic, 'Happily Ever After,' exploring castles, fairy tales, and traditional tales. This week, children enjoyed Bethan Woolvin's story, "Little Red," and took part in role-playing activities with costumes. They sparked their imagination and boosted their language skills as they used key phrases such as 'what big eyes you have!' It has been so much fun! In PSHE, we discussed family responsibilities, where the children shared the jobs they do at home. This important topic helps children understand their roles and fosters empathy and teamwork. We shared examples of responsibilities like tidying, caring for siblings, and helping with meals. In phonics, we have developed our word writing and reading to include words with 5 sounds! It is tricky but we are so proud of how hard they children are working. Have a wonderful weekend! From the Reception Team.



Year Group Blog - Year 1

Welcome back everyone! We hope you had a well-rested break and are ready for the final term in Year 1!

This week we have begun to read our new story 'Little Red' which is a twist on the traditional fairy tale. We have been coming up with questions that we could ask the Wolf and Little Red to find out more information. We have also been using adjectives to describe the feelings of the characters in different parts of the story. In Maths we have been learning to count backwards and forwards in multiples of 2, 5 and 10 and used resources to help us represent these numbers. In Science we have begun to look at our new topic of plants. We have begun to name plants that we know about, different places that we might find plants and coming up with ideas of what we would like to know more about. In History we have begun our new topic school days which compares Victorian schools to Modern schools. We looked at the History of Gorringe Park and discovered girls and boys used to be in different classes! In RE we are looking at how each Religion believes the world was created and the stories behind it.

In Phonics we have been recapping a sound such as a-e in words like gate/name, ay in words like play and ai in words like train. Please keep practicing these sounds at home and reading with your child every day.

Please note our PE day is now Monday. Next Wednesday we have an exciting PE day planned and children can come to school in PE kit.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

What a fantastic start back we've had in Year 2! It has been so lovely welcoming all of the children back after half term and hearing all about their exciting adventures. There were lots of smiles, stories and laughter as everyone settled back into school life.

This week, we have dived straight into our new English text, *George's Marvellous Medicine*. The children have been completely hooked from the very beginning! We have loved exploring the characters and predicting what might happen next. There has been so much excitement around the story and we cannot wait to discover more as we continue reading.

In PE, we had lots of fun in our very first dance lesson. The children enjoyed moving to the music, learning new steps and expressing themselves creatively.

During our Art lessons, we explored different portraits of famous monarchs. We looked closely at the details in each portrait and discussed what they might tell us about the person. The children shared some fantastic ideas and showed great curiosity while learning about the past.

In Maths, we have continued our unit on measure. This week, we focused on millilitres and litres, as well as exploring different temperatures. The children really enjoyed the practical activities, comparing amounts and thinking about how we measure things in everyday life.

It has been a brilliant week full of learning and enthusiasm—we are looking forward to another exciting week ahead!

Please note that due to next week's Wednesday athletic event, our usual PE day (of Monday) will move to Wednesday.

Year Group Blog - Year 3

Welcome back to the start of a new term to all our families!

This week, the children have started learning about a new book called *Black Dog*. They got stuck in straight away and began learning to use important skills such as apostrophes for possession, abstract nouns, and punctuating speech using inverted commas. The children also completed their independent English learning, showing a great understanding of the skills they have been taught. In Maths, the children learned to compare, order, identify, count, and find equivalent fractions. They worked really hard and showed confidence in their learning. In Science, the children became scientists and carried out an investigation to describe the functions of roots. They discovered that plants absorb more water when they have more roots, which was very exciting! In History, the children ordered a timeline to show the period of the Roman invasion of Britain. They enjoyed learning about what happened in the past.

Have a great weekend to all our families.

Year Group Blog - Year 4

This week in Year 4, the children made a fantastic start to the summer term and showed a positive attitude towards their learning across all subjects. They were enthusiastic, focused and eager to share their ideas, which created a calm and purposeful learning environment throughout the week.

In English, the children enjoyed reading our class text *Tutankhamun* and took part in daily whole-class reading activities. They worked on using expression and prosody when reading aloud and practised retrieving information and making inferences using clues from the text. In writing lessons, pupils revised conjunctions and used them to give reasons in their sentences. They also learned how to identify the difference between facts and opinions. As the week progressed, the children focused on improving their writing by adding detail using adverbials of time and place, which helped make their work clearer and more engaging.

In Maths, the focus was on decimals and fractions. At the start of the week, the children revisited how to make a whole and learned how to write decimals correctly. They then moved on to comparing and ordering decimal numbers, using their knowledge of place value to explain their answers. By the end of the week, pupils explored hundredths and learned how to represent them as both fractions and decimals. The children used practical resources such as place-value charts and 100-squares, which supported their understanding and confidence. Daily practice of the 5 times tables continued, and many children showed improved accuracy and speed.

In Science, Year 4 began learning about how living things are grouped. The children discussed the life processes using the MRS GREN acronym and worked in pairs to research different life processes using iPads. They demonstrated good teamwork and showed a responsible attitude when using technology for learning.

In Art, the children researched canopic jars as part of their work on Ancient Egypt. They learned new vocabulary linked to carving and sculpture and shared their research with their peers. In PSHE, pupils discussed situations that can cause jealousy in relationships. They listened respectfully to each other and gave thoughtful responses, showing empathy and maturity during class discussions. Overall, it has been a very successful week. The children should be proud of the effort they have put into their learning and we are looking forward to another positive and productive week ahead.

Year Group Blog - Year 5

Welcome back! Year 5 have made a fantastic start to the Summer term, settling quickly into routines and showing real enthusiasm across the curriculum. Here's an overview of what we've been learning this week.

This week, Year 5 were introduced to our new core text, *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*, through an exciting hook lesson. We explored the front cover and title, making predictions about genre, characters and themes. Children listened carefully to Chapter 1, identifying the narrator and discussing whether he is reliable. Pupils created a First Impressions page, making Origami Yoda, inferring character traits, writing predictions supported by evidence, and generating thoughtful questions. We were especially impressed by how confidently pupils compared Tommy's beliefs with Harvey's scepticism, using evidence from the text.

In Maths, we began our new unit on Decimals and Percentages. Pupils revised and practised rounding decimals to the nearest whole number and to 1 decimal place, using number lines to support reasoning. We explored what percentages mean, linking them to fractions and decimals (e.g. $50\% = \frac{1}{2}$). Children applied this understanding through fluency tasks and problem-solving, including finding percentages of amounts.

Children became history detectives as they examined images of Ancient Greek artefacts, making observations and predictions about their use and what they reveal about daily life.

In science we learned about the functions of different plant parts—roots, stems, leaves, flowers and seeds—and how each part contributes to the plant's life cycle.

In RE through discussion and reflection, pupils explored the meaning of faith, considering examples from stories, real life and different belief systems.

In PSHE children reflected on their own personal qualities and values, creating a "Who am I?" profile to celebrate what makes them unique.

In art linked to our Ancient Greece topic, pupils explored mythical creatures, sketching ideas inspired by Greek myths and museum artefacts.

We ended the week by celebrating achievements in our Winning House assembly. It has been wonderful to see such a positive attitude to learning and a strong sense of teamwork.

Year Group Blog - Year 6

In English, the class has begun exploring the powerful picture book 'Anne Frank' by Josephine Poole and Angela Barrett. Using this text as a stimulus, pupils have been developing both their reading comprehension and writing skills. Early in the week, the children explored how the authors used a range of conjunctions to link ideas and create more complex, flowing sentences. They practised using these to add detail and clarity to their own writing. Later in the week, pupils focused on using parenthesis to add extra information for the reader, learning how brackets, commas and dashes can be used effectively. Alongside this, the class studied expanded noun phrases and how carefully chosen adjectives and descriptive detail can create vivid imagery and convey emotion. Whole class reading lessons supported this learning, with pupils answering retrieval questions and answering comprehension questions based on known texts. Discussions around Anne Frank were handled with great sensitivity, helping pupils understand the historical context and emotional depth of the story.

In Maths, the children have been working on developing their skills with data handling and statistics. At the start of the week, pupils practised reading and interpreting pie charts, focusing particularly on understanding percentages and what different sections of a chart represent. They applied this knowledge to answer reasoning questions and explain their thinking clearly. Later in the week, children learned how to draw their own pie charts using data, carefully calculating angles and proportions. The class also explored the concept of the mean (average), including problems where values were missing. Pupils used logical reasoning to identify unknown values and retrieve data from graphs accurately.

In Science, the class focused on how animals are grouped based on shared characteristics. Pupils explored different classification systems and discussed why scientists use them to organise living things. They learned how animals can be classified into groups such as vertebrates (mammals, reptiles, birds, amphibians and fish) and invertebrates (insects, arachnids, crustaceans, myriapods and molluscs) as well as classifying them by the diet. Pupils enjoyed sorting activities and discussions that required them to justify their reasoning using scientific vocabulary. This learning helped them understand how classification supports scientific study and helps scientists identify similarities and differences between species.

Overall, it has been a productive and thoughtful week for Year 6. The children have shown excellent focus and resilience, particularly when working with challenging texts and mathematical concepts. We are very proud of their continued effort and enthusiasm for learning and look forward to another successful week ahead as we continue to prepare for their SATs.