

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,

Earlier this week some of the children from our amazing choir were asked to sing at Age UK in Mitcham. This was a lovely event and very special for the visitors who were there. The children sang a medley of carols, such as Silent Night, Away in a Manager and the 12 Days of Christmas. Both children and visitors sang their hearts out and a great time was had by all. This was a mini concert before they had their Christmas dinner. If you would like to get involved with Age UK please visit their website: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/>.

Thank you France class for your lovely assembly this morning. It was wonderful to see all of your learning about different materials in Science, rhythms in Bamboo Tamboo and algorithms in computing. We also really loved your singing of 'You can Count on Me'!

We look forward to seeing lots of parents at our nativity next week.

Mon 8th	Early Years Nativity Christmas Sing-a-long at 9:00am and 2:15pm
Tue 9th	Year 1-6 School nativity for group 1 at 9:10am (Spain, France, South Africa, China, Canada, New Zealand and Australia)
Tue 9th	Year 1-6 School nativity for group 2 at 2:15pm (Italy, Germany, Nigeria, India, Brazil, New Zealand, Australia)

Please check the newsletter and the website for updated events, dates and times.

Thank you to the parents who joined us on Monday for our Reading Together morning it was lovely to see you joining in class activities and reading with your children.

We are all looking forward to our Christmas Fair on Friday that will take place from 3:30pm until 5:30pm. If you would like to help out at the fair please email the School Office for the attention of Victoria Ratcliffe who is the chair of the Friends of Gorrington Park.



I hope you all have a wonderful weekend,
Mrs Harris-Coke, Headteacher

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

Calendar Dates

December 2025

Mon 8th	Early Years Nativity Christmas Sing-a-long at 9:00am and 2:15pm
Tue 9th	Year 1-6 School nativity for group 1 at 9:10am (Spain, France, South Africa, China, Canada, New Zealand and Australia)
Tue 9th	Year 1-6 School nativity for group 2 at 2:15pm (Italy, Germany, Nigeria, India, Brazil, New Zealand, Australia)
Thu 11th	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas School Meal
Thu 11th	Italy Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
Fri 12th	Christmas Fair after school: 3:30pm - 5:30pm
Mon 15th	Christmas Carols outside school from 8:35am
Wed 17th	Class Disco PM
Thu 18th	Film Matinee PM
Tue 18th	Christmas Concert for children having lessons in school
Fri 19th	School finishes at 1:00pm - no afternoon nursery
Fri 19th	No Penguin Club after school club tonight

January 2026

Mon 5th	INSET Day, school closed to all pupils
Tue 6th	School open as usual, Spring Term begins

FREE London City Lionesses football tickets!



We have been given a link for **free** tickets for the Women's Super League home game between London City Lionesses versus Brighton and Hove Albion for this Sunday, 7th December.

Location: The CopperJax Community Stadium, Hayes Lane, Bromley

Date: Sunday 7th December

Time: Kick Off at 12:00pm

The link for the tickets:

<https://www.eticketing.co.uk/londoncitylionesses/EDP/Event/Index/25?position=2>

The code for free tickets is: **BHFCBROM**

The code is all capital letters and the 0 is the number zero.

Stars of the week

For: Mandarin

Nursery: Arabella and Fayha

Scotland: Athish

Wales: Kiuksha

Italy Y1: Giannis

Spain Y1: Isabella

France Y2: Wren

Germany Y2: Levi

South Africa Y3: Sara

Nigeria Y3: Hussain

China Y4: Varush

India Y4: Emma

Brazil Y5: Michaela

Canada Y5: Amira

Australia Y6: Riyah

New Zealand Y6: Maya



We are still collecting empty 6 space egg boxes. Thank you so much for all the ones we have received so far! Please leave any empty boxes at the school office. That would be eggs-cellent, thank you! Miss Wright :)



Aspire Awards House Points



London Eye: 40

Big Ben: 44

Tower Bridge: 63

The Shard: 30



oneplusone Service

Parents in Merton can access these free sessions with Jigsaw4u facilitating the relationship expertise of OnePlusOne parenting programmes. Learn to cope with stress and communicate better, wherever you are in your parenting journey.

Session Information:

- Me, You and Baby Too** – Learn how to navigate the changes that happen in a relationship when a baby arrives.
- Arguing Better** – Disagreements are a normal part of life. How you approach them can make all the difference to you, your partner, and your children. Learn how to manage difficult conversations, avoid conflict, and improve things for your whole family.
- Getting it Right for Children** – When parents are separating or separated, children can often get caught in the middle. Develop positive communication skills, so that you can sort out disagreements and find solutions together.

Jigsaw4u oneplusone Service-Area

Merton

Operates across Merton

Complete our Referral Form
Secure your place

Please note: There are limited spaces available across all six sessions we will be providing. To secure your place, complete our form (scan the QR code) to the right-hand side as soon as you can.

jigsaw4u.org.uk

Helping put the pieces back together

Tuesday 6:30PM
Gorrington Park Primary
WhatsApp 07702587799

READY FOR ZUMBA® CLASS?

All Welcome

Zumba Classes at Gorrington Park

Classes are on a Tuesday (term-time only)
6:30pm at the School Sports Hall
Contact number 07702587799

Year Group Blog - Nursery

This week in Nursery we've been talking all about how to be a kind friend. The children have been practising simple social phrases to use with one another and thinking about the little actions that show kindness, such as helping, sharing and inviting others to play. It's been lovely watching them use these ideas in their interactions throughout the day.

We've also been learning about the story of Christmas. The children have been getting to know the nativity story and the special people Christians believe are important at this time of year. To help bring it to life, we set up a small world nativity scene so the children could act out the story, retell the events and explore the characters in their play.

In Maths the children have been exploring shape. They enjoyed using large construction resources such as soft blocks, planks, crates and tyres to build large scale obstacle courses. They also enjoyed exploring more complex jigsaws. They persevered with focusing on the shape of each piece to see if it would fit in the slot.

A real highlight of the week was a special visit from one of our parents, who is a doctor. She brought in some of her medical instruments, showed the children how they are used and talked about her job and how she helps people in the community. The children were fascinated and asked brilliant questions. They loved using the stethoscope and blood pressure monitor!



Year Group Blog - Reception

This week has been very busy for everyone in Reception. Our main learning was all about common routines that we might follow through the day. We first sorted known routines like tooth brushing, getting dressed for school, changing into pyjamas and getting reading for dinner into things we do in the morning or at night. We then looked at the steps we follow to two common routines, getting changed for PE and brushing our teeth. We also discussed how important it was to brush our teeth at least twice a day and why we must visit the dentist to get our teeth checked. One of the areas that a lot of us enjoyed playing in this week was the dentist office, this gave them a chance to roleplay caring for our teeth and sequence the steps we take to brush them. In the water tray we helped to look after the babies and give them a bath and carefully brush their teeth. In phonics this week we learnt the new sounds k and l we used these sounds and other sounds we have learnt to build the words kit, kid, Ken, kip, leg, lot, lid and let. In the construction area we used building blocks to build some cvc words with code we have learnt so far. In Maths we have been looking at ordering numbers from 1 to 5 and having that understanding that each number is one more than the previous one. We did this through building towers using bricks, cubes and paper squares. This week we have also been hard at work practising our nativity, we look forward to sharing it with you all next week. Have a great weekend!



Year Group Blog - Year 1

This week in English we have been introduced our new key text 'The Odd Egg'. We began the week predicting what would be inside our egg and discussing different types of animals that lay eggs. We finished the week by describing the different types of eggs that animals lay and reading our story for the first time. In Maths we have been revisiting 2d and 3d shapes. We have been going on a shape hunt to locate them around the building and recognising the features of the different shapes. In Science we have been attempting to change the shapes of different objects and understanding what materials we can adapt such as plastic. In Geography we have begun exploring maps from a birds eye view. We looked at a map of our local area and added physical and human features that are close to us such as a shop, a field and a factory. In DT we have been designing a den for the animals and discussing what materials we will need to keep it safe.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

Well done to all of our wonderful Year 2 children for another brilliant week! This week, we were introduced to our new book, *Wolves* by Emily Gravett. The children were immediately engaged and really enjoyed discussing the story, making predictions, and sharing what they already know about wolves. In English, we have been focusing on using full stops correctly. The children have worked hard to identify where sentences end and to apply this in their own writing. We also began writing our own technical descriptions about wolves, and Year 2 impressed us with their growing vocabulary and interesting facts. A big well done to France Class for their super class assembly—they spoke clearly, performed confidently, and made us all very proud. We have also started to get into the Christmas spirit. The children have enjoyed practising their nativity songs, and they are already sounding great! It has been a busy and enjoyable week filled with great effort and enthusiasm. We are very proud of all the Year 2 children—keep up the excellent work!

Year Group Blog - Year 3

This week, Year 3 have been busy across all our subjects!

In English, the children wrote their own fact files about the prehistoric dodo bird. They used lots of factual language to make their writing detailed and interesting. In Maths, the children learned how to make and add equal groups, worked with arrays, and practised recognising multiples of 2. In Science, the class explored how fossils are formed from the dead remains of organisms, learning each step of the fossilisation process. In Geography, the children discovered the different ways land can be used, from farming and housing to recreation and industry.

What a fantastic week of learning!

Have a great weekend.

The Year 3 Team

Year Group Blog - Year 4

We have learnt so much in Year 4 this week. In English we have been focusing on our new text 'Ellie and the Cat' by Malorie Blackman. We have been using subordinating conjunctions and have used adverbials in our writing. In Maths we multiplied by 1 and 0 and had some great class discussions about the rules. In Science we learnt more about sound and how it travels. Having learnt about how the ear works from last week, we investigated how sound travels through vibration. We enjoyed communicating and listening to each other through paper cups and string. In PSHE we discussed how we are all special and what compliments are. We are making great progress with our hockey skills and we used wooden sticks for the first time and learnt how to dribble and pass. In Geography, we looked at the differences between physical and political maps using atlases. We are practicing for our Christmas Nativity which promises to be an amazing production. Enjoy your weekend!

Year Group Blog - Year 5

This week in Maths, children have been learning to find equivalent fraction using common factors. They have learned the difference between improper fraction and mixed number fraction. They have been using visuals and division to convert improper fractions to a mixed number fraction. We started our English lesson with an exciting hook lesson based on the book called "The man who walked between the towers". There was intense music in the background, we tied a string across the classroom and had a silhouette of a man standing on the string. This caused a lot of excitement and discussion in the class. Children showed curiosity and asked question about the story and made good predictions. As the week went, children learned more about Philippe Petite, who in 1974 walked between the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre in New York. Children are learning the difference between direct and indirect speech which they will use when they write a newspaper article about the event that took place in 1974.

In Science, children were keen to know why we have seasons, they were able to identify that the As the Earth orbits the sun, its axis remains tilted in the same direction. This means that for part of the year, the Northern Hemisphere is tilted toward the sun, while for the other part, it is tilted away. In Geography this week, children amazed to learn about the different times and that some countries have more than one time zones. They used a map and the knowledge of GMT to work out how many hours ahead or behind another city is in comparison to London.

Year Group Blog - Year 6

We have had another lovely week in Year 6 this week especially have we have begun all of our Christmas festivities!

Within our Reading and English lessons, Year 6 have looked at our new focus text 'Children of the Benin Kingdom' by Dinah Orji. We have learnt about the first few characters from the book: Ada, Papa Eze, Mama Ginika and Mbe. The children looked at answering questions about the author's choice in language. They had to make careful considerations and back up their answer with evidence from the text. We looked at using commas to indicate parenthesis, figurative language and expanded noun phrases to add more detail to their writing. The children then used their knowledge to write some paragraphs describing Ada entering the rainforest, how she would be feeling as well as what she might have seen, heard and smelt.

The children have demonstrated a fantastic understanding in Maths this week. We have looked at multiplying and dividing fractions by fractions and integers. We also applied our knowledge to answer questions involving mixed numbers. It is lovely to see the children gaining in confidence with answering questions involving fractions.

On Monday and Wednesday this week, the children continued to take part in their online Maths tutoring and have continued to build their confidence with the key mathematical concepts. We have also continued to work through our CGP books as part of our SATS booster session with particular focus around reading comprehension and punctuation and grammar.

In Science, the children have explored why shadows are the same shape as an object. The children created their own shadow puppets in order to take part in our scientific investigation. They were able to see that a shadow is made when an object blocks light and it appears on the side of the object furthest from the light source. They also found out that a shadow is always the same shape as the object that casts it. This is because when an object is in the path of light travelling from a light source, it will block the light rays that hit it while the rest of the light can continue travelling. Therefore, the shadow it casts is exactly the same shape.

As we draw closer to Christmas, we have begun to decorate our classrooms. The children worked on decorating one of the items from the song 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'. New Zealand were tasked with the 'seven swans are swimming' whereas Australia created 'two turtle doves'. The children love spending the time on making these, especially as they were able to use glitter!

Well done to all our Year 6 pupils for another super week!