

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 are fast approaching the end of term. Please keep an eye on the school newsletter and the dates that have been sent to you today for all the events that we are having in school. Tickets for various events will be available on ParentMail next week.

Well done to South Africa class for their terrific assembly this morning. It was lovely to see all the hard work that has taken place. Well done to all the children in South Africa class, Miss Ramsey, Mrs Lowe and Mrs Pandya.

On Monday 1st December we will have a Reading Together morning for Years 1-6. We encourage parents to come and read with their children and to take part in any class activities around reading comprehension. Please remember when joining us, your mobile phones must be turned off and kept in your bag or pocket. This is to safeguard all the children at Gorrington Park Primary School.

On Tuesday 2nd December some of the pupils from our School Choir will be going to sing at Age UK in Mitcham. If your child has been selected and you are able to support us on this trip, please contact the School Office.

Just a reminder for anyone with younger children (born between 1st April 2023 and 31st March 2024), the Merton nursery application deadline is November 30th. Applications submitted after the deadline are considered late and may result in a lower chance of being offered a place. Families can apply online through the [Merton Council website](#).

Thank you to Vicky and the Friends of Gorrington Park for their amazing efforts after school today selling second hand uniform and Bric-a-Brac to raise funds for the school's planned Trim Trail. If you would like to get involved with the Friends of Gorrington Park, please contact Vicky via the School Office, we'd love to have you onboard.

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 1st	Reading Together Morning Years 1-6 at 9:00am
Fri 5th	France Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
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
Thu 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

Merton Sports Leadership Day 27th November

On Thursday Year 5 welcomed in 2 members of the Merton Sports Partnership team to take part in a sports leader training day. During the morning session they took part in practical activities led by Merton sports and also took part in a theory lesson in how to make sure that they could lead an activity successfully and organise clubs and sessions for other children in the school. They had to write letters to Mr Pett and Mrs Harris-Coke explaining why they would make good sports leaders and why they would be good role models for the rest of the school.

During the afternoon they had an opportunity to showcase what they had learned by leading year 1 and year 3 in a variety of activities. The children were extremely confident and had to use excellent team work and communication skills to explain what the younger children had to do and were encouraging and enthusiastic when guiding their peers. We hope to see the children leading clubs at lunchtime and encouraging all the children to get more active around school.



Stars of the week

For: PE



Nursery: Carlos and Tianny



Scotland: Malak



Wales: Tommy



Italy Y1: Taqwa



Spain Y1: Eden



France Y2: Aariyan



Germany Y2: Kyan



South Africa Y3: Dimitar



Nigeria Y3: Hristiyan

China Y4: Elena

India Y4: Cisco

Brazil Y5: Hubert

Canada Y5: Kaveen

Australia Y6: Rafael

New Zealand Y6: Mohamed






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



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

As part of our maths teaching we are collecting empty 6 space egg boxes. Please leave any empty boxes at the school office. That would be egg-cellent, thank you!



Thank you for your kind donations to BBC Children in Need via our Wear Spots Day on Friday of last week. We raised £175.30 which will go towards supporting children and young people struggling with challenges caused by mental health, poverty, social inequality and family-related issues.



Aspire Awards House Points



London Eye: 51

Big Ben: 50

Tower Bridge: 38

The Shard: 34




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

Nursery has been full of celebration, imagination and festive excitement! Our theme was birthdays, and the children explored this in lots of fun hands-on ways. In the water tray, we created a cosy hot chocolate station. The children carefully counted numbers from one to three and then used tweezers to count out the correct number of "marshmallow" cubes. This gave them a wonderful chance to strengthen their fine motor skills while building early number knowledge.

At the creative table, the children continued this learning by rolling playdough candles for birthday cakes. After rolling a dice, they used their fingers to shape the right number of candles and place them on their cakes. This activity helped develop counting, coordination and independence.

Christmas also arrived early in our classroom! Our lovely playhouse has transformed into a Christmas grotto, and the children have been very busy writing what gifts they would like for Christmas. Their excitement and imagination have filled the room with festive cheer.

Out in the garden, we opened our very own fruit shop. The children chose and wrote their favourite fruits before using real fruit in the role-play shop. They loved pretending to buy and sell items, building language, early writing and social skills through play.



Year Group Blog - Reception

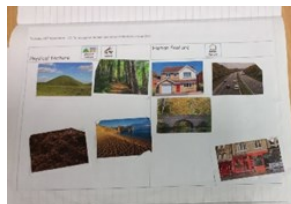
This week in Reception we continued our theme of night and day. We started our week learning about what hibernation is, and which animals may hibernate in the UK as the weather is getting colder. In our roleplay area we had lots of different spaces to hibernate in using different animal puppets. Later in the week we discussed what changes we have noticed in the change from Autumn to Winter and what you might do to keep warm. Inside and outside in our construction area we were able to use different materials to make nests for different animals and birds. We thought carefully what we could use to make it warm and cosy but still sturdy. During reading we learnt the meaning of four new words; trunk, hunting, brave and swooped. In Maths we have been looking at making the numbers from one to five using different resources like cubes, spots and cones. We have also been practicing our songs for the nativity, we are excited to invite you to our show very soon. Please remember as the weather is getting colder to bring gloves, hats and scarves. Have a wonderful weekend everyone!



Year Group Blog - Year 1

This week in English we have been practicing using verbs in our sentence and ending words with the suffix 'ing'. We have written observational pieces about a picture of a jungle and have been describing what the animals are doing. In maths we have been consolidating our knowledge of different mathematical

vocabulary and whether this means we are adding, subtracting or comparing. In phonics we are continuing to practice reading and writing words with the sounds 'ay' 'ai' 'a' and 'ea' in. In computing we are learning how to programme robots with specific codes and understanding how we make them change direction. In Geography we have learned the difference between a human feature such as a building and a physical feature such as a river or mountain. In PSHE we discussed how we are all unique and different from each other and understanding that being different from our friends is okay. In PE we were creating sequences using a combination of jumps and balancing poses.



Year Group Blog - Year 2

Year 2 have been working really hard this week! This week in Maths, the children have been practising addition and subtraction and completed an assessment to show what they have learnt. In English, we continued our Goldilocks project, focusing on using conjunctions. The children also wrote their own endings to the story from the perspective of Baby Bear, showcasing creativity and great imagination. In Science, we carried out a whole-class experiment to explore how a toy car moves across different materials, helping the children understand friction and fair testing. During Geography, the children learned to describe a town using both human and physical features. In RE, the class explored Arabic calligraphy and learned that the Qur'an is written in Arabic as part of our work on sacred texts. In DT, the children began designing their own healthy school meal, thinking carefully about nutrition and balanced choices. Our Phonics focus this week was the /ow/ sound, exploring the different ways it can be written: ou, ow and ough. In PSHE, we discussed stereotypes and celebrated that all children should feel free to enjoy any hobby they choose, without it being linked to a particular gender.

Year Group Blog - Year 3

This week in English, the children wrote fantastic fact files about the *dodo bird*. They included key language features and important elements of a fact file, such as titles, headings, subheadings and interesting facts. We were very impressed with their amazing work! In Maths, the children learned how to use the inverse to check whether their answers were correct. They also started a new topic on multiplication, exploring and describing equal groups. In Science, the children investigated different types of rocks. They described their properties and even tested their hardness. In RE, the children learned about different text types found in the Bible, including proverbs, psalms and songs. In DT, the children enjoyed designing their own healthy sandwiches. In Geography, the children identified the key features of the countries that make up the UK.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Year Group Blog - Year 4

In Year four this week we have been busy with assessments and have worked really hard. In Maths we have continued to focus on multiplication and division facts. We are really trying to earn our times tables badges and are proud to wear them when we achieve our goals. We consolidated our knowledge of the 7x table, the 11x table and answering reasoning questions. In English we have been learning about reading aloud effectively (Prosody). We have also been dissecting text and revisiting what a paragraph is. Our new approach to spellings has had a great impact and we have enjoyed learning polysyllabic words. In Science we are learning about sound and how our ears receive sound through vibration. In Design and Technology we constructed food packaging using nets. It was great fun! In RE we have continued to justify if Jesus' miracles were genuine or questionable. We had respectful and interesting discussions. In Sport we are really gaining in confidence with our hockey skills and we are making great progress. It has been a busy and productive week. We hope you have a lovely weekend with family and friends.

Year Group Blog - Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic week. On Thursday, children took part in Merton Sport leadership training. They learned how to play games, learned the definition of key vocabulary linked to leadership role, planned and led PE activities with year 1 and year 3. In addition, children wrote a letter to the headteacher expressing why they would be a good sports leader.

Children really enjoyed taking on sport leaders' role and some children demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and collaboration. It was a fantastic day for the children.

In Maths, Year 5 have been learning to find equivalent fractions using concrete material. This week in science, children learned why we have day and night. To help them understand how we have day and night, we used a torch (sun) and shone light on the globe (Earth) and spun it on its axis to see what happens when the Earth faces the sun and what happens when it faces away from the sun. During English, children enjoyed using a video stimulus to write a short narrative using lots of descriptive language. In RE, they learned about religious practise in Islam and compared it to Christianity.



Year Group Blog - Year 6

The children have shown our school value of perseverance this week as they have completed their assessment papers this week. The children were able to apply what they had learnt so far this year to a range of questions. We are so proud of how hard the children have worked and they have demonstrated resilience when tackling the more complex problem solving or inference questions.

The children also wrote a story about a dog called Winston based on the Disney short 'Feast'. They loved the short film about a dog who loved eating junk food. They felt a wide variety of emotions throughout the story due to the events that unfolded. The children then had the opportunity to showcase their fantastic writing skills when they wrote the story of Winston in their own words.

Within our Reading and English lessons, Year 6 have looked at answering SATS style comprehension questions. We spent a long time discussing the amount of detailed needed in our answers and looking for evidence in the text to support our answers. The children have also focused on using different past tenses and were able to write a day in school using a combination of simple past tense, past progressive tense and past perfect tense. Later in the week, the children also used subordinate clauses and understand that these start with a subordinate conjunction.

On Monday and Wednesday this week, the children continued to take part in their online Maths tutoring and are already making great progress. They are beginning to feel more confident 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. We discussed what a determiner was and its role within a sentence.

Throughout the week, some of the children have been taking part in top-up swimming lessons. They have had to preserve and listen carefully to their swimming teachers in order to gain more confidence in the water. They have made brilliant progress and we hope they continue to go swimming regularly as it is such an important life skill.

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