

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,

Today we raised money for Red Nose Day. Our target was to raise at least £200.00, which will go towards supporting families and vulnerable people both here in the UK and overseas. Children were able to wear something red, or funny. Please see our Instagram page for pictures and to hear some of our jokes.

Eid Mubarak to all of our families who are celebrating today. Eid, marks the end of Ramadan. Celebrations vary from country to country, families decorate their homes, visit one another, eat special sweet food, wear new clothes and share gifts.



Please see the calendar dates on the right hand side for all of the events taking place next week. Please note the 2:20pm start time for the whole school parade on Wednesday afternoon, this is so that everyone has the chance to show off their Easter Bonnet.

Earlier this week Year 1 went on a river boat sight seeing trip along the Thames. A great time was had by all! The children had a great time looking at the sights of London.

Thank you to the Year 1 team, and all of the amazing parents who came along to support the children on this trip.

Have a restful weekend,
Mrs Harris-Coke
Headteacher



Calendar Dates

March 2026

Mon 23rd	Early Years Easter Egg Hunt
Tue 24th	AM Nursery Eight Rhyme Challenge at 11:00am (Parents Welcome)
Tue 24th	PM Nursery Eight Rhyme Challenge at 2:45pm (Parents Welcome)
Wed 25th	AM Nursery Easter Bonnet Parade, at 11.00am (Parents Welcome)
	PM Whole School Easter Bonnet Parade, at 2.20pm (Parents Welcome)
Thu 26th	Spain Class Family Assembly at 9:10am (Spain Class Parents Welcome)
Fri 27th	End of Term Assembly, at 9.15am (Parents - Invitations only)
Fri 27th	Easter Assembly Led by Kevin Vickers, at 2.20pm (Parents Welcome)
Fri 27th	Last day of term - School closes at normal times

April 2026

Mon 13th First day of term

May 2026

Mon 4th Bank Holiday, SCHOOL CLOSED

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: Jude/Arham
Wales: Afaf
Scotland: Georgia
Germany Y2: Anna
France Y2: Atanas
South Africa Y3: Izabella
Nigeria Y3: Martin
India Y4: Aiza
China Y4: Azlan
Canada Y5: Hayat
Brazil Y5: Michaela
Australia Y6: Alexsander
New Zealand Y6: Daisy-Ann

Aspire Awards House Points

Lon-
Big
The



don Eye: 312

Ben: 319

Tower Bridge: 313

Shard: 309





Education
Wellbeing
Service

Parent Feeding Group for Children with Autism

Feeding challenges are common for children with autism, especially between ages 4 and 8. These can include strong food preferences, sensitivity to certain textures, sticking to only a few familiar foods, or needing mealtimes to follow a very specific routine. These patterns can affect nutrition and make family life such as mealtimes, social activities, and daily routines more stressful.

Many children also experience eating-related anxiety, which can lead to worry before meals, refusal, or meltdowns, making picky eating even harder to manage.

Who is the programme for?

Parents of children with a formal diagnosis of Autism between the ages of 4 and 8 years old.

The programme is designed to support parents in understanding the links between anxiety and feeding challenges and to provide practical tools to reduce stress around mealtimes.

How will the group run?

The group will run **in person** with a total of 7 sessions over 6 weeks. You will be committing to the following:

- 5 weekly sessions of 90 minutes.
- 1 session with your child of up to 45 minutes in clinic.
- 1 in person / virtual feedback group session of 90 minutes



How to sign up

If you would like to take part in an **in person** parent feeding group that will run for **6 consecutive weeks** on Monday Mornings from 10 am to 11:30 am, please scan the QR code, or click on the link below to complete the referral form.

Following referral parents will be sent a food diary electronically to have a better understanding of your child's food repertoire. Parents will then be booked in for an initial assessment session to discuss current concerns.

**Where: DBT Clinic, Birches Close,
Mitcham, CR4 4LQ**

**6 Mondays from 11/05/2026 10-11:30am
Free onsite parking available**

<https://forms.office.com/e/3tXJegSjk9>

SIGN UP!



NHS-in-School Education Wellbeing Service

We work in your child's school to provide friendly and accessible wellbeing support, advice and programs to promote child wellbeing

What do we offer?

1:1 Programs For Parents

Early and preventative evidence-based wellbeing programs lasting 6-8 weeks to help your child's:

- Common anxieties and worries or
- Tricky or challenging behavior

For more information, apply here or speak to your school's mental health lead for a paper form



Local Primary Parent Webinars

Free NHS evening and lunchtime webinars for parents on a number of wellbeing related topics throughout the year.

99% of parents recommended the webinars last year. Sign up using the QR code



Recorded workshops, groups and workshops

We also offer workshops and groups for children and parents in school. See our youtube channel for more resources and recorded workshops:



*Picture this
poster*



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Feedback from Parents

*"I was quite hesitant in the beginning and held back applying, but I am so happy that I did. The service was very **welcoming** and **non-judgmental**. Sometimes as parents we tend to just cope in ways we already know, but reaching out for support can make such a big change! Overall I feel we have **achieved fantastic results**."*

Parent 1:1 Feedback

*"I wasn't as aware of what he was going through and the anxiety he was feeling, the sessions **opened my mind** and helped me to slow down and break down his behaviours. It **helped me change my response towards him**."*

Parent 1:1 Feedback

*"The care I received was fantastic. **I felt supported and heard** and I couldn't fault it. I would **highly recommend this service** to anyone."*

Parent 1:1 Feedback

*"Clear language and supportive advice, **reassuring to see so many families with similar concerns**"*

Parent Webinar Feedback

***95% of parents' chosen goals made progress during 2023-2024**





**Ages
5-12**

Sensory Explorers at Polka Theatre

**Every Thursday from 4pm to 4.45pm
between 23 April - 2 July**

Polka Theatre, 240 The Broadway, SW19 1SB

**Explore our sensory studio in a creative workshop
designed for children with SEND and their adults.**

**Participants will experience interactive
projections, engaging resources, and tactile props.
Guided by one of our specialist Polka Practitioners,
children can touch, move, and create in a safe,
stimulating environment.**

**To find out more please email
creativelearning@polkatheatre.com**

Year Group Blog - Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have been focusing on the story, The Gingerbread Man. The children have really enjoyed retelling the story, and we created a story map together to support this. We orally reflected on the key events, focusing on sequencing the story using the words first, next, then and finally. It was wonderful to see the children beginning to use this language independently as they retold the story.

In Maths, the children have been building on their understanding of numbers to 5. They have been practising counting up to 5 using one-to-one correspondence, carefully touching each object as they counted. We are so proud of how confident they are becoming with their counting skills.

This week, we also learnt a new rhyme, Miss Polly Had a Dolly. The children had lots of fun acting out the rhyme using the doctor props and dolls. This supported their imaginative play as well as their understanding of the world, as they explored caring for others and learning about different occupations.

Year Group Blog - Reception

What a sunny week we have had in Reception. The children have loved exploring outside in the sunshine and have been talking about all of the animals and wildlife they can see coming to life now it is spring. They found bumblebees, butterflies, worms and spiders and they talked about how they should care for them and what they would need to grow and stay alive. The children have continued to explore the story of Pip and Egg. They have been doing some wonderful writing to create their own story maps to retell the story! The children used their phonics well to label the key characters and caption what happened in the story. In maths we have focused on doubling this week. We used our fingers to show doubles and described the whole. '10 is made of 5 and 5, 5 and 5 make 10!' Ask them to show you doubles at home! They have been making doubles on butterflies using concrete resources. Some children noticed that to make doubles the objects don't have to be the same it is just the amount that matters! As part of our reading timetable, please make sure your child's reading record is in their bag every day. We change books throughout the week and if your child's book is not in school we can not change it. Thank you for all your support! Have a great weekend! From the Reception team.



Year Group Blog - Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have been reading our new key text 'Beegu'. We have been asking questions to Beegu about her home planet and why she has come to Earth. We have been comparing Beegu's planet to Earth and are beginning to use the suffix 'er' in our writing to compare. In Maths we have been comparing the weight of objects to find which ones are heavier and lighter. We have also begun to understand how we can use cubes to help us measure the weight of objects. In Science we have been classifying and grouping animals into herbivores, omnivores and carnivores and recognising some features that tell us which group an animal will fall in to. In RE we have been learning about the importance of Salat and the 5 pillars of Islam. We have learned about the features of a Mosque and the steps Muslims take when praying.

The highlight of our week was going on a boat down the River Thames and seeing all of the famous landmarks in central London. Well done to all the children for how well they behaved. You represented the school very well. Thank you to all our volunteers who supported us on the trip. The children had a great day and really enjoyed themselves

In Phonics we have been learning our new sound 'ar' as in 'ar' in park/farm, a in pass/fast and al in calm/half. Please remember to read with your child everyday and sign their reading records.



Year Group Blog - Year 2

This week at Gorrington Park, we have had a fantastic time learning across all subjects!

In Maths, we explored length and height, focusing on understanding the difference between centimetres and metres. The children enjoyed comparing and measuring objects, developing their confidence with different units of measurement. In English, we began an exciting new book, Rosie Revere, Engineer. Inspired by Rosie's creativity, the children designed their own imaginative inventions. They then created persuasive adverts to showcase their ideas, using expanded noun phrases and a range of persuasive writing techniques to really capture the reader's attention. In Geography, we focused on compass directions, helping the children build their understanding of how we describe location and navigate the world around us. In Science, the children had great fun creating their own food chains and even acting them out! This hands-on approach helped them understand how living things depend on one another in different ecosystems. In RE, we learned about how Christians practise their religion, exploring different traditions and ways of worship. In DT, the children began planning their very own beach huts. They thought carefully about the materials they will need and came up with lots of exciting and creative features to include in their designs.

Finally, we would like to wish a very happy Eid Mubarak to all those celebrating. We hope you have a joyful and special time with your families.

Year Group Blog - Year 3

This week in Year 3, we have been busy learning about exciting and powerful earth-shattering events. The children explored natural disasters such as volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis. They used this knowledge to write their own non-chronological reports, where they included key report features such as headings and subheadings. The children also worked hard to use multi-clause sentences and subordinating conjunctions to make their writing more detailed and engaging. In Maths, we have started learning about fractions. The children explored the difference between unit and non-unit fractions. They learned that a unit fraction has a numerator of 1, whereas a non-unit fraction has a numerator greater than 1. The class showed great enthusiasm when identifying and creating their own examples. In Geography, the children learned about the features of different types of volcanoes. They also explored the stages of a volcanic eruption and were fascinated by how these natural processes occur. In Science, the class enjoyed a creative activity where they made shadow puppets. This helped them understand the difference between light and dark in a fun and practical way.

Year Group Blog - Year 4

This week in Year 4 has been full of creativity, collaboration and fantastic learning across the curriculum!

In English, we continued exploring *The Iron Man*. The children built up powerful vocabulary linked to battle scenes and used this to plan and write their own exciting narratives. They focused on key writing skills such as punctuating speech, using adverbials, expanded noun phrases, and even onomatopoeia to bring their stories to life. It has been wonderful to see their imagination and confidence grow throughout the week.

During Guided Reading, pupils worked on fluency, expression (prosody) and comprehension skills. They showed great engagement when discussing the text and answering retrieval questions.

In Maths, we continued practising the 8 times table, building both speed and confidence. The children are becoming more secure in recalling their multiplication facts, keep practising at home!

Our Science Week highlight was a real success! Year 4 children proudly presented their work on the water cycle to Year 3. They explained their learning clearly and confidently, showing great teamwork and enthusiasm. In return, they were inspired by Year 3's creative performances about bumblebees and rocks; what a fantastic opportunity to learn from each other!

In DT, pupils began working in groups to design and build 3D models of mountains and rivers. This project will continue next week and we are excited to see the final creations.

In Music, the class listened to and appraised *Lean on Me*, discussing its style and instruments before beginning to learn parts of the song.

In Geography, children explored the topography of the UK, learning how to interpret contour lines on maps and match them to landforms.

In PE, pupils practised throwing techniques, including underarm, overarm and chest push, focusing on improving accuracy.

Well done to all of Year 4 for their hard work, enthusiasm and excellent behaviour throughout the week. We are very proud of you!

Have a restful weekend

Year Group Blog - Year 5

What a whirlwind of a week we've had! From bubbling science experiments to persuasive arguments, the children have been incredibly busy. Here is a look at what we've been up to:

On Monday, our classroom transformed into a laboratory for the Science Fair! We proudly presented our lava lamp projects to Year 6. It was fascinating to see how both classes approached the task differently, using various materials and presentation styles to show off their scientific knowledge. It was a fantastic afternoon of shared learning and bubbly fun!

In our regular science lessons, we recapped the process of evaporation. To put our knowledge to the test, we set up a new experiment to see if we could successfully separate salt from water. We can't wait to see the results! This week, we dived deeper into our text, *Robot Girl*. The children took on a challenging task: writing a persuasive letter from the father's perspective, trying to convince his daughter to keep his "Project AI-E." The quality of writing was outstanding! The children used: Modal verbs (e.g., *must*, *should*, *will*) to show certainty. Rhetorical questions to make the reader think. Emotive language to tug at the heartstrings.

In Maths, we have been working hard on equivalent fractions and decimals. We've been using different methods to bridge the gap between the two, specifically focusing on converting fractions into hundredths to easily find their decimal counterparts. The children are becoming real pros at seeing the link between the two! Using the laptops this week, we turned into researchers to explore food miles. We looked at how different foods are imported to the UK from all over the world. We discussed the impact this has on the environment and were surprised to see just how far some of our favourite snacks travel before they reach our plates!

Year Group Blog - Year 6

In English, the children have been working on improving their non-fiction writing skills, with a particular focus on writing to inform the reader. Early in the week, pupils explored the key features of non-chronological reports, identifying how headings, subheadings, technical vocabulary and factual detail work together to make information clear and accessible. They then practised retrieving information from model texts, using their notes about polar bears to support their own writing. Throughout the week, children applied these skills to plan and begin to write their own informative piece about polar bears, concentrating on structure, clarity and accuracy. Their growing ability to organise ideas logically and write with purpose has been impressive.

In Maths, Year 6 have been deepening their understanding of area, exploring how shapes with the same area can look very different. They began by investigating shapes with equal areas, using counting squares and comparing diagrams to build spatial awareness. Later in the week, children learned how to calculate the area of triangles, beginning with counting squares before moving on to applying formal methods. As the lessons progressed, they tackled right-angled triangles and a variety of different triangle types, using formulae with increasing independence. These lessons helped pupils develop confidence in visualising shapes, using precise mathematical language and problem-solving with accuracy.

In RE, the children also explored the events of Maundy Thursday. They learned about the key moments of this important day in the Christian calendar, including the Last Supper, Jesus washing the disciples' feet and the themes of service, sacrifice and compassion. Through discussion and reflection, pupils thought about why these events are meaningful for Christians today and how the ideas of kindness and humility can be shown in everyday life. This lesson encouraged thoughtful conversations and helped deepen their understanding of Holy Week.

In Science, the class continued their topic on evolution and inheritance, investigating how adaptation occurs. Pupils looked at a range of examples showing how animals and plants develop features that help them survive in their environments. Through classification tasks, observation activities and discussions, the children explored how adaptation can influence survival, competition and long-term evolution. They showed great curiosity and asked excellent questions about how and why living things change over time.