

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,

This morning, China Class showcased their learning all about the world around them — from a fantastic Brazilian dance performance, to confidently explaining polygons, to sharing their reading of *Cinnamon* and describing the characters in vivid detail, all rounded off with a brilliant weather reporter forecasting the very grey weekend ahead!

Parents' evening will be held next week for pupils in Nursery to Year 6. This will take place on Wednesday 11th February and Thursday 12th February. Parents will have the opportunity to meet with class teachers, look at books and discuss targets. The parental survey for this term will focus on Healthy Eating. You can make your appointment through the online system, Parent Mail.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week and also Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 10th February. The theme is 'Technology for Good' which will explore the impact social media and AI has on mental health. As part of this, there are events and activities planned for the children to take part in during the week.

On Thursday 5th March Gorrington Park will be celebrating World Book Day. We will be exploring storytelling and traditional tales from around the world. Each year group will learn and retell a story linked to a different culture, and children will take part in drama, storytelling and art activities throughout the day. We are also inviting families to share a traditional tale from their own culture, either in person or by sending in a book for us to read. If you would like to take part, please let the school office know.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Pearl Harris-Coke, Headteacher



Stars of the week

Science

Nursery: Julian / Ilyes

Scotland: Mila

Wales: Githushka

Italy Y1: Aydin

Spain Y1: Dylan

Germany Y2: Lily

South Africa Y3: Nidal

Nigeria Y3: Yuthishga

China Y4: Elexandro

India Y4: Gabriel

Brazil Y5: Ashvin

Canada Y5: Melaak

Australia Y6: Raheem

New Zealand Y6: Daisy-Ann

Aspire Awards

House Points

London Eye: 61

Big Ben: 57

Tower Bridge: 42

The Shard: 67



Calendar Dates

February 2026

Wed 11th

Thu 12th

Fri 13th

Mon 16th—Fri 20th

Fri 27th

March 2026

Tue 3rd

Tue 3rd

Thu 5th

Wed 11th

Fri 13th

Fri 20th

Mon 23rd

Tue 24th

Tue 24th

Wed 25th

Thu 26th

Fri 27th

Fri 27th

April 2026

Mon 13th

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening

Germany & France Class Family Assembly, 9:10am

HALF TERM BREAK, SCHOOL CLOSED

South Africa Class Family Assembly at 9:10am

Wales & Scotland Class Family Assembly, 9:10am

Chinese New Year Lunch

World Book Day

Italy Class Family Assembly at 9:10am

INSET Day, SCHOOL CLOSED

Red Nose Day

Early Years Easter Egg Hunt, timing TBC

AM Nursery Eight Rhyme Challenge at 11:00am

PM Nursery Eight Rhyme Challenge at 2:45pm

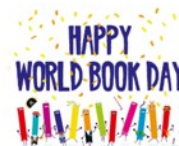
Easter Bonnet Parade, timing TBC

Spain Class Family Assembly at 9:10am

End of Term Assembly, by invitation only

Last day of term

First day of term



We are celebrating World Book Day on

Thursday 5th March 2026!

We would like to invite children to dress up as their favourite book character. There is no need to buy anything new. No football kits or sports clothes.

Here are some ideas:



This year we are exploring oral story telling traditions from all around the world. We are planning an exciting and unforgettable day!

We need you!

We are looking for parents/family members that are willing to share a traditional tale from their own culture. This could be:

- Sending in a book of the story for us to share in class
- A video recording of you/your child retelling the story
- Coming into school at 2.30pm on Thursday 5th March 2026 to tell the story in person

We really want to bring these traditional tales to life and having our school community involved, would make the day even more special.

If you are interested in coming in to share your story, please email the school office with the story you would like to share.

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

Year Group Blog - Nursery

This week in Nursery we have been learning all about tooth brushing and how to care for our teeth. The children enjoyed sequencing the steps of brushing their teeth and talking about why it is important to look after them. We also discussed the role of a dentist and how they help to keep our teeth healthy. The children really enjoyed this topic and many were keen to share how they brush their teeth at home.

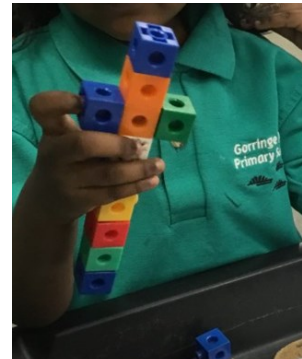
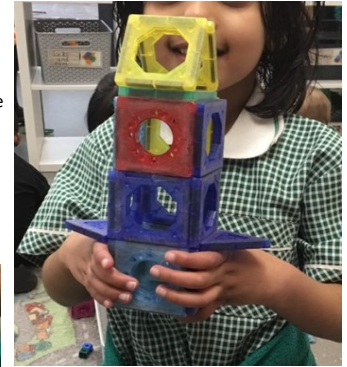
As part of our eight-rhyme challenge, we have been learning rhyme four, 'I'm a Tube of Toothpaste'. The children loved using props to act out the rhyme and confidently joined in with the actions and repeated phrases. In maths, we have been focusing on repetition within nursery rhymes. This linked closely with our rhyming work and supported children to recognise repeated words and patterns. It has also encouraged them to join in more confidently and sing their favourite songs with enthusiasm.

In P.E, we focused on strengthening our bodies and minds through gentle movement and meditation. The children practised rainbow breathing and talked about things that help them to feel calm, linking back to last week's story, The Colour Monster.



Year Group Blog - Reception

We have blasted off into space this week with our learning. Our Reception astronauts have had a lot of fun thinking about what you would see in space from galaxies to comets and millions of stars. We learnt about the eight planets in our solar system and discussed which planet they would want to live on if they could. They we learnt all about Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon. We learnt about the infamous sentence that he says when he took a step onto the surface, 'That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind'. The pupils enjoyed re-enacting this historic moment in our space station roleplay area and small world. In Reading we have introduced the book *Whatever Next!* A fun book all about a little bear who visits the moon and has a picnic. We thought about how the bear may have felt through the story. In the pictures you can see some of our children freeze framing Baby Bear hiding from the rain on his journey back from the moon. In Maths we have been learning about parts and wholes. We looked at how different objects are wholes and some of these wholes will have parts. For example, my hand is my part and my whole is me. We took this learning into the construction area where we built rocket ships and named the parts and wholes, have a look at some of our creations. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend



Year Group Blog - Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have become Architect's. During our writing sessions we have been designing and labelling houses and writing sentences to explain what each part of a house will be made of. We have then progressed in our grammar to learn about imperative verbs. We have practiced following and giving instructions and recognising what verbs would be appropriate to use in our sentences. In Maths we have been using our subtracting skills and number bond skills to help us count back from any number up to 20 and find answers to subtraction calculations involving numbers from 11-20. In Science we have continued to classify different animals. We have been looking at Mammal and reptiles and what these types of animals have in common. In History we have been researching the life of Samuel Pepys and understanding why his diary was so important to us in our knowledge of The Great Fire of London. In our Art lessons we are continuing to use watercolours, this week we have created use light and dark to create a fiery explosion. In RE we learned about the 7 days of creation story and explaining what God created on each day

Our Phonics sounds this week have been recapping *i in kind i-e in pine, ie in pie, y in my and igh in high*.

In Music we have had great fun listening to folk music and have practiced playing 'In The Groove' using shakers.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

This week we went on an adventure into the deep, dark forest. We explored our 5 senses thinking about what we could see, hear, feel and smell. We used this activity to help us think of exciting and descriptive expanded noun phrases. We also became explorers in history and took on the role of Sir Francis Drake, as we wrote diary entries from his time on the Golden Hinde. We made sure to write about the yucky food and how uncomfortable we slept!

In maths we have started our brand-new topic of multiplication and division. We began with recognising and making equal groups. We used the cubes and paper plates so we could practise sharing out different amounts. We love using the concrete items to solve different mathematical problems. In our maths fluency we have been exploring number lines. We were shocked to see how many number lines were all around our classrooms, even on our rulers.

As scientists we have continued to explore the properties of different materials. This week we were looking at plastic. We were testing the flexibility of different plastics and we carried out an experiment to see which plastic item would squirt the most water. We thought that this experiment was super fun although some of us did get wet.

Year Group Blog - Year 3

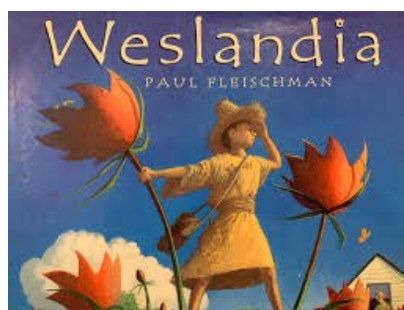
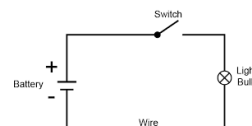
This week in Year 3, the children have had a fantastic time learning across the curriculum! In English, they worked hard to write their own newspaper reports and did a great job including important newspaper features. In Maths, the children explored how to divide a two-digit number by a one-digit number. They used counters and Base 10 resources to help them understand their learning.

In Science, the children enjoyed comparing the human skeleton with the skeletons of other animals. In History, the children learned about power struggles in Britain and created eye-catching posters to share what they had discovered.

We are very proud of their hard work.
Have a lovely weekend!
The Year 3 Team

Year Group Blog - Year 4

We have had a very productive week in Year Four. We have continued to use our writing skills using the book 'Weslandia'. It is all about a child called Wesley who decides that he wants to establish a new civilisation, so he grows special plants and makes his own sun cream. He makes new games and decides not to be like everybody else. In Maths we are learning about fractions and partitioning them. We are looking forward to learning about improper fractions next week. In Science we made our own switches out of paper clips, bulldog clips and cardboard. It was a lot of fun investigating if they made the lightbulb work. In Art we are continuing to sew and master the running stitch. In PE we have been playing dodgeball and respecting each other rather than being very competitive. We all work as a team in Year Four and we are all friends. We are also learning new dances in PE and are enjoying line dancing, industrial dancing and Bollywood! On that note, for those parents who were able to attend China class assembly this morning you would have been entertained by our Brazilian dance that we have thoroughly enjoyed learning. We look forward to seeing you next week for Parent's Evening and welcome both parents and children to attend. Have a lovely weekend with family and friends. This morning, China class performed their assembly. They treated the classes and families to Brazilian dancing, a song about polygons and how they learnt about rectilinear shapes and perimeter. They shared their knowledge of the 6x table and we had a quiz. In PSHE they talked about goals and dreams and sang an upbeat song called 'ForMe'. It was a great success and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



Year Group Blog - Year 5

Year 5 Weekly Round-Up: A Busy Week of Learning and Discovery

This week in Year 5 has been packed with curiosity, creativity, and plenty of brain-stretching moments! From travelling the globe through guided reading to exploring land art on Friday afternoon, the children have thrown themselves into learning with great enthusiasm.

In English, our focus text *Anya's Quest* has sparked thoughtful discussion and careful reading. Pupils practised key reading skills throughout the week, including retrieving information, developing vocabulary, improving prosody, and making inferences. Grammar lessons were equally busy, with children confidently using commas for extra detail, inverted commas for speech, apostrophes for possession, and adverbials of time and place. Handwriting sessions before lessons helped set high expectations for presentation. Our end-of-day reading of *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* continues to be a calm and reflective way to finish each day.

Maths saw real progress as pupils built fluency before tackling more complex problem-solving. The week began with multiplication of 3-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers and moved on to 4-digit multiplication and short division. Daily fluency sessions helped reinforce number facts and build confidence, with children showing resilience and determination when faced with tricky challenges.



Beyond the core subjects, Year 5 enjoyed a rich and varied curriculum. In Science, pupils investigated insulating materials, testing which were best at keeping heat in. History took us back to the Middle Ages, where children discussed what daily life might have been like for people living then. RE lessons focused on important Jewish celebrations throughout the year, encouraging respect and understanding of different beliefs.



There were plenty of creative and active moments too. Art lessons explored land art, inspiring pupils to think about nature as both a material and a canvas. Music with Charanga filled the room with rhythm and enthusiasm, while PE sessions kept everyone moving. In PSHE, children reflected on future aspirations and the jobs they might like to do when they grow up.

We ended the week celebrating teamwork and effort with Winning House, rounding off another fantastic week in Year 5!



Year Group Blog - Year 6

Year 6 have had another productive week, full of creativity, curiosity and rich learning across the curriculum. The children continue to impress us with their focus, resilience and growing independence as they tackle more challenging concepts.

In Mathematics, pupils have been applying their understanding of place value with decimal numbers to a range of new skills. This week, they practised rounding decimal numbers, considering place value carefully to ensure accuracy. They also worked on adding and subtracting decimals, making sure digits were lined up correctly in column methods. Building on this, the children explored how to multiply and divide decimals by 10, 100 and 1,000, developing their confidence in shifting digits to the left or right. Finally, they took on the challenge of multiplying decimals by integers, using known facts and place value knowledge to help them work efficiently and explain their reasoning. The class have worked incredibly hard, and it has been fantastic to see their confidence with decimals grow.

In English, the children continued their work on *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, this time applying all their learning to retell part of the story in their own words. Pupils focused on using a range of key writing features, including figurative language, parenthesis, direct speech, expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials. They worked thoughtfully to capture the atmosphere of Narnia, using ambitious vocabulary and carefully structured sentences to bring the setting and characters to life. Their writing pieces have been a joy to read, demonstrating real progress in their narrative skills.

In Science, the class revisited the circulatory system, consolidating their understanding of how the heart, blood and blood vessels work together to keep the body functioning. Building on this foundation, pupils then explored what is meant by a healthy lifestyle. They discussed the importance of a balanced diet, learning about the different food groups and how each contributes to health. The children also considered why regular physical activity is vital for maintaining a strong heart and overall wellbeing. These discussions encouraged pupils to reflect on their own lifestyle choices and think about how small changes can help to support long-term health.

In Art, we have been exploring the work of a variety of environmental artists, including Anthony Gormley, Olafur Eliasson, John Akomfrah, Edith Meusnier and Chris Jordan. The class discussed how each artist uses natural materials or environmental themes to inspire their creations and to encourage people to think about their relationship with the world around them. Inspired by these examples, pupils then created their own pieces of environmental art using leaves. The results were imaginative, thoughtful and beautifully textured, showcasing the children's creativity and careful attention to detail.

Overall, it has been a fantastic week of learning for Year 6. We are looking forward to seeing what they achieve next week!

Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

Supporting Siblings of Children with SEND

This webinar invites parents/carers of children aged 7 years and above to explore the special nature of the sibling relationship when one or more children has additional needs, with practical advice about how to foster sibling harmony, manage rivalry and, most importantly, keep your own wellbeing in mind.



Education
Wellbeing
Service

DATE / TIME

Monday 9th February
7.00-8.30pm



Scan the
QR code
or
[click here](#)

LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to either event
for free on Eventbrite
by scanning the QR Code.

You can also check out
our other events by
[clicking here](#)

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

DATE / TIME

Tuesday 10th February
1.30-3.00pm



Scan the
QR code
or
[click here](#)

Parent Job Club

Are you actively looking for work or thinking of returning to employment? Our 4-week Parent Job Club helps parents be job ready.

When: Every Wednesday 12.30pm – 2.30pm for 4 weeks starting on Wednesday 11 February 2026

(no session on Wednesday 18 February due to half term)

Where: Acacia Children Centre, 230 Grove Rd, Mitcham CR4 1SD



Scan the QR code to
book your place on this
5-week workshop



4 WEEK JOB CLUB

- **Week 1** – CV writing workshop
- **Week 2** – Are you ready for work? and Debt Management
- **Week 3** – Interview skills workshop, Childcare costs and Flexible Support Fund
- **Week 4** – Meet an employer and apply for vacancies



CHINESE

NEW YEAR

Sticky Chicken Noodles
or
Chinese Vegetable Stir Fried Noodles

Served with
Steamed Broccoli and Peppers

Dessert
Pineapple Loaf

