

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 week at Gorrington Park. Brazil class have finished their two weeks of swimming which they really enjoyed with many of our children developing and consolidating their swimming skills. We look forward to Canada class going over the next two weeks.

This week, the new Principal, PE Coach and previous students of Gorrington Park visited us from Ernest Bevin Academy. This was a special talk about life at Ernest Bevin, the curriculum and discussion around what the school has to offer. The Year 5 and 6 boys really enjoyed the talk and we thank Ernest Bevin Academy for visiting Gorrington Park.

This term my assemblies will focus on people who inspire us. This week the children thought about members of their family, people from the community and celebrities who inspire them. Some of the children named Anne Frank (diarist), Marcus Rashford (footballer), their class teacher, Michael Morpurgo (author) and Rosa Parks (activist). This will be our theme for the rest of the Spring Term.

On Monday our School Council are on a mission! They have decided they want to make sure that children who have packed lunch, have a healthy packed lunch each day. They will be sending a survey home to children about both packed lunches and school dinners and we hope to make improvements, so that lunches are healthy, tasty and enjoyable. The survey will be sent via ParentMail, please complete it so that we can get lots of information about this topic.

Well done to Reece (Y5), Miller (Y5), Cairo (Y5) and Elexandro (Y4) who attended our Governors meeting this week to share their learning, thoughts about our curriculum and their aspirations about the future. They delivered an excellent presentation and we are so proud of their efforts.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Mrs Harris-Coke
Headteacher



Calendar Dates

January 2026

Mon 19th
Thu 22nd
Fri 23rd
Tue 27th
Fri 30th

Year 5 Canada Class Swimming all week
Year 5/6 Pantomime Trip
Brazil Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
Year 3 School Trip
India Class Family Assembly at 9:10am

February 2026

Wed 4th
Fri 6th
Wed 11th
Thu 12th
Fri 13th
Mon 16th—Fri 20th
Fri 27th

Nigeria Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
China Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
Parents' Evening
Parents' Evening
Germany & France Class Family Assembly, 9:10am
HALF TERM BREAK, SCHOOL CLOSED
South Africa Class Family Assembly at 9:10am

March 2026

Tue 3rd
Thu 5th
Wed 11th
Fri 13th
Fri 20th
Mon 23rd
Tue 24th
Tue 24th
Wed 25th
Thu 26th
Fri 27th
Fri 27th

Wales & Scotland Class Family Assembly, 9:10am
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

April 2026

Mon 13th

First day of term

Aspire Awards House Points



London Eye: 69

Big Ben: 43

Tower Bridge: 61

The Shard: 58



Gorrington Park Foodbank -

If you need access to our Gorrington Park Foodbank, please contact the school office. Your message will be treated in the strictest confidence. We want to help our families that need extra support. Please contact us via email or telephone if you need any help at all.

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: Halima and Anna

Wales: Gabriel

Scotland: Akaran

Italy Y1: Affan

Spain Y1: Noorbanu

France Y2: Michael

Germany Y2: Ancel-Shah

South Africa Y3: Alisha

Nigeria Y3: Martin

China Y4: Leo

India Y4: Georgia

Brazil Y5: Desislava

Canada Y5: Cairo

Australia Y6: Akhil

New Zealand: Aarushi



MITCHAM PLAYWAY

Exploring ways to play in the town centre
Workshop series for young people aged 9-16

'Sensory Atlas'
09/01/26
Angeley Studio
CR4 2J
4 pm - 6 pm*

'Play Way Vision'
16/01/26
Mitcham Town
Centre TBC
4 pm - 6 pm*

'Play Way Theatre'
23/01/26
Mitcham Town
Centre TBC
4 pm - 6 pm*

'Open day'
24/01/26
Mitcham Fair
Green
11 am - 3 pm

*The sessions will start at 4 pm, so please arrive a few minutes early

LONDON BOROUGH OF
MERTON
periscope
Attic
Theatre Company

Spring Term PE Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Teacher led PE: England (Morning and full-time children) Year 5 Year 6	PE Coach: Year 5 Year 6	Teacher led PE: Reception Fulham Football Club Coach with the class teacher Year 1 (PM) Year 2 (AM) ARTis (Dance and movement) Year 1 (AM) Year 2 (PM)	PE Coach: Year 3 Year 4	Teacher led PE: England (Afternoon and full-time children) Year 3 Year 4

Year Group Blog - Nursery

This week in Nursery, the children have been busy exploring, creating and using their imaginations. In our construction play, the children used both wooden blocks and soft play blocks to build enclosures and walls. They worked together to plan their ideas, testing different ways to make their structures strong and stable. Using the soft blocks, we built a wall for Humpty Dumpty, before singing the rhyme together and acting it out. The children enjoyed bringing the rhyme to life through movement and role play.

In Literacy, we have been sharing the story Aliens Love Underpants! This fun and engaging story has supported the children's self-care and independence skills while encouraging lots of discussion and laughter. The children have enjoyed the story so much that they've taken their learning outside, listening to different sounds and searching the sky for any signs of alien spaceships!

We have continued practising our nursery rhyme of the week, Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star. The children have confidently joined in with the repetitive phrases and doing the actions.

In Physical Development, we focused on balancing and jumping skills. During our P.E lesson the children practised safely jumping off a bench and landing with two feet on a mat, showing growing confidence, coordination and awareness of how to move their bodies safely.



Year Group Blog - Reception

We have had a fantastic week in Reception this week and we can't wait to share everything we have done. This week we have been rainforest explorer. We have learnt all about what a rainforest or jungle is, where they can be found in the world, what animals you will see and finally what fruits and vegetables we eat that are from the rainforest. It has been fascinating. On our creative table we painting tiger faces using toothbrushes to create the fur, aren't they so cute. In our English reading lessons we read the book The Tiger Who Came to Tea. We had a great time joining in with our favourite phrases, learning about the characters and the problem in the story. Can you believe the greedy tiger ate all the food and drank all the drinks in the house? In our small world area we set up a tea party and even invited our friendly tiger to join us. The children were able to use some of the vocabulary from the book as then played at the tea party. In Maths we have been recapping our understanding of more, fewer and equal amounts. The children have been asked to compare groups and use a full sentence to describe e.g. Sam has more toys than Pat etc. We also looked at equal and how that can mean that two groups have the same amount. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend!



Year Group Blog - Year 1

We have had an extremely busy week in year 1! In our English lessons we have been using time words such as 'next, then and finally' to help us retell our story 'Lost and Found' and have been writing captions to pictures from the story. In our phonics lessons we have been learning the sounds 'ou' in words such as proud and shout and the 'ow' sound in words such as crown and prowl. In Maths we have been exploring ways that we can represent the number 20 using different resources and also consolidating our understanding of the difference between tens and ones. In History we have begun to learn about 'The Great Fire of London' and have found out what happened to the city and why the fire spread so quickly. In Science we have begun to explore the senses on the human body focusing on hearing and taste. In PE we have been exploring rolling the ball to hit a target and understanding how we may change the way we roll depending on distance and size of the target. In Art we are exploring the work of Joseph Turner and how he used blending of watercolours to create different pieces of art work.

A reminder that PE is now on a Wednesday. Reading records should be brought in everyday as well as phonics books so that adults can read with the children within school as well as with you at home.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

Year 2 have had a great week and all of the children have demonstrated their curiosity and love of learning. In maths we have continued to learn about 2D and 3D shapes, covering concepts such as vertices, sides, edges and faces. We have loved going on shape hunts around the school, finding different 2D and 3D shapes in our everyday objects. In English this week we have continued to be entertained by Jim and The Beanstalk and even wrote part of the story from the Giant's perspective. We thought it was fun pretending to be grumpy when talking all about pesky Jack. In PE, Coach Darrell praised us for all of our progress since working with us in Year 1. He was impressed with our super teamwork and ball skills. We loved playing 'Super Mouse' during our PE lesson!

In History we have been learning about timelines and we had to place the explorers that we had been learning about in the correct spot. We have really enjoyed learning about the lives of Sir Francis Drake and Ellen MacArthur.

Year Group Blog - Year 3

This week in English, Year 3 have continued learning about poems. They learned that a stanza is like a paragraph in a story, but in a poem, it is called a stanza. The children then wrote their own poems about being happy. In Maths, the children continued to learn about the links between the 2, 4- and 8-times tables. They also practised finding multiples of 10 and multiplying a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. The children used resources in the classroom to help support their understanding.

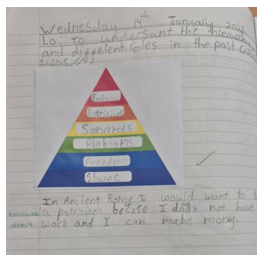
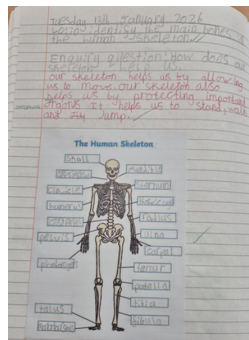
In Science, the children identified the bones in the human skeleton and learned about their functions.

In History, the children learned about the hierarchical roles in Ancient Rome and described the different types of rulers.

In RE, the children learned about Sikhism and what the 5 Ks stand for.

Have a lovely weekend.

The Year 3 Team 😊



Year Group Blog - Year 4

This week, the class worked hard across English, Maths, Reading and Spelling. In English, students used fronted adverbials, subordinate clauses and inverted commas, while reading sessions focused on vocabulary, retrieval and inference skills. Maths lessons covered multiplying 3-digit by 1-digit numbers and dividing 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, supported by daily times-tables practice and weekly spelling sessions exploring homophones such as cereal/serial, check/cheque and through/threw.

Across the wider curriculum, students explored birth rites in different religions, discussed their hopes and dreams in PSHE, and created artwork for World Religion Day with a focus on Hinduism. In Computing, they learned about algorithms, and in Science they built simple series circuits to investigate how electricity lights a bulb. The week finished with PE dance sessions, History lessons on Edward the Confessor and the four contenders to the 1066 throne, times-tables practice, and a celebratory Winning House assembly followed by Writers' Workshop.

Year Group Blog - Year 5

Last week in Year 5 was busy, brilliant and full of surprises, which made every lesson exciting. We learnt lots of new things and had plenty of chances to show our skills.

In English, we explored Firebird by Saviour Pirotta, which is a powerful story full of magic and danger. We practised using relative clauses, which add extra information to our sentences. For example, The Firebird, which was glowing fiercely, guarded the tree. We also wrote in the past tense and used speech marks correctly. "Don't touch the feathers!" the character warned, which helped our writing sound realistic and dramatic. Many of us enjoyed describing the Firebird, whose flames lit up the night sky.

In Maths, we focused on adding mixed numbers, which was tricky at first but became easier with practice. We learnt to add the whole numbers first and then the fractions, which made the method clearer. When fractions added up to more than one whole, we converted them, which made us feel very proud when we got the correct answers.

Our Science lessons were full of investigations. We compared different materials to see how well they conducted heat. We discovered that metal, which allows heat to pass through quickly, is a good conductor, while wood and plastic are insulators. During the experiment, someone said, "Careful, that spoon is hot!" which reminded us why safety is important.

In History, we travelled back to medieval times to learn about the class system. We found out that society was divided into groups, which included peasants, knights and nobles. The king, who lived in a castle, had the most power, while peasants worked hard on the land. It was interesting to see how unfair life could be.

In RE, we studied artefacts from a synagogue, which helped us understand Jewish worship. We looked at items like the Torah and learned why they are treated with great respect. This showed us how artefacts can tell stories about beliefs and traditions.

Finally, Brazil class swimming had its final week, which was exciting and a little sad. We swam with confidence and tried our best.



Year Group Blog - Year 6

This week in Year 6 has been a wonderful blend of creativity, curiosity and challenge, as the children have thrown themselves enthusiastically into all areas of their learning.

In Maths, the children have been consolidating their understanding of ratio. Building on this, the class has now taken its first steps into the fascinating world of algebra. Using function machines, the children have been discovering how input-output rules can be described using simple expressions. This early introduction has helped them view algebra not as something mysterious, but as a logical extension of number work. Their confidence has grown lesson by lesson, and many have shown excellent reasoning as they predict and explain the rules behind each machine.

In English, we have continued our journey through 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. The children have been deeply engaged with the world of Narnia and have used it as inspiration for their own descriptive writing. After exploring the emotional impact of Mr Tumnus' disappearance, the children imagined what his cave might have looked like after he had been taken by the White Witch. They produced vivid descriptions using figurative language, including powerful similes and metaphors that brought the abandoned cave to life. Later in the week, the focus shifted to writing direct speech, specifically a conversation between Aslan and Edmund when Edmund returns from the White Witch. The children worked hard to use accurate punctuation while including a variety of reporting clauses and adverbs to convey emotion, tone and character. Their writing has shown real maturity and empathy, and we are incredibly proud of their progress.

In RE, our focus has been the story of Moses. After learning about the key events of his life—from his rescue as a baby to leading the Israelites out of Egypt—the children created detailed storyboards to show their understanding. They particularly enjoyed discussing the significance of the Ten Commandments and then worked together to create a thoughtful set of Ten School Rules inspired by them, reflecting what they believe makes a safe, respectful and caring school community.

In Science, the children continued learning about the human body, revisiting last week's work on the circulatory system. They then explored the structure and function of the heart in more detail, learning how its chambers and valves work together to pump blood around the body.

Well done for another brilliant week Year 6!