

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,

Thank you for your all your donations for our Cerebral Palsy day which took place on Monday 6th October, we raised £80 - these proceeds will go to Small Steps a charity that helps children with disabilities and their families.

Thank you to the parents that came to our Year 6 presentation for this years residential trip. In November, our Year 6 pupils will be going to Liddington from Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th where they will take part in amazing activities that develop their skills and strengthen their bond. We look forward to hearing all of their stories when they return.

As you are aware, this month is Black History Month, where the children will have the opportunity to research a person either in history or in present day who has made a significant difference to the lives of others. We look forward to seeing you at our Black History assembly on Wednesday 22nd October, further details will be sent regarding this event.

On Wednesday 15th October, we will be having a very special Harvest Assembly led by Kevin Vickers, who will talk to the children about Harvest and why it is an important time of year for so many people. If you could please help by donating a item of non-perishable food such as a packet of pasta, a tin of beans, a bottle of squash etc. You may also donated non-food items such as a packet of nappies, a tube of toothpaste or a bottle of shampoo. All of these items would be most appreciated by local families that need them in Merton.

Thank you to Nigeria class today for their fantastic assembly. It is always wonderful to see the children so excited about their learning. Thank you to Mrs Dabengwa, Miss Tinsley, Mr Suarez and all the children in Nigeria class for this amazing presentation. Please join us next week for the Germany class family assembly that will take place on Friday 17th October at 9:10am.

On Monday 13th October, we will have our regular reading together morning, this will take place between 9:00am - 9:30am for Years 2-6. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please remember should you require any support with items of uniform or access to our foodbank, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Widdicombe via the front office, I wish you all a peaceful and pleasant weekend.

Mrs Harris-Coke
Headteacher



After School Club Vacancy at Gorrington Park Primary School

We are looking to recruit a Playworker for our After School Club between the hours of 3.00pm to 6.00pm, term time only. If you, or someone you know is interested, please see our advert and application form on our website: <https://www.gorringtonpark.co.uk/vacancies/>

Calendar Dates

October 2025

Mon 13th	Reading Together Morning Years 2-6 at 9:00am
Wed 15th	Harvest Festival Assembly at 9:10am
Fri 17th	Germany Class Family Assembly
Wed 22nd	Black History Month Parent Showcase Assembly for Group 1 at 9:10am
Wed 22nd	Black History Month Parent Showcase Assembly for Group 2 at 2:15pm
Fri 24th	Spain Class Family Assembly at 9:10am

November 2025

Mon 3rd	INSET Day, school closed to all pupils
Wed 5th	Parents' Evening
Thu 6th	Parents' Evening
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
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 Christmas Sing-a-long at 9:00am and 2:15pm
Tue 9th	Whole School nativity for group 1 at 9:10am
Tue 9th	Whole School nativity for group 2 at 2:15pm

Do you need support claiming benefits?

Would you like to undertake training to find work?

Are you concerned about your child's development?

Are you experiencing money worries?

Do you need help with your child's behaviour?

If so, we can help!

For advice and guidance with any of these issues, please book an appointment with Annabel, our Early Help Co-ordinator, who is in school on Monday afternoons. Please call the School Office or email office@gorringtonpark.merton.sch.uk to book a time.



Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content. The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site. It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link. We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

Stars of the week

For: History



Nursery: Caliah and Noura

Scotland: Ayra

Wales: Ayat

Italy Y1: Elham

Spain Y1: Eesa

France Y2: Varvara

Germany Y2: Wren

South Africa Y3: Johnathan

Nigeria Y3: Denzel

China Y4: Andrea

India Y4: Abderrahmene

Brazil Y5: Hope

Canada Y5: Eva

Australia Y6: Arham

New Zealand Y6: Mirushan



Gorrington Park Foodbank -

If you need access to our Gorrington Park Foodbank, please contact the school office. Your message will be treated in the strictest confidence. We want to help our families that need some support. Please contact us via email or telephone if you need any help at all.

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

Week In Sport 6th October to 10th October

Clubs and Sport at Gorrington Park

This week our sporting news focuses all around our clubs and curriculum here at Gorrington Park. We are fortunate to welcome Fulham FC who support our staff with PE lessons and also run very successful lunchtime and after school football clubs which are well attended. The children have developed very well and we look forward to taking the children to football competitions in the coming weeks and months to test out their skills against other schools. We also welcome Surrey Cricket who support developing the children's catching, throwing and striking skills.

We run a number of sporting clubs at Gorrington Park which aim to give the children a broad range of skills and experiences. Merton Sports partnership coach basketball sessions on a Friday and multi skills on a Monday whilst our teachers run dance clubs, ball skills and a host of other opportunities throughout the year.

Our teachers also run clubs such as crafting, construction, sewing, school newspaper and board games which help the children build social skills, fine motor skills and confidence in a variety of different areas.

Check back in next week to find out how our year 3 and 4 girls got on at their first football festival of the year! #TEAMGP



Halloween Special

CHILDREN'S DAY

@Lillywhite Dental

SAT Oct 25th, 2025

09:00 – 14:00

FREE EXAMINATIONS



For All Patients Under 16 years old

LIMITED SPACES CALL TO BOOK

020 8685 1200

Lillywhitedental@soegateway.com

LILLYWHITE
Dental Practice

64 Middleton Rd,
Morden, SM4 6RT



Year Group Blog - Nursery

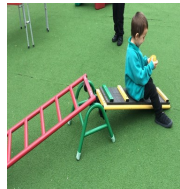
This week, we have continued to learn all about firefighters! The children have enjoyed singing our firefighter rhyme — it's been so lovely to hear from so many of you that they've been coming home singing it too!

We explored the different parts of a fire engine, looking closely at what each part is used for. The children then drew their own fire engines, carefully naming the features such as the siren, window, wheels, ladder, and hose.

Out in the garden, their imaginations came alive as they pretended the local Lidl bakery was on fire! The children worked together as brave firefighters, using long plastic tubes as hoses to put out the pretend flames — a fantastic example of teamwork and creative play.

In maths, we have been enjoying number rhymes to help us practise hearing and counting numbers in a fun way.

During Jigsaw, our focus has been on learning about our rights. We talked about how everyone should be allowed to learn and play, and we discussed what it means to be kind, fair, and together.



Year Group Blog - Reception

Reception have been Autumn place explorers this week. We have learned all about where autumn animals live and practiced our 'Little hedgehog song' to remember where they live.

In maths we have been noticing how we make 4 in different ways. We used our unifix cubes to show 4 in as many ways as we could and even described them by noticing 3s and 1 more in each 4. Numberblock 4 likes to be 4 in so many different ways. The children even thought of other ways that he didn't know!

Our book of the week has been 'Who are you stripy horse?' this week and we learned new vocabulary such as enormous, delicate, tripped and tiptoed. It was so much fun playing our honey pot game and tiptoeing in to steal little bears honey pot.

In the sports zone we have been practicing our kicking and throwing skills with football goals to aim at. The children have taken turns fabulously and have learned how to queue up to take a turn. They have enjoyed practicing their throwing skills by aiming at baskets and bucket using different objects.

Have a wonderful weekend! From the Reception team.



Year Group Blog - Year 1

This week in English we have been creating our own pet characters based off of animals we have at home. We have been talking about the animal's personality, what they look like and what they might eat. In Maths we have been exploring bar models and linking this to consolidating our number bonds up to 10. In history we have started to learn about black history month and have learned which famous historical figures we will be creating posters on. In science we have been discussing and exploring the best materials to make curtains from based off our previous investigations. In RE we have been learning about the Harvest festival and how this helps our local community. In computing we are continuing to discuss being kind on the internet.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

What a wonderful week we've had in Year 2! The children have been working so hard across all subjects and showing such enthusiasm for their learning.

This week was Cerebral Palsy Awareness Week, children took time to listen to a story all about Cerebral Palsy and understanding that everyone is unique and how we can make sure that our school is an inclusive and a supportive place for all. We discussed kindness, respect and the importance of celebrating our differences.

In English we have been enjoying the adventures of Traction Man! The children love the exploring his exciting missions and we have rewritten the beginning and the end of the story with super sentences. We used coordination conjunction and a range of different adjectives! In Maths we have been practicing counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Using songs, number lines and practical activities, we would also love if you can all practice skip counting perhaps whilst walking upstairs or setting the table! In Science we have looked at food chains and recapped on omnivore, herbivore and carnivore animals and where their habitats may be. In RE we have looked at Christian celebrations and how they celebrate specific festivals. In PE we have been practicing batting and runs!

Year Group Blog - Year 3

This week in English, the children retold a story through a diary entry. They included key diary features such as writing in the first person and in chronological order. The children also used the grammar skills they have been learning — including the simple past tense, the past progressive tense, and conjunctions to express cause.

In Maths, the children identified and applied number bonds within 10 and practised adding and subtracting 1s. They used place value counters to support their understanding of number and to make their learning more visual and hands-on.

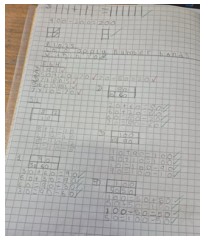
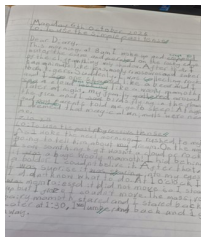
During Science, the children explored how objects move on different surfaces. They discovered that smoother surfaces create less friction, so things move faster, while rougher surfaces create more friction, causing things to move slower.

In History, the children learned about hillforts. They found out that a hillfort was a type of settlement built by Stone Age people for defence against attacks from other tribes.

In PE, the children practised shooting a ball at a target, focusing on maintaining good hand-eye coordination and always being in the ready position to shoot.

It's been a busy and exciting week of learning in Year 3.

Have a great weekend!



Year Group Blog - Year 4

We have had another exciting week in Year 4 which started with India Class Assembly. Thank you for coming to watch us.

In Maths, we consolidated our learning of rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000.

We also used also added and subtracted two 4-digits number up with no regrouping and regrouping.

In English, we focused on writing using present perfect tense to show how an action is in the past and also in the present. We used retrieval skills to recall our prior knowledge of the book. This was all based on the Saga of Erik the Viking. Our science lesson centred on *states of matter in conjunction with water cycle*.

The children investigated the whole process of evaporation to condensation and precipitation.

In History, we explored what it reveals about the beliefs of the Anglo-Saxons. It has been a truly productive week and we are so proud of Year 4's hard work and enthusiasm.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Warm regards, The Year 4 Team

Year Group Blog - Year 5

What a busy and exciting week it has been in Year 5! Our class has worked hard across all subjects, exploring new ideas, practising key skills, and showing curiosity in every lesson. Here's a look at what we've been learning.

In English, we focused on improving our writing by using correct punctuation, writing in the past tense, and organising our ideas into clear paragraphs. We practised turning simple sentences into detailed ones and edited our work carefully to make sure it flowed smoothly. Everyone is becoming more confident in using commas, speech marks, and exclamation marks at the right times!

In Maths, we have been working with large numbers — adding and subtracting numbers with more than four digits. We used written methods to show our working out and checked our answers using the inverse operation. It's been great to see how our understanding of place value helps us when tackling these bigger calculations.

Our Science lessons were full of hands-on fun as we investigated pulleys and levers. We explored how these simple machines help make lifting weights easier. Through experiments, we discovered how changing the position of the fulcrum or adding more pulleys can reduce the effort needed to lift an object. There were lots of "aha!" moments as we tested our ideas!

In History, we continued to study the fascinating Shang Dynasty. This week we learned about their religious beliefs, including ancestor worship and how the Shang people used oracle bones to ask questions about the future. We were amazed by how these ancient practices helped shape Chinese culture.

Our Art lesson took us into the world of Claude Monet, one of the most famous Impressionist painters. We studied his use of light and colour, and learned how to critique a piece of art by describing what we see, what we like, and how it makes us feel. Many of us were inspired to create our own "Monet-style" paintings using soft brushstrokes and gentle colours.

In Computing, we discussed Internet safety, focusing on real-life scenarios. We learned how to recognise safe and unsafe online behaviour, how to protect our personal information, and what to do if something online makes us feel uncomfortable. Everyone agreed that being kind and careful online is just as important as in real life.

Finally, in Religious Education, we explored stories from the Old Testament and discussed what they mean for Christians today. We looked at stories such as Noah's Ark and David and Goliath, thinking about their messages of faith, courage, and forgiveness.

It's been a wonderful week of learning, full of creativity, curiosity, and teamwork. We can't wait to see what new adventures next week will bring!

Year Group Blog - Year 6

We have looked in more detail at our focus book 'Windrush Child' by the author Benjamin Zephaniah. The children have delved deeper into the Windrush Empire to deepen their understanding during English and Guided Reading. We carefully considered how they would feel in all stages of their journey and considered how their families who remained at home would feel. We used this to write a postcard from the perspective from Leonard (one of the characters from the book) to his Dad. The children included figurative language such as similes and metaphors.

In Maths, we have looked at using formal methods for multiplication and division. The children have worked hard to apply their times tables knowledge to solve calculations and worded problems. We have also recapped some key arithmetic questions and looked in detail as to how to lay out the formal methods.

During the afternoons this week, we have looked in depth at the triangular slave trade in terms of the route that was taken and what happened at each stage of the journey. In Computing, we had to think critically to consider whether messages received online were real or fake to help us identify scams and further improve our internet safety. On Monday, we looked at book called 'Xander's Cerebral Palsy Superpowers' to raise awareness about Cerebral Palsy.