

26th June 2026

Gorrington Park
Primary School

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 has certainly been a very hot week, and we have been doing everything possible in school to keep the children as cool and comfortable as we can. We have adapted our routines, ensured regular water breaks, and made use of shaded and indoor spaces where appropriate.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your patience, particularly those who collected their children early this week. Your understanding has been greatly appreciated in helping us respond to the extreme temperatures.

We began the week with some exciting learning opportunities, including trips to the library for Year 1. It was lovely to see the children so engaged and enthusiastic about their reading. Year 5 and Year 6 also took part in Bikeability sessions. Unfortunately, due to the heat, they were not able to complete the full course, but we are proud of the effort and determination they showed while taking part.

Years 3 to 6 took part in an engaging science workshop in school today, sparking curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. A big thank you to Spain Class for their wonderful family assembly today. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their learning from across the year, and it was clear how proud they were to share this with their families.

Due to the hot weather, we have made the decision to postpone the Summer Fair that was planned for Saturday 27th June. It will now take place on Saturday 12th September. We hope that this will allow everyone to enjoy the event more comfortably. We are also sorry that we had to postpone Sports Day this week. Thank you again for your support and understanding—it was simply too hot for the event to go ahead safely.

Looking ahead to next week, school reports will be sent home to families, and Parent's Evening will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday. We look forward to sharing and celebrating the children's progress with you.

From Monday 29th June, the school day will finish at 3:15pm (or 3:30pm for the nursery). All pupils are expected to attend dressed in full school uniform.

Finally, the Friends of Gorrington Park are organising a Green Day on Friday 3rd July. Further information will be shared with you next week.

I hope you all manage to stay cool over the weekend. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.
Mrs Harris-Coke
Headteacher

For all important dates throughout the Summer term 2026, please see the last page of the newsletter.

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: Lara/Tianny
Scotland: Haneesh
Wales: Alex
Spain Y1: Elias
Italy Y1: Illinca
Germany Y2: Tabitha
France Y2: Kajaani
South Africa Y3: Krystal
Nigeria Y3: Denzel
China Y4: Kavinayan
India Y4: Ayamin
Canada Y5: Jamie-Rose
Brazil Y5: Harley
Australia Y6: Isaiah
New Zealand Y6: Harishwen

Aspire Awards House Points

London Eye: 34

Big Ben: 39

Tower Bridge: 34

The Shard: 38



Year Group Blog - Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have been learning all about how to stay safe during the hot weather. The children explored the importance of staying hydrated by drinking plenty of water, keeping in the shade, and wearing hats and sun lotion to protect themselves. We had lots of discussions about how these simple actions help to keep us healthy and safe in the sunshine.

In Literacy, the children have continued to enjoy our focus story, *We're Going on a Lion Hunt*. The children created detailed story maps, drawing the different parts of the story and recalling key events. It has been wonderful to see the children becoming confident in joining in with the repeated phrases and retelling the story independently.

We have also been introducing and exploring new vocabulary from the story, including words such as swamp and safari. The children are now beginning to use these words during their storytelling and play. We are so proud of their growing language skills and enthusiasm for learning!



Year Group Blog - Reception

This week has been a scorcher but that hasn't stopped reception being super learners. They have had a wonderful time exploring places around the world and comparing them to our country. We explore what it is like in China, France and even Australia. We had a special talk from Miss Fraser who spent a year in Australia working as a teacher. We asked lots of questions and found out that in Australia there are wild kangaroos and the weather is even hotter than it has been this week. She showed us pictures of her holding a real koala! We looked closely at pictures of different places and wrote 'I can see...' sentences independently. We are phonics superstars! The children stayed cool with water play and even designed a wonderful water slide for our sea creatures in the garden. WE hope you have a wonderful weekend and stay cool in the sun. From the Reception Team.



Year Group Blog - Year 1

We have had an exciting week in Year 1. On Tuesday we walked around Mitcham, using maps to help us locate landmarks recognising symbols such as schools and religious sites. We then had a great time on Friday representing our different cultures and getting to try tasty food that our families made. It was lovely to welcome in families to join us in our music session and we hope you enjoyed learning with your children.

This week in English we have created a 'Lost Moon' poster to help locate the moon that Sidney and Stella broke. We have also written lost jumper posters to help recognise the features we need to include.

In Maths we been exploring money. We have looked at the different value of coins and notes and understanding which coin is which. We have then combined coins together to make small amounts.

In Science we have been learning about wind speed and direction. We have been blowing bubbles to observe the direction the wind is heading and recognising that the wind speed changes depending on the seasonal weather.

In phonics we have been learning some new sounds. We have learned u/oo in words such as push, pull and wood/foot. We have also learned the sounds ss/ce in words such as kiss and space. Keep reading with your children at home to improve their fluency and speed.

Please note we won't be doing PE next Monday due to sports day on Wednesday.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

It has been a very warm and sunny week in Year 2 as we have experienced a heatwave, but that did not stop us from working hard and enjoying our learning!

To make the most of the beautiful weather, we brought some of our learning outdoors. The children enjoyed taking part in activities outside while staying safe in the shade of our shelters. We have also been reminding everyone about the importance of sun safety, including drinking plenty of water, wearing hats and staying protected from the sun.

In English, we have started exploring our exciting new book, *Ocean Meets Sky*. To bring the story to life, we used water trays to test our own origami boats. We investigated whether they would float or sink and thought carefully about how their design affected the results.

Using our tallying skills from Maths, we recorded our observations and collected data on which boats floated, which sank and whether they were strong enough to hold Lego bricks.

We also reflected on the materials we would use next time, as some of our boats became soggy and crumbled in the water!

In RE, we learned about the different features of religious buildings and discussed why these features are important to worshippers.

In DT, the children continued developing their understanding of mechanisms by creating their own cams. They enjoyed exploring how cams can create different types of movement.

During Geography, we studied aerial maps and learned how they help us view places from above. We used our map-reading skills to identify different features and landmarks.

In Science, we learned key facts about leaves and their important role in helping plants grow. We were also delighted to see that our plants have grown significantly since beginning our investigation and enjoyed observing the changes over time.

Despite the hot weather, Year 2 have shown fantastic enthusiasm, curiosity and resilience in all their learning this week. Well done, everyone!

Year Group Blog - Year 3

This week in English, Year 3 sequence pictures and show the order of how to make a frobscottle. The children applied the skills they have been learning, including expanded noun phrases, imperative verbs, and prepositional phrases, to write clear and detailed instructions. In Maths, the children continued their learning about time. They found and compared durations of time, showing their working using number lines and bar models to support their reasoning. In Science, the children ordered the stages of a flowering plant bud and discussed how plants grow and develop over time.

Year Group Blog - Year 4

What a challenging yet successful week Year 4 have had!

Firstly, we would like to commend the children for their resilience and effort throughout the week. Despite the exceptionally hot weather, they continued to engage positively with their morning learning and worked hard to complete their lessons. We have been pleased to see so many children showing determination and a positive attitude in difficult conditions.

In English, the children continued their work on *The Firework-Maker's Daughter*. They practised organising their ideas into paragraphs while writing a letter from Lila to her father, explored the features of direct speech and developed their descriptive writing using expanded noun phrases and ambitious vocabulary.

In Maths, we focused on coordinates and position. The children learned how to read and plot coordinates in the first quadrant before progressing to moving points and shapes on coordinate grids. They showed increasing confidence when explaining their mathematical thinking and solving problems.

During our wider curriculum lessons, we explored the Dashavatara in RE, learning about the different avatars of Vishnu and their significance within Hinduism. In Geography, we investigated the structure of volcanoes and discovered where volcanoes are found around the world. We also spent time discussing the human lifecycle in PSHE, considering how people grow and change throughout their lives.

Due to the extreme temperatures, our afternoon timetable was disrupted from Tuesday to Friday. Families were offered the opportunity to collect children from 1:45pm onwards, and many pupils were picked up early.

As a result, some afternoon lessons were shortened or adapted, with the safety and wellbeing of the children remaining our highest priority.

Thank you to parents and carers for your support and understanding during this time.

Unfortunately, Sports Day was also cancelled this week due to the high temperatures. While we know many children were looking forward to taking part, the decision was made with everyone's safety and wellbeing in mind. Safety always comes first and we appreciate your understanding regarding this decision.

We were particularly pleased that, despite the challenging weather conditions, most children maintained good behaviour, followed expectations and showed consideration for others. Their efforts to remain focused, respectful and cooperative throughout the week are appreciated and have helped the week run smoothly.

As we head into the weekend, please continue to take care in the warm weather. Stay hydrated, seek shade where possible and avoid spending long periods in direct sunlight during the hottest parts of the day.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Year Group Blog - Year 5

In English this week, we began exploring the beautifully written book *The Sleeper and the Spindle* by Neil Gaiman. The children have really engaged with the story so far, showing curiosity about the plot, characters, and deeper meanings within the text. We started by learning about the author and discussing the different languages used in the book, helping the children appreciate how stories can be shared across cultures.

Vocabulary has been a key focus, with pupils identifying and exploring new and ambitious words to deepen their understanding of the text. They have also applied a range of descriptive devices to vividly describe settings inspired by the story. It has been fantastic to see them use powerful language to create detailed imagery in their writing. To bring the story to life, the children participated in role play activities, stepping into the shoes of different characters. They then used these experiences to write engaging and imaginative dialogues. We focused on incorporating relative clauses and a variety of fronted adverbials to make their writing more interesting and dynamic. The results have been impressive, with many pupils demonstrating excellent creativity and sentence structure.

In Maths, the children have been building on their prior knowledge of coordinates to learn how to translate shapes. They worked carefully to move shapes accurately on a grid, showing a solid understanding of position and direction. We also explored lines of symmetry, where children identified whether shapes were symmetrical and drew lines of symmetry with increasing accuracy. This was a great opportunity for them to develop both their reasoning and visualisation skills.

Additionally, pupils practised adding and subtracting decimals within 1. They showed resilience when tackling these calculations and are becoming more confident in working with decimal numbers.

Science lessons this week were particularly exciting! The children learned about fungi, identifying different types and exploring their unique characteristics. They practised classifying fungi by looking closely at their features, and we had some great discussions about how fungi differ from plants and animals.

To end the week, we had an incredible Dry Ice Workshop! This hands-on experience was a huge highlight, with pupils amazed by the fascinating reactions and effects created using dry ice. It was a wonderful way to spark curiosity and bring science to life, and there were plenty of excited faces throughout the session!

Year Group Blog - Year 6

In English, the children have been planning their own narratives inspired by *Holes*. They explored the key themes and style of the book before developing their own unique story ideas. Pupils worked carefully to build interesting characters and settings, thinking about how to structure their narrative to keep the reader engaged. It has been wonderful to see their creativity flourish, with lots of imaginative ideas emerging as they begin to shape their stories.

A large portion of the week has also been dedicated to production practice. The children have been busy rehearsing scenes, learning lines and working together to bring the performance to life. Alongside this, pupils have begun making props, showing excellent teamwork and creativity as they design and create items to support the production. There is a real sense of excitement building, and the children are working incredibly hard to ensure everything comes together.

Year 6 also approached their RSE lessons with maturity and respect. Pupils demonstrated sensible behaviour, engaging thoughtfully in discussions and showing a good understanding of the importance of listening to others and contributing appropriately. We are very proud of how they handled these sessions.

A highlight of the week was Friday's Science session, led by a visiting specialist, where the children explored the fascinating properties of dry ice. Pupils observed how dry ice behaves in different conditions, creating dramatic effects such as fog and bubbling reactions. This hands-on experience sparked lots of curiosity and excitement, with plenty of thoughtful questions being asked.

Overall, it has been a fantastic week, filled with creativity, collaboration and memorable learning experiences. Well done, Year 6!

Free English classes for adults in Merton

We are pleased to be able to offer English classes here at Gorrington Park A teacher from Learn English Together in Merton will be running weekly classes for our parents.

Find out more:

Please contact the School Office
on 02086481451 or at
office@gorringepark.merton.sch.uk



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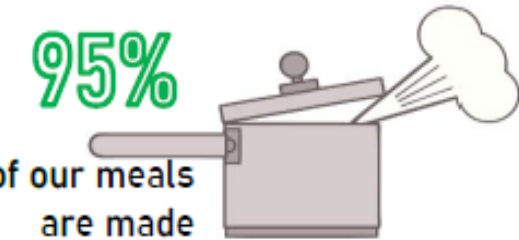
@LETinMerton



If you are interested please let us know as soon as possible.
We will invite you in to school to register and enrol you into a suitable level class.

WHY CHOOSE A CATERLINK SCHOOL MEAL?

95%
of our meals
are made
FRESH on site daily



All of our menus are compliant to the
SILVER STANDARD
as a minimum



 **QUALITY
INGREDIENTS**

such as MSC fish, red tractor
meat

 Our meals are
**NUTRITIOUS
& BALANCED** and include
a portion of protein, a portion of
carbohydrates and two portions of
vegetables

Our nutrition team ensure all
menus meet the



**SCHOOL FOOD
STANDARDS**

for dishes and portion sizes

We offer a
**SALAD BAR
& FRESHLY BAKED
BREAD** for children to help
themselves to



We have increased our range of
SUSTAINABLE OPTIONS ,
including our Added Plant Power dishes, our vegan dishes  and through
encouraging meat free days on menus

 Our
DESSERTS
not only contain
important nutrients such
as calcium and zinc but
are also in line with
guidance on sugars.
Fresh fruit and yoghurt
are also offered daily



All of our **PORTION SIZES**
are compliant, ensuring that we are not
offering children too much or too little food
for their **ENERGY** requirements.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the School Food Standards?

The School Food Standards were developed by government and are a set of food-based standards to ensure menus are nutritious, balanced and healthy. Examples include offering wholemeal starchy foods, having oily fish on the menu, and limiting pastry. Find out more: www.schoolfoodplan.com

How much sugar are in your desserts?

In line with recommendations to reduce free sugars (free sugars are added sugars – those not naturally found in fruit or milk) and the Children's Food Trust guidance, Caterlink have reduced the sugar content of all desserts to under 6.5g of free sugars per portion. Across our menus the average sugar content per day is 4.5g of free sugars, so you can be sure your child is getting healthy desserts.

Is my child getting enough food?

All recipes are created in line with the School Food Standards recommended portion sizes and are checked by a nutritionist. As well as the main meal, vegetables and dessert, we also offer bread and salad daily for the children to take.

What is MSC fish?

By choosing fish with a Marine Stewardship Council blue label, we can ensure that we are supporting sustainable fisheries and protecting the ocean. All fish on our menu is MSC certified.

What is red tractor meat?

Red tractor ensures that we can trust that all of the meat that we buy and know that it has to meet strict standards such as animal welfare, traceability, food safety and environmental protection. We have a British First Policy and all of our meat products are traceable from farm to fork.

How much salt is in your food?

We work with suppliers to ensure products are in line with the Government Salt Targets. We also don't add salt to our recipes as per the School Food Standards.

What is the Food for Life Served Here award?

Food for Life Served Here is a set of criteria ensuring that food served is healthy, local, seasonal and fresh. We operate all of our schools on their silver standards as a minimum. We were the first education caterer to be awarded the Food For Life award. Find out more: www.foodforlife.org.uk

What are Added Plant Power dishes?

Added plant power dishes are recipes where the protein comes from a mixture of meat and plant-based proteins such as beans, chickpeas, or lentils, such as a chilli con carne with kidney beans in. This makes the dishes more environmentally friendly (a 50% reduction in greenhouse gases), whilst reducing saturated fat content and increasing fibre.

Calendar Dates—Summer Term 2026

June 2026

Fri 26th	Italy Family Assembly—9.10am Italy class parents to attend
Fri 26th	After School Activity Clubs finish
Tue 30th	Parents Evening—3.30pm to 6.00pm For all year groups
Tue 30th	Nursery Family Assembly—9.10am AM Nursery parents to attend
Tue 30th	Nursery Family Assembly—2.45pm PM Nursery parents to attend

July 2026

Wed 1st	Parents Evening—3.30pm to 6.00pm For all year groups
Fri 3rd	The Friends of Gorringer Park 'Green Day'
Fri 3rd	Wales Family Assembly—9.10am Wales class parents to attend
Tue 7th	Year 6 Production Dress Rehearsal—9.15am Parents to attend
Tue 7th	Year 6 Production—2.00pm Parents to attend
Wed 8th	An Afternoon of Music—4.00pm to 5.00pm
Fri 10th	Scotland Family Assembly—9.10am Scotland class parents to attend
Fri 10th	Year 6 Prom—5.00pm to 7.00pm
Mon 13th	Reception Graduation—9.10am Wales class parents to attend
Tue 14th	Reception Graduation—9.10am Scotland class parents to attend
Tue 14th	Year 6 Graduation—4.30pm Year 6 parents to attend
Fri 17th	Headteacher & End of term assembly Parents to attend by invite only
Fri 17th	Last Day of term School will finish at the earlier time of 1.30pm (No afterschool club)
Mon 20th	INSET DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED