

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 another busy and enriching week in school. On Wednesday, we celebrated Chinese New Year with a vibrant performance followed by four exciting workshops where the children had the chance to further explore different aspects of Chinese culture.

They learned key warm up techniques and tried out traditional movements including leaping, tumbling and kicking in Martial Arts. They explored the expressive nature of Chinese dance, learning how each movement carries meaning and contributes to the storytelling.

Using traditional brush pens, the children learned about posture, structure and technique before creating their very own Chinese calligraphy symbol. They were also captivated by a live Guzheng performance and enjoyed learning about Chinese musical elements before singing along to a Chinese folk song.

Yesterday, we celebrated World Book Day, and it was wonderful to see the school filled with so many imaginative and colourful costumes.

The children took great pride in dressing as their favourite characters and sharing the stories that inspired them. In the afternoon, each class took part in a Mystery Reading Session, a much loved tradition in school where Teachers, along with members of the Senior Leadership Team, switch between classes to read a traditional tale.

This is always a World Book Day highlight, and the children really enjoyed the excitement of welcoming a visitor from elsewhere in the school into their classroom to share a story.

Today, we enjoyed a lively 'Rapspeare' performance from Bigfoot Arts Education, who bring Shakespeare's tales to life through music, rhythm and high energy storytelling. The children were fully engaged and loved the experience.

Finally, we say a warm goodbye and wish the very best of luck to Miss Tubb, who begins her maternity leave today. We will miss her kindness and dedication in school, and we look forward to hearing her happy news in the coming weeks.

It has been a fantastic week of learning, creativity and culture, and we are incredibly proud of how enthusiastic and curious Gorrington Park pupils have been throughout.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Mrs Harris-Coke
Headteacher



Calendar Dates

March 2026

Wed 11th	Italy Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
Fri 13th	INSET Day, SCHOOL CLOSED
Fri 20th	Red Nose Day
Mon 23rd	Early Years Easter Egg Hunt, timing TBC
Tue 24th	AM Nursery Eight Rhyme Challenge at 11:00am
Tue 24th	PM Nursery Eight Rhyme Challenge at 2:45pm
Wed 25th	Easter Bonnet Parade, timing TBC
Thu 26th	Spain Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
Fri 27th	End of Term Assembly, by invitation only
Fri 27th	Last day of term
April 2026	
Mon 13th	First day of term

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 English

Nursery: Galvin & Maiwand
Spain Y1: Jakisan
Germany Y2: Bhavya and Wren
France Y2: Wren and Elizabeth
South Africa Y3: Simarjeet
Nigeria Y3: Sarah
Canada Y5: Hayat
Brazil Y5: Lauren
Australia Y6: Avaniya
New Zealand Y6: Adrian

Aspire Awards House Points



London Eye: 312

Big Ben: 319

Tower Bridge: 313

The Shard: 309





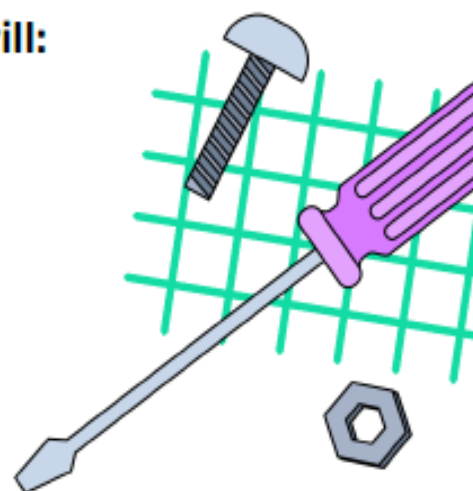
FREE Eco-Workshop for Kids!

Take apart broken objects &
transform them into something new!

x
**For curious
young
creators
aged 5-9**

A fun, hands-on workshop where kids will:

-  **Explore** broken objects & recycled materials
-  **Discover** sustainability & innovation
-  **Get creative** with a hands-on upcycling activity!



**Book a
workshop spot!**



Limited spaces available
– sign up today!

WHEN?
Fri 13th March, 4-5:30PM

WHERE?
Mitcham Library
157 London Rd
Mitcham
CR4 2YR



Talk Autism is a forum for parents and carers of children, young people and adults with autism in Merton

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

Date

Monday 9th March 2026, 10am – 12pm

Location

Church Road Children Centre
243 Church Road, Mitcham
CR4 3BH

Event details

We will be looking at a PowerPoint of Merton's SEND Local offer and what support is out there for parents/carers and how you are able to access the services.

We will also be joined by Rebecca & Jordon who are living with ADHD & ASD, who will be speaking from lived life experiences and allowing Q & A for themselves as the speakers and Q & A for us the Merton Mencap team

The session is appropriate to parents of a family member with autism.

We will be looking at the Local Offer and how parents can use it to find local support and services.

The session will also cover:

- ✓ Details about the M-Card, identifying additional concessions that M-Card members can benefit from
- ✓ The development of the Neurodiversity pathway, and the neurodiversity offer in Merton – I am keen to obtain parents' views about this during the session

There will also be an opportunity to ask questions and share experiences with the team and other parents.

Book your place NOW!

Book your place at this free session by contacting Maria Solari, Talk Autism Manager:

By email: maps.coordinator@mertonmencap.org.uk or Phone: 07709 715206

Book on event bright: <https://bit.ly/MertonMencapEvents>



Year Group Blog - Nursery

This week in Nursery, our learning has been centred around World Book Week and the nursery rhyme Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary. The children have really enjoyed joining in with school activities and learning the rhyme.

On Monday we had the, Africa Reborn workshop deliver a beautiful immersive storytelling experience that brings the richness and rhythm of African and Caribbean heritage to life for children. The Nursery children enjoyed joining in with the immersive storytelling experience and exploring movement through the rhythm of the drums.

With the lovely sunshine, we have been spending lots of time learning outdoors. The children have been developing their physical skills by practising riding the trikes. They showed determination as they pedalled around the garden, building their confidence and coordination.

Inspired by the rhyme, the children became gardeners this week. They enjoyed digging in the soil and planting seeds, carefully covering them up and talking about what plants need to grow. This led to some lovely discussions about the life cycle of a plant and how flowers grow over time. As we have spotted many daffodils blooming around Figges Marsh and the school, we also spent time learning about the different parts of a daffodil. The children then created beautiful observational paintings of the daffodils. They looked carefully at the shape and colours of the flowers and then represent what they could see in their artwork.



Year Group Blog - Reception

We have had a very busy week in Reception from our class assembly on Tuesday to world book day. We were so proud of every single one of our super stars in the assembly and the children really enjoyed sharing their learning. Thank you to all the families that came to watch.

World book day was a blast, the children's costumes were fantastic and they enjoyed learning about a traditional fable 'The Boy who Cried Wolf'. We were lucky to have a visit from a story telling



performer who told us a traditional story from Africa about a talking drum. The children got to participate and be part of the story. Their favorite part was when they got to play the drums.

We also had a mystery story teller at the end of the day and the children were captivated by the stories told by Mr Pett and Mrs Hussain. We would like to welcome



Miss Fraser to our Reception team who will be teaching Scotland class and we look forward to all the exciting events and learning coming up. Have a great weekend.



Year Group Blog - Year 1

This week in Year 1 we had a great day dressing up for World Book Day. It was great to see so many fantastic costume ideas.

We learned an Aboriginal tale called 'How the Kangaroo got its pouch'. We acted out this story and created aboriginal pieces of art. In the afternoon Miss Ramsey and Ms Dabengwa came to year 1 to share and read with us one of their favourite stories.

In Maths we have been creating and completing number lines with numbers from 20-50 and recognising how many we are counting up in. We have been counting in tens and recognising the difference in value between tens and ones. In Geography we have been identifying landmarks on a map and finding the human and physical features in central London. For example, we know a hill is a grassy slope. In science we have been designing our own animals and recognising which classification we would put them in. In Computing we have been learning how to touch type on a computer and understand how this can help us to search for images on the internet quickly. In PE we have been developing our Athletics skills. We have practicing our sprinting techniques and also look at how we can change direction to keep our speed.

In Phonics we have been learning our new sound air and the different ways we can spell it. For example, air in stair, are in care and ear in pear. Please keep reading everyday with your children at home and signing their reading records.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have been very busy with lots of exciting learning across our subjects.

We started of the week with an African Reborn Workshop, which we all enjoyed acting out scenes of folk tales from counties in Africa. We even had a Chinese New Year Roadshow, where we watched many different talents from dancers, singers and Karate acts, it was so exciting!

We learnt so much in our classes in Maths, we have been learning about multiplication and division. The children explored how numbers can be grouped and shared, helping them understand how these operations work in different situations. In, English, we looked at the poem "If All the World Were...". The children explored the features of poetry, thinking about how poets use descriptive language and imagination to paint pictures with words. In Geography, we continued learning about coastlines and discovered the five seas around the United Kingdom. The children enjoyed locating them and discussing how seas and coastlines shape our environment. For PSHE, we made healthy fruit skewers and talked about the importance of healthy eating and how different foods help our bodies grow strong and stay energised. In Science, we learned about minibeasts. The children explored different types of minibeasts and looked closely at their mouths and what they eat, helping us understand how animals are adapted to their diets. In PE, the children practised catching skills through both opposed and unopposed games, developing coordination, teamwork and control. On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day. The children looked fantastic in their costumes and it was wonderful to see so many creative outfits. We loved celebrating our favourite books together. In DT, the children designed and created 3D structures using art straws and jelly sweets, experimenting with shapes and stability to see how strong their structures could be.

It has been a fantastic week of learning in Year 2 and we are very proud of all the children's hard work.

Year Group Blog - Year 3

This week in Year 3, the children adapted the story *Escape from Pompeii* and wrote their own diary entries inspired by the events in the story. They included the skills they have been learning in English, such as prepositional phrases, multi-clause sentences, and conjunctions to express cause. In Maths, the children learned how to add and subtract lengths in centimetres (cm) and millimetres (mm). In Geography, the children located volcanoes around the world and labelled a map to show where different volcanoes can be found. In Science, the children investigated how light reflects off different materials by testing a variety of surfaces. We also celebrated World Book Day this week. The children came to school dressed in amazing costumes and created some fantastic artwork based on the story *The Tortoise and the Bird*.



Year Group Blog - Year 4

This week has been an energetic and enriching one for our year group, filled with new skills, discoveries and celebrations across the curriculum. In English and Whole Class Reading, pupils began by working on the correct use of standard verb inflection and revisiting the rules of punctuating speech. As we continued reading *The Iron Man*, the children developed their use of prosody, deepened their comprehension skills and practised retrieving information from the text. Later in the week, they applied adverbials of time and place to rewrite the tense scene where the Iron Man was captured. World Book Day brought a wonderful burst of excitement on Thursday, while Friday's Rapsere Story Telling session added a touch of magic to the end of the week. Mathematics lessons focused firmly on fractions. Children learned how to add fractions and mixed numbers, subtract from whole amounts and then subtract from mixed numbers as the challenge increased. On Friday, the class explored tenths as fractions, building a clear understanding of how these fit into the wider number system. Throughout the week, regular practice of the seven-times table helped strengthen fluency and confidence. In RE, they explored the importance of Shabbat and why it remains such a treasured weekly tradition within Jewish families. Music sessions continued through our Charanga unit, giving pupils a chance to perform, listen and respond to music creatively. In Design Technology, children evaluated the design of 3D models, thinking carefully about structure, function and aesthetics. Science lessons centred on the human digestive system, using the enquiry question "What happens when we chew food?" to guide a hands-on exploration of how our bodies process what we eat. Geography took us on a journey across India and China, where pupils identified different types of mountains and learned how each is formed. In PSHE, the class explored the roles of leaders and followers, reflecting on situations where they naturally take on each role and the value both bring to group dynamics. Friday brought a lively end to the week, beginning with spelling work on the words *notice* and *celebrate*. After an active PE session and a quick change back into uniforms, the children took part in times tables practice before gathering for the Winning House assembly play at 2:30pm. The week concluded with our much-loved Writers' Workshop, where creativity flowed freely. It has been a full, busy and joyful week of learning, and we are immensely proud of the enthusiasm and resilience the children show every day. We look forward to another inspiring week ahead.

Year Group Blog - Year 5

What an action-packed week we've had in Year 5! From diving into different cultures to mastering tricky map skills, the classroom has been buzzing with energy.

We celebrated World Book Day in style this week. The highlight was exploring a traditional Polish tale. The children didn't just read the story; they brought it to life by acting it out and presenting their performances to the rest of the class. It was wonderful to see such creative storytelling and confident acting!

On Wednesday, we celebrated Chinese New Year with a bang. We were treated to an incredible show that left us all amazed, followed by a hands-on painting workshop. The children let their inner artists shine, creating some truly vibrant and inspired pieces. Brazil class were treated to a lesson by an amazing musician teaching them all about traditional Chinese music and instrument. In English, our young authors have been sharpening their persuasive skills. We have been focusing on the features of persuasive letters, specifically learning how to weave in modal verbs and powerful rhetorical questions to really hook the reader. They also enjoyed debating if a robot would be good to have in our homes and shared their opinions clearly.

In Geography, we took our map-reading skills to the next level. The class has been learning how to navigate using OS maps and reading six-figure grid references. We're officially ready for an expedition! Finally, in Maths, we've been tackling numbers in different forms. We have been calculating fractions of an amount and deepening our understanding of decimals, specifically working with numbers up to two decimal places.



Year Group Blog - Year 6

In English, the children continued their work on *Romeo and Juliet* with a particular focus on understanding and writing play scripts. The week began with pupils planning scenes designed to entertain the reader or audience, thinking carefully about structure, dialogue and dramatic effect. As they explored features such as stage directions, character cues and scripted conversation, they developed a strong understanding of how play texts differ from narrative writing. Later in the week, pupils worked on writing their own play script extracts inspired by Shakespeare's Act 2, Scene 1: The Garden of the Capulets. Using expressive language, clear layout and detailed stage directions, the children produced exciting and engaging scripts that showcased creativity and an increasing confidence with drama conventions.

In Maths, Year 6 worked within their unit on Fractions, Decimals and Percentages (FDP). Early in the week, the children revisited how to convert fractions to percentages, using both visual representations and mathematical reasoning. They progressed to exploring fractions as divisions, using this idea to strengthen their understanding of how fractions, decimals and percentages link together. Towards the middle of the week, they focused on identifying common equivalents across all three forms. By the end of the week, the children applied this knowledge to ordering fractions, decimals and percentages and comparing amounts. Their growing fluency in moving confidently between these forms has been excellent to see, and they have shown strong perseverance when tackling more challenging reasoning questions.

On Wednesday we took part in a Chinese New Year Roadshow where the children were able to watch a series of performances showcasing a range of traditional Chinese dances, martial arts and styles music. We were also lucky enough to take part in a workshop which involved the children learning some basic martial arts movements. They had great fun!

For World Book Day, Year 6 took part in a range of activities to celebrate reading, beginning with an oracy session linked to a Russian folk tale.

Pupils listened to the start of the story, retold it in groups and explored how oral storytelling traditions bring tales to life. Later in the day, they took part in a creative Art/D&T session where they made models of Baba Yaga's house — the famous hut that stands on chicken legs.

On Friday, the children had seen the performance "Rapsere live" which included sing contemporary, hip hop beats and rhyming techniques to teach our children about who Shakespeare was and what inspired him to write. The children thoroughly enjoyed the performance and it provided them with an opportunity to understand the language and writing style that Shakespeare is known for.

In Science, pupils continued their work on adaptation. The focus this week was on how animals are suited to their environments, building on their previous learning about plant adaptations. Through discussion and classification activities, pupils explored how features such as camouflage, body coverings, limb structure and hunting or survival behaviours help animals thrive in specific habitats. They studied examples from arctic, desert, woodland and rainforest environments, gaining a deeper appreciation for the incredible variety within the animal kingdom.

