

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,

It has been another busy week at school, and I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to making it such a positive one.

A big thank you to the children and staff in Wales Class for their wonderful Family Assembly. The class did a fantastic job of showcasing their learning and achievements, and it was lovely to see so many families in attendance. Thank you for your continued support.

Today was our annual Green Day fundraiser for the Friends of Gorrington Park. Thank you to everyone who wore something green and made a donation. Over £200 was raised, which will support our gardening projects around the school. The Friends of Gorrington Park are planning to revitalise the planting beds on the Sandy Lane and Streatham Road frontages, as well as continue to support fruit and vegetable growing in our Sensory Garden.

Our Year 5 pupils enjoyed a visit to the local library this week, gaining valuable experience and developing their love of reading.

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended Parents' Evening on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was wonderful to welcome so many families into school and have the opportunity to discuss the progress, achievements and next steps in your children's learning.

We were also treated to a delightful Nursery Family Assembly on Tuesday. The singing was beautiful and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thank you to the Nursery children, staff and families for making it such a special occasion.

On Monday, we welcomed our new Reception starters and their families for a Stay and Play session. It was lovely to meet the children who will be joining our school community in September, and we look forward to welcoming them officially in the new academic year.

Looking ahead, next week promises to be another busy and exciting one:

- **Sports Day** on Monday 6th July.
- **Year 6 Production** on Tuesday 7th July.
- **Afternoon of Music** on Wednesday 8th July.
- **Meet the Teacher** on Thursday 9th July, when children will have the opportunity to spend time with their new class teacher ahead of September.
- **Scotland Class Family Assembly** on Friday 10th July.

The warmer weather is forecast to return next week. Children may therefore wear their PE kit throughout the week to help keep them comfortable during the warmer temperatures.

We are aware that many pupils and families may be excited about England's FIFA World Cup fixture against Mexico, which kicks off at 1:00am on Monday morning. While we appreciate that you may choose to watch the match as a family, we kindly ask that all pupils arrive at school on time and ready for a productive day of learning.

Finally, congratulations to Mrs Dabengwa on the arrival of her beautiful baby girl, Mykaila, who was born earlier this week. We are delighted to share this wonderful news and send our very best wishes to Mrs Dabengwa and her family at this special and exciting time.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Harris-Coke, Headteacher

For all important dates throughout the Summer term 2026, please see the last page of the newsletter.

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: Carlos/Epala

Scotland:

Wales:

Spain Y1: Amaya-Jay

Italy Y1:

Germany Y2: Levi

France Y2:

South Africa Y3: Harsith

Nigeria Y3: Yuthishga

China Y4: Derek

India Y4: Suyan

Canada Y5: Essa

Brazil Y5: Nour

Australia Y6: Sakariye

New Zealand Y6: Maya

Aspire Awards House Points

London Eye: 34

Big Ben: 39

Tower Bridge: 34

The Shard: 38



Year Group Blog - Nursery

What a lovely week we have had in nursery. It has been full of excitement, learning and special moments that the children have thoroughly enjoyed. One of the highlights of the week was our family assembly, which was a wonderful celebration of the children's learning and progress over the year. They sang their songs with confidence, enthusiasm and big smiles, and it was a pleasure to share this experience with the parents and carers who came along to support us. The children were clearly delighted to perform, and we are very proud of how well they remembered the words, joined in with the actions and showed such confidence in front of an audience.

In Literacy, we have been focusing on *The Way Back Home*. The children have really engaged with this story and have enjoyed exploring the adventures of the main character. To bring the story to life, we transformed our classroom into a space station, which created lots of excitement and imagination. The children loved re-enacting the story using rocket ships, astronauts and other space-themed props, and this encouraged them to retell key events and use new vocabulary linked to space, journeys and home. Through these activities, they have been developing their listening skills, imagination and early storytelling abilities in a engaging and meaningful way.



Year Group Blog - Reception

This week we have continued our topics of journeys as we enjoyed Fieldwork week. We have been exploring the local area of our school and used our 5 senses to notice things around us as we walked. We heard birds, wind and people and felt soft grass and hard stones. We then had a go at building a map of the school using blocks to represent the different buildings. It was great fun deciding which blocks would show our classroom and our garden. We have continued looking at transport by read the book 'You can't take an elephant on the bus'. It made us laugh out loud at each animal trying to fit in the different vehicles. Thank you to all the parents who attended Wales' class assembly. The children worked so hard and got over their nerves beautifully. We look forward to seeing Scotland's assembly next week! Have a fabulous weekend everyone! From the Reception Team.



Year Group Blog - Year 1

We have had another exciting week in Year 1. We have been taking part in fieldwork week and exploring the area in the school. We have created maps to help direct the new Reception children from year 1 to the assembly hall. We have also been using compasses to help us find different directions. On Friday we took part in some orienteering activities to find different locations outside.

This week in English we have been learning about the features of a diary. We have recognised we must write in first person, use time connectives and write in the past tense. We then wrote our own diary entries explaining about our days.

In Maths we have been learning to tell and represent the time for o'clock and half past. We recognise where each hand needs to go and have been playing 'What's the time Mr Wolf' to practice.

In science we have been learning about how to read a thermometer to measure the temperature. We measured the temperature of ice and hot water and watched as the liquid inside the thermometer went up and down.

In Design and Technology, we have been designing the sandwich that we would like to make next week. We have decided what ingredients we would like to use and the instructions that will be needed to make it.

In Phonics, we have learned *kn* in words such as knock, know and knead. We have also learned the *dge/ge* sounds in words such as judge, bridge and cage. Please keep reading with your children at home to improve their fluency and speed.

Thank you for coming to parents evening this week. It was lovely to share all the progress and achievements of your children this year.



Year Group Blog - Year 2

We have had another fantastic week of learning and thoroughly enjoyed the cooler weather. The children have shown incredible enthusiasm across all subjects and have made their teachers very proud!

In maths, we dived into statistics. The children absolutely adored this topic, especially creating their own colourful pictograms to record and analyse data. In English, we continued our journey through our beautiful story, 'Ocean Meets Sky'. The children used their imaginations to write brilliant sentences, focusing on using apostrophes for contraction.

This week, the children have thoroughly enjoyed Field Work week! They have had great fun creating messy maps, recording the playground temperature daily, and checking our rain gauge to track the rainfall. They also enjoyed exploring the school grounds, observing local nature, and working collaboratively in small groups outside. It has been wonderful to see them develop their geographical skills and become confident young researchers.

In science, we continued to look at plants. The children have been observing our class plants closely. We are tracking whether plants grow better with water or without, which has sparked some brilliant scientific discussions.

In Design and Technology (DT), we looked at how a cam and axle can make a toy move. The children were deeply engaged as they discovered how these mechanical components work together to create movement. Everyone was thrilled to begin designing and making their very own moving toys, showing fantastic problem-solving and engineering skills.

Year Group Blog - Year 3

This week, Year 3 has been busy completing a range of assessments in reading, writing and maths to celebrate and assess all of the learning they have done this term. The children approached each assessment with confidence and should be very proud of their hard work and perseverance. In English, the children have continued exploring 'The BFG.' They have been using conjunctions to express time and time adverbs to write sentences about the story, developing their writing skills while enjoying this fantastic class text. In maths, the children have been finishing their learning about time. They have explored the relationship between minutes and seconds and compared different units of time, building their confidence in this important area of maths. What an amazing Geography Fieldwork Week we have had! The children enjoyed learning about famous landmarks, completing a traffic survey and taking part in an exciting orienteering activity that incorporated outdoor learning. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm, teamwork and curiosity throughout the week. They had a fantastic time and created lots of wonderful memories while developing their geographical skills.

Have a great weekend from the Year 3 Team

Year Group Blog - Year 4

Year 4 has had another exciting and productive week, filled with memorable experiences and fantastic learning across the curriculum.

Our biggest highlight was our visit to the Science Museum on Monday. The children had an amazing time exploring the interactive galleries on Levels 1–3, where they discovered fascinating exhibits linked to science, engineering and technology. A particular favourite was the Wonderlab show, where the children were captivated by exciting demonstrations exploring matter, light and forces. The trip inspired curiosity and encouraged the children to ask thoughtful scientific questions throughout the day.

A huge thank you to all of our parent volunteers who gave up their time to accompany us on the trip. Your support helped make the visit safe, enjoyable and successful, and we are very grateful.

This week, the children also completed their Reading (PIRA), Writing and Maths (PUMA) assessments. We were incredibly proud of the resilience, independence and positive attitudes they demonstrated throughout the assessments. Every child tried their very best, and their hard work was evident.

In English, the children developed their descriptive writing by using expanded noun phrases, carefully selecting ambitious vocabulary and adding prepositional phrases to create vivid descriptions before completing their independent cold write.

In Mathematics, the children continued their work on Statistics and Position & Direction. They practised describing movements on a grid using coordinates and directional language before learning how to accurately draw and interpret line graphs, using scales, plotting points and explaining what the data showed.

Our Geography learning focused on volcanoes. The children investigated the structure of a volcano, learned key vocabulary such as magma, lava, crater and vent, and explored where volcanoes are found around the world, making links to tectonic plate boundaries and the Pacific Ring of Fire. As part of our Geography fieldwork, the children visited different classes around the school to conduct a survey on how pupils travel to school. They collected data confidently and demonstrated excellent communication and teamwork skills.

In Science, the children explored the school grounds to create a messy map of our local environment. They identified organisms found in our meadow habitat and began constructing food webs, considering how producers, consumers, predators and prey are linked.

In Design and Technology, the children learned about Ancient Egyptian jewellery. They explored its importance in Ancient Egyptian culture before designing and creating their own jewellery, carefully incorporating repeating patterns, colour and symmetry into their designs.

It was also a pleasure to welcome so many families to our Parents' Evenings on Tuesday and Wednesday. Thank you to everyone who attended. It was wonderful to discuss the children's progress, celebrate their achievements and identify areas for further improvement as we continue working together to help every child reach their full potential. We greatly appreciate your continued support and partnership throughout the academic year.

This week, we have reminded the children of the importance of consistently making positive behaviour choices, showing respect for one another and remaining focused during lessons. We look forward to seeing Year 4 continue to demonstrate our school values and finish the term with the positive attitudes and high standards we know they are capable of.

We hope everyone has a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to another week of learning ahead.

Year Group Blog - Year 5

It has been another busy week in Year 5, with the children showing enthusiasm, resilience and a positive attitude towards their learning across the curriculum.

In Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of decimals by adding and subtracting decimal numbers within 1. They explored a range of strategies to help them solve calculations accurately and confidently. The children used number lines, tens frames, and partitioning methods to deepen their understanding of decimal values and the relationships between numbers. It has been wonderful to see them explaining their reasoning and selecting the most appropriate strategy to solve different problems.

In English, the children completed a cold write inspired by a visual clip. They carefully observed the events in the film and used their imagination to create engaging pieces of writing. This provided an excellent opportunity for them to demonstrate their independent writing skills and apply previously learned techniques. Later in the week, the children focused on using parentheses to provide extra information within a sentence. They explored how this punctuation can add interesting details and clarify meaning for the reader. Using *The Sleeper and the Spindle* as inspiration, the children then wrote their own descriptive paragraphs, confidently incorporating parenthetical information into their writing. We were impressed by the creativity and maturity of their ideas.

This week has been particularly exciting as it has been Fieldwork Week in Geography. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking their learning outside the classroom and becoming real geographers. They carried out an environmental survey around the school grounds, carefully observing and recording features of the environment. They also created messy maps of the school, using their fieldwork skills to represent different areas and landmarks. The children were highly engaged throughout the activities and enjoyed working collaboratively to investigate their surroundings.

We also enjoyed a visit to the library this week. The children spent time exploring the wide range of books available, sharing recommendations with friends and settling down to enjoy some quiet reading. Many children were excited to borrow new books to take home, helping to foster their love of reading and encouraging them to continue developing their reading habits outside of school.

Year Group Blog - Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy and memorable week, filled with creativity, practical learning and exciting opportunities as they continue to work hard across the curriculum.

In English, pupils completed their COLD write, independently planning and writing their own narrative inspired by *Laika & Nemo*—a short film about an unlikely friendship between a scuba diver and an astronaut. The children worked hard to bring this unique idea to life, carefully considering character, setting and structure. It was fantastic to see such imaginative responses, with pupils creating engaging and thoughtful stories that captured the themes of friendship and connection despite differences.

A large part of the week has been dedicated to production practice, with performances taking place next week. Pupils have been rehearsing scenes, refining their lines and working on timing, expression and stage presence. Alongside this, they have also been involved in prop making, showing excellent teamwork and creativity as they help bring the production together. Excitement is certainly building, and the children are putting in a great deal of effort to ensure the final performance is a success.

Many pupils also took part in their transition days this week, visiting their new secondary schools. This was a valuable opportunity for them to experience a new environment, meet staff and begin to feel more confident about the next stage of their learning journey. The children returned full of positive stories and growing excitement for the year ahead. During Fieldwork Week, Year 6 took part in a range of outdoor learning activities. Pupils enjoyed orienteering, using maps of the school grounds to navigate and find different locations. They also developed their observational skills by creating detailed field sketches, carefully recording features of their surroundings. These activities encouraged teamwork, problem-solving and a deeper understanding of their learning environment.

To end the week, pupils took part in a fun and interactive pizza workshop, where they had the chance to learn new skills while working collaboratively.

It has been a fantastic week full of memorable experiences—well done, Year 6!

Free English classes for adults in Merton

We are pleased to be able to offer English classes here at Gorrington Park A teacher from Learn English Together in Merton will be running weekly classes for our parents.

Find out more:

Please contact the School Office
on 02086481451 or at
office@gorringtonpark.merton.sch.uk



@LETinMerton



@LETinMerton



@LETinMerton



If you are interested please let us know as soon as possible.

We will invite you in to school to register and enrol you into a suitable level class.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Saturday 4 July - Saturday 5 September



The Summer Reading Challenge is back!

Starting on Saturday 4 July, this year's theme is Read to the Beat - incorporating the fun of reading with music and rhythm!

It's easy to get involved, if you're aged 4-12 years, here is how to take part:

- Register at your local library
- Read 6 books
- Get a medal and certificate
- Enter the prize draw for a chance to win one of many prizes

>> READ MORE

If you read 6 books and complete the challenge, you will be entered into a prize draw to win one of the following:

- Nintendo Switch
- Scooter
- Family tickets to Merton Fireworks
- Christmas at Kew family ticket
- And many more!



Join us for Super Sign-Up Saturday!

Sign up and enjoy a fun-filled day with special character appearances, including Peter Pan, the Queen of Hearts, Spider-Man and Princess Belle across our libraries.

Children who register on 4 July and complete the challenge will be entered into an exclusive prize draw to win family tickets to the Paddington Bear Experience.

Don't forget to visit the themed photo areas, complete with inflatable music props and a giant photo frame, to capture a memorable start to your summer reading adventure.

LIBRARY IN THE PARK 2026

[SEE ALL EVENTS FOR
LIBRARY IN THE PARK](#)

Library in the Park is back this year at Sherwood Recreation Ground, CR4 1JP, with a plethora of amazing events for adults, families and children including...



Fairy Haven craft

Saturday 4 July, 10am - 3pm

This workshop lets children design and build their own miniature homes using clay and natural materials.

[BOOK NOW](#)



Mug Painting workshop

Thursday 9 July, 4pm

A fun session where children can let their imagination run wild! They'll design and paint their own ceramic mugs.

[BOOK NOW](#)



Theatre in the Park: Encanto!

Saturday 25 July, 11am

Bring your maracas, shakers and even your umbrellas as we dance, sing, solve mysteries and journey through a story filled with magic and mischief.

[BOOK NOW](#)

MORDEN LIBRARY REOPENED

Morden Library has now reopened, and we're pleased to welcome back class visits and children's events, including:

IET LEGO League (7 Week Course)

Saturdays, 2:30pm - 4pm (Starting Sat 4 July)

Rhymetime with Nick

Fridays, 11am - 11:30am

Tovertafel Sessions

Saturdays, 10am - 11am



[SEE ALL EVENTS AT
MORDEN LIBRARY](#)

SUMMER OF SPORT



This summer, the National Year of Reading 2026's Summer of Sport campaign is encouraging people to discover the joy of reading through sport. Celebrating major events such as Wimbledon, the World Cup and the Commonwealth Games, the campaign highlights the stories behind sport and the power of reading.

Merton's ambition to be the borough of sport makes it the perfect place to champion both literacy and physical activity, helping residents connect with sport through books.

WIMBLEDON KIDS ACTIVITY SHEETS



Merton Council is launching a Kids Activity Sheet to celebrate Wimbledon Fortnight. Debuting at the Big HIIT on 7 July, it encourages children to get active outdoors and take part in the Summer Reading Challenge.

Sheets will be handed out at the event, with copies emailed to schools for printing. Children can enjoy creative activities, join in sports, and collect stamps for a chance to win a copy of Trailblazers by Billie Jean King.

Merton hopes children, families, schools and the wider community will join the celebrations as Wimbledon brings everyone to the borough.

SUMMER READING FOR THE GROWN-UPS WITH THE MERTON BIG READ!

The Merton Big Read is a borough-wide reading initiative is part of Merton's National Portfolio Organisation programme, delivered in partnership with Wimbledon BookFest and funded by Arts Council England.

This year's Merton Big Read book is *The Island of Missing Trees* by Elif Shafak, a powerful novel exploring love, identity and belonging. Borrow a copy from any Merton Library, or access the eBook or audiobook through the Libby app. Once you've finished reading, complete the survey for a chance to win a prize.



>> READ MORE

SUMMER WITH MORDEN'S LIBRARY OF THINGS!

Looking for affordable ways to keep the kids entertained this summer? Before you buy, why not borrow? Morden's Library of Things offers a range of items, from projectors and ice cream makers to camping equipment, helping families save money, reduce waste and try something new. Visit the website to explore all the Things you can borrow.



>> READ MORE

TEENAGE SPACE

VOLUNTEER FOR THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Merton Libraries are looking for enthusiastic volunteers aged 14+ to support this year's Summer Reading Challenge, helping children aged 4-11 discover the joy of reading over the summer holidays.

Volunteers will spend around 2 hours a week encouraging young readers, signing up participants, handing out rewards, and chatting about books – a great opportunity to gain valuable experience, build confidence, and make a positive difference in the community.



>> READ MORE



MANGA & GRAPHIC NOVEL WORKSHOPS

Explore the world of comics, manga and graphic novels with mayamada. Across six free sessions, young people will learn storytelling techniques and create their own comic adventures. No experience needed.

 Mitcham Library

 Fridays 24 July – 28 Aug, 2-4:30pm

 Ages 12-16, no experience needed, all materials provided.

>> BOOK NOW

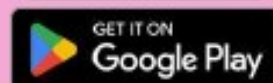
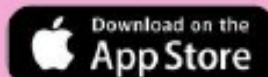


ELIBRARY

CHECK OUT OUR EBOOK COLLECTIONS:

- [New books](#)
- [National Year of Reading](#)
- [Summer of Sport](#)
- [Summer Reading Challenge](#)

READ VIA:



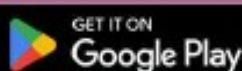
Online Resources

Merton Libraries offer a range of free online resources, including eBooks and eAudiobooks to assist with school work and reading for pleasure.

Need help? Merton Library staff are always ready to assist.



Reading
eggs



READING EGGS

Discover the joy of reading with Reading Eggs – free through Merton Library Service!

This fun and interactive online programme is designed to help children learn to read through one-on-one lessons tailored to their individual pace. With engaging activities, rewards, and step-by-step progress, Reading Eggs builds confidence and makes learning to read an enjoyable journey for every child.

Sign up today by speaking to library staff and start your reading adventure!

Calendar Dates—Summer Term 2026

July 2026	
Mon 6th	Sports Day
Tue 7th	Year 6 Production Dress Rehearsal—9.15am Parents to attend
Tue 7th	Year 6 Production—2.00pm Parents to attend
Wed 8th	An Afternoon of Music—4.00pm to 5.00pm Parents to attend by invite only
Fri 10th	Scotland Family Assembly—9.10am Scotland class parents to attend
Fri 10th	Year 6 Prom—5.00pm to 7.00pm
Mon 13th	Reception Graduation—9.10am Wales class parents to attend
Tue 14th	Reception Graduation—9.10am Scotland class parents to attend
Tue 14th	Year 6 Graduation—4.30pm Year 6 parents to attend
Fri 17th	Headteacher & End of term assembly Parents to attend by invite only
Fri 17th	Last Day of term School will finish at the earlier time of 1.30pm (No afterschool club)
Mon 20th	INSET DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED