

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 was lovely to see so many of you at Parents' Evening this week. It was a good time for parents to meet with their children's new teachers, review the learning that has taken place so far this term and to discuss targets set for the coming year.

On Monday 10th November, we will have our Reading Together morning for Years 1—6 from 9:00am until 9:30am. If you are available please come and read with your child or a group of children. We look forward to seeing you then.

Our Scholastic Book Fair was a great success and the school will be able to purchase discounted books for each class following this sale.

Year 4 visited the Polka Theatre today and had the opportunity to watch 'Dweeb-a-Mania'. The children had a great time and enjoyed the experience.

Next week is the start of Anti-Bullying week and throughout the week children will discuss in their classes about bullying and how it can be prevented. To start the week, children are able to wear odd-socks on Monday 10th November. This is to raise awareness around Anti-Bullying and respecting one another. The theme for Anti-Bullying week this year is 'Power for Good'.

Many of you may have seen the devastation that has affected Jamaica due to hurricane Melissa. This is a challenging time for many families and may have also affected some of our local community. We will send further information next week as to how our school community can help families in Jamaica.

Next week some of our Year 6 pupils will be going on their Residential to Liddington in Wiltshire. They will take part in lots of amazing activities and we look forward to hearing all about it when they return.

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

Mon 10th	Anti-Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day
Mon 10th	Reading Together morning Years 2-6 at 9:00am
Tue 11th	Remembrance Day Assembly at 11am
Wed 12th	Year 6 Residential begins
Fri 14th	Canada Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
Mon 17th	Reading Workshop with the Merton Learning Team
Fri 21st	China Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
Fri 21st	Children in Need Day - pupils can wear spots and make a donation for charity
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
Tue 9th	Year 1-6 School nativity for group 2 at 2:15pm
Thu 11th	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas School Meal
Fri 12th	Italy Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
Fri 12th	Christmas Fair after school
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 2:00pm
Fri 19th	No Penguin Club after school club tonight

January 2026

Mon 5th	INSET Day, school closed to all pupils
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Tuesday 9th December Year 1-6 School Nativity

Group 1 at 9:10am

Group 2 at 2:15pm

Group 1	Group 2
Spain	Italy
France	Germany
South Africa	Nigeria
China	India
Canada	Brazil
New Zealand	New Zealand
Australia	Australia

Stars of the week

For: Religious Education

Nursery: London and Zalaand

Scotland: Pirajith

Wales: Wasifa

Italy Y1: Saparisa

Spain Y1: Aara

France Y2: Mattia

Germany Y2: Ibrahim

South Africa Y3: Yuthishga

Nigeria Y3: Isha

China Y4: Mikael

India Y4: Rikthisha

Brazil Y5: Hilton

Canada Y5: Abigail

Australia Y6: Avaniya

New Zealand Y6: Sera

PSQM Press Release October 2025

Gorringe Park Primary School Award- ed Primary Science Quality Mark



Powered by
University of
Hertfordshire UH

Gorringe Park Primary School is proud to announce that it is one of 310 schools that has been awarded the **Primary Science Quality**

Mark (PSQM) this month, a nationally recognised accreditation that celebrates a commitment to developing excellence in science leadership, curriculum design, teaching and learning.

Led by the University of Hertfordshire, for over a decade the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) has been setting children on a path to a life filled with exciting possibilities and opportunities, by giving them access to a strong foundation in quality primary science education. Over 5,800 Quality Marks have now been awarded, impacting on the learning of over 1,000,000 children.

PSQM is a comprehensive, year-long professional development programme that equips primary science subject leaders with the knowledge, capability and support needed to raise the quality and profile of science across the whole school. At the heart of the programme is a structured development cycle that embeds critical reflection and promotes a culture of continuous improvement.

Helen Sizer, PSQM Director said: 'By achieving The Primary Science Quality Mark, a school has shown commitment to raising the profile and quality of science education through the development of effective science leadership, visionary curriculum design and excellent teaching practice which is positively impacting on children's learning across the school. Such success is only possible through the collective effort of the whole school community, and all those involved should be incredibly proud of this achievement and the positive difference this is making to children's learning and understanding of the world around them.'

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

CHANCE TO SHINE STREET
SURREY CRICKET FOUNDATION

CONTACT | Steven La Roche | slaroch@surreyccricket.com | 07708 395924

Remembrance Day

The children will take part in a Remembrance Day assembly on Tuesday 11th November 2025.

Every year the country comes together for Remembrance Sunday. A period of silence is held at 11am to remember the people who have died in wars around the world. Remembrance Day – is on Saturday this year – and marks the actual day World War One ended, at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, in 1918.

Poppies and other Remembrance Day items are on sale in the school. If you would like to buy a poppy, please come and see us in the school office. All monies raised will go to the British Legion.



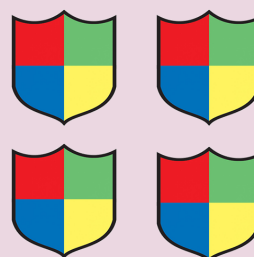
Aspire Awards House Points

London Eye: 56

Big Ben: 28

Tower Bridge: 52

The Shard: 34



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



TALK TO US

**OFF
THE RECORD**



**Are you OK
Croydon?**



**You Talk,
We Listen**
Croydon Drop In

Year Group Blog - Nursery

This week in Nursery, we began our new theme of Celebrations, and the children were especially excited to explore fireworks. We used colourful ribbons to perform a celebration firework dance, moving our bodies like rockets bursting in the sky. In creative art, the children made their own firework paintings, naming colours, mixing them together and watching with fascination as the colours changed to make new ones. In maths, we have been learning about patterns through songs and rhymes; the children joined in beautifully with repeated actions in songs and recognised familiar phrases that repeated again and again in nursery rhymes. During our PSHE Jigsaw time, we continued the theme of celebrating difference. The children enjoyed talking about the things that make them special and shared proudly the things they are good at and enjoy, showing growing confidence and kindness towards one another. It has been a wonderful and colourful start to our Celebrations theme!



Year Group Blog - Reception

We have had a blast this week learning all about fireworks! It certainly has been a busy first week of Autumn 2. We started off our week watching videos of firework and discussing what they look like, how the sound and how they move. Some ways we described them was sparking, bright, colourful, spiky like hedgehogs and beautiful. In PE we danced like fireworks thinking how we could spring and explode like a rocket or spin like a Catherine Wheel, we all sparkled as we danced. We have started a great new book this week called The Quiet, Little Firework which is all about a little firework who is performing in his first big event and so he takes a big breath ready to let out a big bang when it is his turn but no sound comes out. He is very worried about not being loud enough until one day a friendly moth shows him that his light can still shine bright even if he is quiet. Through the week we have also been looking at what celebrations we may have where we would let off fireworks such as birthdays, bonfire night, Diwali and New Years. In our role play area we have set up a party the children got to choose what celebration they are having a party for. It was such fun!!



Year Group Blog - Year 1

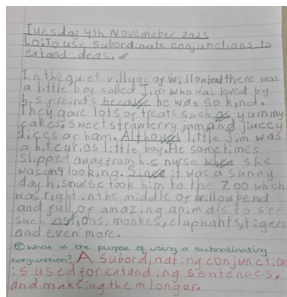
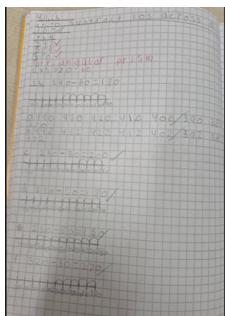
This week in English we have been reading our new story 'Cave Baby'. We have enjoyed listening to the story and retelling it using the props in the provision. We have been using adjectives to write simple sentences to describe the animals from the story. In Maths we have been exploring addition word problems and how we can represent these using resources. We have taken part in our first Geography lesson and have found out the names of the 7 continents. We are going to continue to explore the features of the world that we live in this half term. In Science we have been exploring and comparing different paper towels to find out which is best for absorbing spillages. In Computing we have begun to explore algorithms and coding. This week we have given each other instructions to find treasure and learning how this would relate to giving a toy a code. In RE we have begun to focus on belonging and how different communities include others in celebrations.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

It has been great to see all of the Year 2 children back after the break, and to hear all about their half term adventures. The children began the week by becoming detectives, having to guess what our new English text will be about. They used clues such as crunchy leaves, juicy apples and cold porridge to guess that our new story will be Goldilocks and The Three Bears! We began reading the Lauren Childs' version and both Year 2 classes absolutely loved the detailed illustrations. In maths, we have been recapping on our number bonds to 10. We have used Numicon and cubes and refresh our memories. We are excited to use these facts to help us solve addition and subtraction problems. In Geography we have begun to explore the world around us, we enjoyed using Google Earth to locate different countries and areas. Our new topic in Science is Everyday Materials. We had to think of the most suitable material for a new school shoe. We explored why materials such as glass, wood or metal would not be suitable for our next pair of school shoes.

Year Group Blog - Year 3

Year 3 has had a great first week back at school! In English, the children have retold the story of *Jim*. They used the skills and techniques they have learnt, such as subordinating conjunctions and apostrophes for contractions, to make their writing more interesting and to link their ideas effectively. In Maths, the children have been learning to subtract tens across a hundred using the number line strategy. They have also made connections and practised adding two numbers without exchanging. In Geography, the children have learnt to identify and locate features of different countries on a map. In DT, they have explored what makes a healthy, balanced diet and created a list of all the food groups, giving examples of each. In Science, the children have compared and grouped different types of rocks by their appearance. Well done, Year 3! Have a great weekend.



Year Group Blog - Year 4

In Year 4, we have had a lovely week after a one-week break.

Our focus text this week was *The Matchbox Diary*. Pupils explored key themes, discussing how authors use language to create mood and meaning. Guided reading sessions helped strengthen vocabulary and prosody skills, while our end-of-day story, *The Saga of Erik the Viking*, kept everyone captivated with tales of adventure. We began our new unit on Area, learning how to count squares and understand what area means in everyday contexts. Times table practice continued daily to sharpen fluency and confidence with multiplication facts.

In Science, students investigated how sounds change over distance—answering the question: What happens to the sound of a drum as we move away? In Design Technology, they learned about food decay and what causes it—an engaging start to thinking about food science. PE sessions focused on hockey skills, teamwork, and coordination.

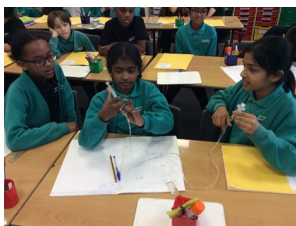
Friday was the highlight of the week—a trip to the Polka Theatre! This wonderful experience brought literature and performance to life. We rounded off the week with handwriting, spelling practice, and our much-loved Winning House Assembly Play.

Year Group Blog - Year 5

This term, year 5 have been exploring some out of this world topic, both in space and right here on Earth. In Science, we have been learning all about Earth and space. The children have discovered how the Earth and the other planets orbit the Sun. They were really intrigued about our solar system and how vast it is. Back on Earth, in Geography, we have been using OS maps to explore our local area. The children have learned how to use OS maps symbol to discover what is there in their local area. They enjoyed finding landmarks and tracing routes on the map, they demonstrated fantastic skills for future explorers. In Design Technology, we have been learning about pneumatics and how it works.

In English we've started reading *Hidden Figures*, the inspiring true story of the brilliant women who helped launch rockets and change history. The children have been working on interview questions to imagine what it might have been like to be on the of scientist in the story. We've also been learning new vocabulary linked to space, science and perseverance, which has really helped deepen our understanding of the book's theme. Meanwhile, in Maths, year 5 have been diving into the world of prime numbers and cube numbers. The children have been enjoying solving challenges and spotting number patterns, showing curiosity and problem-solving skills along the way.

It has been a great start to the term!



Year Group Blog - Year 6

In our first week of our Autumn 2 term, Year 6 have begun to look at 'Darwin's Voyage of Discovery' written by Jake Williams. We have looked at the definitions of new unfamiliar, technical vocabulary from the text such as evolution, adaptation and endemic. In English, we have focused on using this technical vocabulary to describe the endemic marine iguanas from the Galapagos islands. We also looked at recapping how to punctuate direct speech and how it differs when the direct speech is placed in different parts of the sentence. We then went onto convert direct speech into reported speech making careful consideration to the tense we were writing in.

In Maths, we are now looking at fractions. We have begun by recapping our knowledge of equivalent fractions and applied this knowledge to complete number lines and simplify fractions. When calculated a fractions simplest form, we had to apply our times table knowledge to calculate the highest common factor and then divide both the numerator and denominator by the highest common factor. Later in the week, we then looked at comparing and ordering fractions either focusing on the denominator or the numerator.

Our RE lessons this term are focused on religious symbols. We focused on Christian symbols this week. We began by thinking of the symbols we associate with different feelings and emotions to help us to understand that symbols can represent different things. After that, we looked at some of the symbols seen in Christianity and what each one represents. We learnt that some symbols have multiple meanings and that they are often linked to different stories in the Bible such as the dove (which represents peace and hope) is mentioned in the story of Noah's Ark. The children asked thought-provoking questions and demonstrated a great understanding of some of the religious symbols.

This week, our curious Year 6 scientists have been diving into the fascinating world of light and how it travels. Through a series of hands-on experiments and engaging discussions, they've been discovering the science behind how we see the world around us. We observed how light travels in a straight line using a torch, paper and a hole punch. We loved the opportunity to practical explore something that is a huge part of our ever day lives.

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

Missed the flu vaccine?

**Do you have a child who lives in or attends
school in Merton? Aged 4–16?**

Come along to a flu clinic and protect your child!

NO appointment required.

Tuesday 28 October, 12:30 - 16:00
5th Sutton Scout Hall, SM1 4JN

Thursday 30 October, 10:00 - 14:00
Liberty Primary School, CR4 3EB

Saturday 22 November, 10:00 - 14:00
New Horizon Centre, CR4 1LT

**Call 020 3903 3371 / 3373
for more information!**

