

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,

Welcome back to Gorrington Park Primary School

I hope you've all had a wonderful and enjoyable summer break. I would like to welcome back all of our families – both returning and new. This newsletter has some important updates and reminders for the year ahead.

Meet the Teacher

Our meet the teacher sessions will take place next week. This is a time to meet the staff working within the phase and find out about the curriculum for the year ahead, PE times, communication with school, reading, home learning etc. Please see also see the below calendar dates.

Thank you for your continued support.
We look forward to another amazing year at Gorrington Park.

Mrs Pearl Harris-Coke
Headteacher



Senior Leadership Team	
Mrs P Harris-Coke	Headteacher
Miss N Wright	Deputy Headteacher <i>Curriculum, Developing Teaching, Mentor for Routes and Careers</i>
Miss L Gawthorp	Deputy Headteacher <i>Designated Safeguarding Lead, Inclusion Lead, Mental Health Champion</i>
Miss S Tubb	Assistant Headteacher <i>Behaviour and Attitudes, Strategic Lead for Behaviour</i>
Mrs K Widdicombe	School Business Manager
Extended Leadership Team	
Mrs J Barrett	Senior Teacher <i>English, Oracy and Phonics Lead, Acting KS1 Lead</i>
Mrs S Ahmad	Phase Leader – Years 5 and 6 <i>Year 6 Teacher Maths Lead</i>
Mrs D Dabengwa	Phase Leader – Years 3 and 4 <i>Year 3 Teacher Maths Lead</i>
Miss M Nehar	Phase Leader – Early Years <i>Nursery Teacher</i>

Calendar Dates

September 2025

Mon 8th	New Zealand Class Swimming
Tue 9th	Year 3 & Year 4 Meet the Teacher at 2:30pm
Wed 10th	Year 5 and Year 6 Meet the Teacher at 2:30pm
Thu 11th	Year 1 and Year 2 Meet the Teacher Hall at 2:30pm
Fri 12th	AM Nursery and Scotland class Meet the Teacher presentation in the Main Hall at 11:00am
Fri 12th	PM Nursery and Wales class Meet the Teacher presentation in the Main Hall at 2:30pm
Mon 15th	New Zealand Class continues their swimming lessons
Mon 15th	Reading together morning Years 2-6 at 9:00am
Tue 16th	Jeans for Genes Day - come to school in your jeans for a 50p donation to charity
Wed 24th	Year 6 secondary school transfer meeting at 5:00pm
Fri 25th	Brazil Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
Fri 25th	Macmillan Coffee Morning

October 2025

Fri 3rd	Photo day
Mon 6th	India Class Family Assembly
Mon 6th	World Cerebral Palsy Day - please bring a 50p donation for charity
Tue 7th	Year 6 residential presentation meeting at 3:30pm
Fri 10th	Nigeria Class Family Assembly at 9:10am
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
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
Tue 6th	School open as usual, Spring Term begins

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility

Children have a right to be cared for and protected; protecting them is everyone's responsibility. Here at Gorringe 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@gorringepark.merton.sch.uk







Stars of the week

For: settling in particularly well

Nursery: Jenesis and Lily
 Scotland: Eshaal
 Wales: Sammy
 Italy Y1: Kaido
 Spain Y1: Elias
 France Y2: Lucas
 Germany Y2: Prethika
 South Africa Y3: Prachi
 Nigeria Y3: Christopher
 China Y4: Amaal
 India Y4: Jediah
 Brazil Y5: Antoni
 Canada Y5: Essa
 Australia Y6: Ebenezer
 New Zealand Y6: Izzy











FREE ENTRY
11AM - 4PM

CANONS SUSTAINABLE SEPTEMBER FAIR

"NEW DATE"
**SATURDAY 27TH
 SEPTEMBER**

BRING FAMILY & FRIENDS - FREE ACTIVITIES - ARTS & CRAFTS
 ICE CREAM - FOOD & DRINK STALLS - FUN GAMES - LIVE MUSIC
 CONNECT WITH YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AND GET INVOLVED IN CLIMATE ACTION

SCAN ME





PE Timetable Autumn Term 2025

Years 1 - 2 have one PE session a week and one dance and movement session a week (PE kit not needed)

Years 3 - 6 have two PE sessions a week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
England (Morning and full-time children)	Canada	Scotland	South Africa	England (Afternoon and full-time children)
Germany	Brazil	Wales	Nigeria	Spain
France	Australia	South Africa	China	Italy
Australia	New Zealand	Nigeria	India	Brazil
		China		Canada
		India		
		New Zealand		

Year Group Blog - Nursery

We are very pleased to share what a wonderful start to the term it has been. Our returning nursery children have settled back in beautifully. They happily adapted to their familiar routines, enjoyed reconnecting with their friends, and have been eager to share their summer holiday news. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they return to their learning environment. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new nursery children and families. All the new nursery children have settled in wonderfully this week and have already begun to form positive relationships with both their peers and the adults in the nursery.



The children have been engaged in a variety of engaging learning activities indoors and outdoors. They have shown skill and creativity while tracing, drawing and making marks in the large tuff trays using paintbrushes and chalk paints. They developed problem-solving skills when building and comparing tall towers with the Duplo with their peers. The cars have also been a popular choice, with children exploring speed, movement, and turn-taking in their play.



Outdoors, the children have taken time to observe the changing weather, talking about what they could see and feel. This led to wonderful discussions about rain, clouds, rainbows, shadows and sunshine. They also enjoyed joining in together to sing "Rain, Rain, Go Away," which created a lovely sense of shared learning in the garden.



We are so proud of how well the children have started the year and look forward to the learning and experiences to come.

Year Group Blog - Reception

Welcome to the first Reception blog of the Year. Welcome back to the families that have moved up from Nursery and welcome to all the new faces that have joined us this year. We have had a great settling in week and the children have been doing so well. We have seen some wonderful teamwork in our outdoor area where the children created their own balance obstacle course. Our story this week follows a cheeky elephant called Elmer and the children did a great job showing their shocked faces when he shouted BOO! We have loved exploring our new environment and seeing all the new toys and resources we can use. Reception have been getting very busy (and messy!) with the mud kitchen, water trays and glitter tracing. It has been so wonderful getting to know all the children and we know we have a great year ahead of us! Have a lovely weekend from the Reception Team, Miss Mold (Wales) and Miss Tubb (Scotland).



Year Group Blog - Year 1

This week the year 1 children have been settling in to their new classrooms, understanding the new timetable of their day and learning some information about their new class country. They have all come in fantastically and have shown great resilience in transitioning from Reception in to Year 1. We have created our class charter and all agreed on rules that we should follow in year 1. We have been reading The Midnight Panther and exploring positive ways we can speak about ourselves and what we can do. We have also been discussing how all of us are unique and the importance of being ourselves and celebrating our differences.

Year Group Blog - Year 2

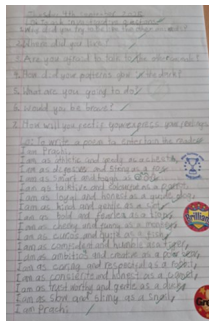
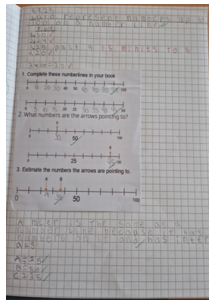
The children in Germany and France class have had a great start to Year 2. We have been so impressed with how they have settled into their new classrooms and routines. The children have enjoyed reading our whole school text 'The Midnight Panther' by Poonam Mistry. Both classes had a great time creating their own giant cats, using adjectives to add super descriptions to their creations. We also explored our inner artists as we used oil pastels to create beautiful illustrations that mirrored the ones from the book. We looked at how different patterns and shapes could be put together to create a masterpiece! Both classes have also enjoyed participating in maths games, practising their numbers bonds. We have explored the themes of internet safety, kindness and friendship as we created our Year 2 class charters.

We are very proud of the children's effort towards their learning, in their new year groups!

Year Group Blog - Year 3

What an exciting first week back at school! It was so lovely to see all the children, and we've already started our Year 3 learning journey with lots of fun activities. This week, we explored the book *The Midnight Panther*. In the story, a panther feels unhappy with himself and tries to be like other animals, such as a lion and a zebra. But nothing worked! In the end, he discovered that he was special just the way he was – glowing beautifully in the dark. The story reminded us that we are all unique and amazing in our own ways. In English, the children used expanded noun phrases and similes to write their own poems, comparing themselves to animals they like. Their ideas were so creative! In Art, the children worked on self-portraits with a twist. One half of their picture showed their own face, and the other half showed the animal they chose to represent themselves. The results were fantastic – well done, everyone! In Maths this week, we have been learning all about place value. We practised partitioning numbers up to 100, used a number line to count carefully up to 100, and even started to count in hundreds. We also created our class charter, learned about staying safe online, and agreed on some important class rules to help us have a happy and successful year together. It's been a brilliant start to Year 3. The children have worked so hard, and we are very proud of them. Have a great weekend!

The Year 3 Team



Year Group Blog - Year 4

A big welcome to all the new students that have joined Year 4. It has been a pleasure to be back in school and Year 4 has had their hands on a few things such as what it means to be included in PSHE, exploration on bravery and confidence based on the *Midnight Panther* by Poonam Mistry. In Maths, we go to represent numbers to 1000. To get familiarised with our respective class countries, we did a research on India and China. We look forward to next week. Please remember India Class Assembly will be on Monday 6th October, where we will share with you all the learning that has taken place so far this term.

Year Group Blog - Year 5

What a wonderful first week back after the summer holidays! Our Year 5 students in the Canada and Brazil classes have returned full of energy, curiosity, and creativity. To launch our new school year, we began by exploring the beautifully written and illustrated story *The Midnight Panther* by Mistry Poonam.

This captivating book tells the tale of a panther searching for his place in the world, and it sparked rich discussions among the children about identity, belonging, and courage. The lyrical language and vibrant imagery offered the perfect inspiration for our first creative project of the term.

Each student composed their own poem in response to the story, drawing on its themes and emotions. We encouraged the children to experiment with words, rhythm, and descriptive language to capture their personal reflections. The results were moving, thoughtful, and imaginative — a true celebration of their individual voices.

To complement their poetry, the children created artwork inspired by the book's stunning illustrations. Using bold colours and expressive shapes, they brought their interpretations of the panther's journey to life. The combination of poetry and visual art made for a powerful showcase of creativity and storytelling.

We are so proud of how confidently the students embraced this project during their very first week back.

Year Group Blog - Year 6

This week has been amazing. The children have settled into the school year with such ease and enthusiasm, which has been wonderful and has been reflected in the level of work they are already producing!

In English, we worked on the text "Midnight Panther" by the author Poonam Mistry as a whole school. The book is a journey of discovery and promotes a love for ourselves, as we all unique and wonderful. The text inspired us to be kinder to those around us and to consider how our differences are things to be celebrated, but also bring us together.

Did you know black panthers are dark or black-coated leopards and jaguars!

Throughout the week we had also been working on setting goals for the school year ahead, as well as identifying the strengths within us - this was much harder than it seems! Ask any one of us for the 5 goals we aim to achieve this school year.

