

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,

I'd like to thank our Eco Council who led assembly on Monday 13th November and reminded us how we should be looking after our planet. We watched video clips and listened to the children tell us how precious our planet is and what we can do to help preserve it. Thank you to our Eco Councillors, Miss Harris and Mrs Rogerson for their hard work.

Today in assembly, China class shared with us their learning this term. They sang songs about grammar and the water cycle. Their poetry was fab too. Well done to all of the children in China Class, Miss Zia and Miss Young. A huge thanks to parents that came out to watch their children for their family assembly.

Children and staff wore spots to raise money for Children in Need Day today. Thank you for your kind donations. These funds will go to BBC Children in Need who will use them to support children and young people struggling with challenges caused by mental health, poverty, social inequality and family-related issues.

Our Year 6 children returned from their Residential beaming with pride and excitement. Many overcame fears of water and heights and took part in activities that they will never forget. We are planning for our current Year 5 pupils to attend next year. Parents of this Year group, please look out for further information via ParentMail shortly.



I hope you all have a lovely 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

November 2025

Fri 28th

South Africa Family Assembly at 9:10am

December 2025

Mon 1st

Reading Together Morning Years 2-6 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 8:30am

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

As many of you know, Jamaica has recently been struck by a powerful Category 5 hurricane — the strongest to hit the island since records began, leaving countless families in urgent need of support. Many have been left without power, clean water, or essential supplies. Our thoughts are with everyone affected.

The London Borough of Merton Race Equality Network (REN) We're partnering with **Jamaica National Group** and **Brixton Soup Kitchen** to collect essential items that will be sent directly to those impacted.

How you can help

We are collecting the following items for donation:

Essentials (by Friday 12 December, 5pm)

Books, notepads, pens, toiletries (for men, women and children), baby items, clothes, first aid kits, masks, disposable gloves, bedding (including sheets, duvets, duvet covers, pillows and pillowcases), and heavy-duty bin bags.

If you'd like to donate, please email REN@merton.gov.uk and they'll share details of the collection point in the Civic Centre.

If you'd prefer to give financially, you can make a secure donation through the [official Jamaican Government relief website](https://www.jamaicanrelief.org/).

You may also choose to purchase items from the [Croydon BME Forum's Amazon relief list](https://www.croydonbme.org.uk/), which will be distributed to support communities in Jamaica.

Every contribution — big or small, will make a real difference to families rebuilding their lives. Join us in standing with communities in Jamaica during this time of need.

Thank you in advance for your compassion and generosity,

The REN Committee



Stars of the week

For: Computing

Nursery: Maksym and Seth

Scotland: Zeemal

Wales: Krystian

Italy Y1: Ricky

Spain Y1: Elvira

France Y2: Hassan

Germany Y2: Royal

South Africa Y3: Kaison

Nigeria Y3: Kayden

China Y4: Elexandro

India Y4: Eshaal

Brazil Y5: Hamda

Canada Y5: Petar

Australia Y6: Maiyra

New Zealand Y6: Imran



FREE STREET CRICKET

WHEN:
Wednesdays
4-5pm - Under 10s
5-6pm - Under 15s

WHERE:
Tooting Leisure Centre
Greaves Pl
London
SW17 0NE

All abilities welcome
Wear what you want
Make new friends
No equipment needed
Explosive action

ONLINE PARENT/CARER WEBINARS

Jointly run by Off The Record and Croydon Drop In

Join us online for the following free workshops. Sign up via Eventbrite by scanning the QR code below. Cameras and microphones can be turned off.



Supporting your Child with Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance (EBSNA)

Tuesday 11th November 2025 at 1:30pm

Helping your Child with Anxiety and Worries

Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 1:30pm

Helping your Child with Behaviours that Challenge (Primary age)

Tuesday 25th November 2025 at 1:30pm

Introduction to Neurodivergence

Tuesday 2nd December 2025 at 1:30pm

Supporting your Young Person with Low Mood

Tuesday 9th December 2025 at 1:30pm




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



TALK TO US

OFF THE RECORD



Are you OK Croydon?



You Talk, We Listen Croydon Drop In

Aspire Awards House Points

London Eye: 76

Big Ben: 82

Tower Bridge: 72

The Shard: 52



Year Group Blog - Nursery

This week we explored the festival of Diwali, learning that it is a celebration of light, joy and togetherness. The children enjoyed looking at colourful patterns, lamps and stories that helped them understand why this festival is special to many families. We then made our own Rangoli patterns using pasta, rice and pipe cleaners.



In PSHE, we talked about the many different types of families and the people who are important to us. The children drew their own families, using early mark-making to show their ideas and talk about who they love.



During P.E, we took part in our "Big Brave Write" session. The children used large sheets of paper to draw and create big rainbow patterns, helping to strengthen their core, shoulder and arm muscles through purposeful movement — and they had a brilliant time doing it!



Out in the garden, we had an exciting delivery of soft blocks. The children were quick to explore them, working together to build walls, enclosures and imaginative structures.



Year Group Blog - Reception

This week in Reception we have been learning all about day and night. We started off the week by comparing our day and night pictures too see what is different. The children used wonderful vocabulary such as dark, light, bright, morning and sunny. We have been enjoying the story 'Owl babies' to link to our topic and the children have loved retelling the story in the role play area with the puppets. They have been using language of big and little to describe the owls and their mother.



For maths this week, we have been practicing counting objects one to one and subitising up to 5. The children have been great at explaining that when you count you need to stop at your stopping number or you will have too many! We have had great fun playing track games, counting skittles and building towers all whilst counting how many we need.



To celebrate children in need we have been getting spotty! The children loved decorating our spotty leaves with spotty stickers to develop their fine motor skills. We have made patterns, shapes and even pictures on our leaves just using spots! It has been great to see them using such kinds words with each other to help when they need it.



As the weather is getting colder please ensure your child comes to school in appropriate clothes for all weathers so they can still access the garden during these wetter months. Please ensure names are written in all gloves, hats and scarves so we can prevent any loss. Have a wonderful weekend! From the Reception Team.



Year Group Blog - Year 1

This week in English we have been adapting our story to create the book "farm baby". We have written sentences about what we could see, hear and smell on a farm and have begun to up level our sentences using verbs and adjectives. In phonics we have been consolidating the sounds ay (play), ai (rain), a (cake) and ea (break). In Maths we have been using a number line to help us with our subtraction. We are focusing on counting back the correct amount to find the answer to our number sentences. In Geography we have learned about the 4 countries that make up the United Kingdom and where they are located on a map. We have also learned that we live in the capital city of England. In science we have been testing the flexibility of ourselves and objects and what materials are the best for making these. In computing we have begun to explore inputting algorithms into cars and bee bots to help them move around an area. We have used our knowledge of direction and code from last weeks lesson to find locations around the classroom and hall. In music we have begun to learn the songs that we will be singing in the Christmas nativity at the end of term. Ms Lowe has been teaching us the actions and lyrics we will be performing.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

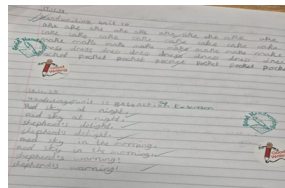
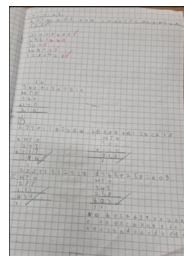
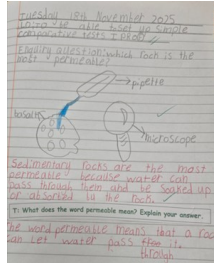
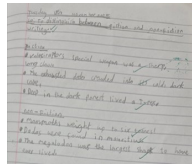
What a busy week! This term, Year 2 have been diving into the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears—but with a twist! The children explored different adaptations of the tale from two authors Lauren Child and Anthony Browne. even rewrote the story from another character's perspective. They used conjunctions, apostrophes, and time words such as first, next, after that, and finally to make their sentences exciting and clear. The highlight of the unit was creating their very own class book, filled with imaginative retellings and colourful illustrations. Year 2 also stepped into the shoes of Daddy Bear, writing a police report to recount exactly what happened on the day Goldilocks entered their home. In maths, Year 2 have been super busy using clever strategies to make adding and subtracting easier. They used tens frames, number bonds to 10, part-whole models, and counters to solve calculations more confidently. In RE, Miss Kabir introduced the class to the Qur'an, an important Islamic sacred text. The children learned that people read the Qur'an in different countries around the world, including Germany and France. In Geography Year 2 practised using compasses and learning the four main directions: North, South, East, and West. In DT, the children tried a variety of foods, investigating whether they smelled good, tasted nice, or had interesting textures. In PSHE they explored stereotypes and discussed why boys and girls should be treated the same. They then created shields showing similarities between themselves and their partners. Lastly in science, the children explored everyday materials and used a torch to test whether plastic, metal, wood, and glass were transparent, opaque, or translucent and recorded their findings! Well done Year 2 we are so proud of you!

Year Group Blog - Year 3

This week, the children have begun exploring our new class book, *Lost Species*. They learned about the difference between fiction and non-fiction and discovered fascinating facts about prehistoric animals, including the Megalodon, which was around 20 metres long and had a mouth that could open up to 2 metres wide! The children even took part in a practical activity to help them understand just how enormous this creature was. In Maths, the children have been learning how to add and subtract two numbers when crossing a boundary.

In Geography, they practised using 4-figure grid references to locate and describe different places. In Science, the children carried out an investigation to find out which type of rock is the most permeable. They discovered that sedimentary rock absorbed the most water and was therefore the most permeable. In RE, the children identified and compared different books of the Bible and their authors.

Finally, in DT, they taste-tested a range of ingredients in preparation for designing and making a healthy sandwich.



Year Group Blog - Year 4

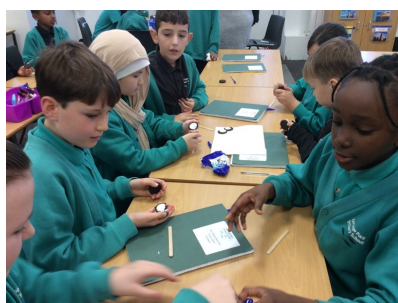
We have had a very busy and productive week in Year Four. We have been working on poetry using our book 'The Matchbox Diary'. In Maths, we are working really hard to improve our times tables. At Gorrington Park we have invested in a great initiative to encourage the children to perfect their knowledge of times tables. The children are encouraged to do as much practice as possible and when they are fluent in a times table, they earn a badge which they are really proud of. Also, the children can practice at home on 'Times Table Rock Stars'. In Geography we used atlases to find different countries in the Americas. It was fun searching for different places and finding out more about the countries using iPads. In RE we discussed what a miracle is and how Jesus was able to perform them. In Sport, we are continuing to learn new hockey skills and are getting really good at passing to each other and dribbling. We are busy learning Christmas songs for our annual Nativity and look forward to seeing you all there on 9th December to celebrate the festive season. We hope you have a lovely (and cold!) weekend with family and friends.

Year Group Blog - Year 5

In maths, Year 5 have been strengthening their problem-solving skills by working with multiples of 10, 100, and 1,000. They explored number patterns, practised quick mental strategies, and tackled real-life style problems that helped them understand how numbers grow and change. Everyone showed great determination, and the class is becoming much more confident with larger numbers. During the week, children planned and wrote diary entries as one of the women from Hidden Figures.

Our geography lessons this week focused on settlements. Year 5 learned the differences between hamlets, villages, towns, and cities, and how each one fits into a settlement hierarchy. The children enjoyed placing different settlements in order from smallest to largest and discussing what types of services each one might have. They showed excellent teamwork and great curiosity about how communities develop.

This week in science, children learned about the phases of the Moon. To help them understand how the Moon changes shape in the sky, the children used **Oreos** to model each phase, from the new moon to the full moon and everything in between!



Year Group Blog - Year 6

Within our Reading and English lessons, Year 6 have continued to look at the text 'Darwin's Voyage of Discover' written by Jake Williams. We have looked at the definitions of new unfamiliar, technical vocabulary from the text such as propel, consulted and cramped. We then looked at writing relative clauses and using both simple past tense and past progressive tense in their writing. We then worked as a class to plan and create a newspaper article about Darwin's discovery about the peculiar and fascinating behaviours of the common cuttlefish. We analysed a few newspaper articles and ensured that we included the features in our own newspaper.

In Maths, we have been looking at fractions. The children have had to grasp adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators, converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers as well as applying this knowledge to answer multi-step problems. They have had to use their times table knowledge to identify the lowest common multiple and find the equivalent fractions.

On Monday and Thursday this week the children have begun to take part with some online Maths tutoring which recaps a wide range of Mathematical concepts and tailors the questions to each child. We have also begun to work through our CGP books as part of our SATS booster session with particular focus around reading comprehension and punctuation and grammar.

On Friday afternoon, New Zealand class walked to the local library to see what resources are available and to spend some time quietly reading there. The children had great fun and spotted some lovely books that they would like to read.

In Australia class' Science lessons, the children learnt about how we see objects as well as how the eye works. They took part in an experiment that helped to develop their understanding of how we see objects. The children also labelled the parts of the eye and learnt what the word 'refract' means.

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