



Primary School

# Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Another Fun-Filled Week at School!

We've had a fantastic week packed with energy and excitement! From lively discos that had everyone dancing, to spirited rugby sessions that brought out teamwork and enthusiasm, and a lovely "Come and Read" event that celebrated the joy of stories — it's been wonderful to see our children so engaged and happy.

Looking ahead to next week, we're excited to welcome parents in for Parents' Evening, a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and celebrate their achievements. We also have a couple of sporting events lined up, our Harvest Festival to reflect on gratitude and giving, and a fun Doughnut Day treat that's sure to bring smiles!

In our 'No Outsiders' assembly this week, we've been exploring the theme of *connections* — how our relationships with others help us grow, feel supported, and belong. Through shared stories, we've celebrated the importance of these connections and the unique qualities each person brings to them. It's been a powerful reminder that our differences are something to be proud of, and that they enrich the bonds we build with one another.

It was wonderful to see so many children recognised in our Celebration Assembly this week, receiving certificates for *resilience*, *kindness*, and *pride* — all themes we've been exploring together in our assemblies this half term. It's always a joy to celebrate the values that make Gosfield such a caring and inspiring place to learn and grow.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and patience as we work to establish new systems that help our school run more efficiently and effectively. Everything we do is aimed at creating the best possible environment for your children to thrive.

Have a lovely weekend with your families!

Mrs Bower

## Gold Book and Good Citizen Awards

Each Friday we hold a celebration assembly for the whole school. Each teacher chooses two Gold Book awards and one Good Citizen award for children who have hit a key milestone, achieved a personal target, worked above and beyond expectations or who have shown our school values.

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5
<b>Gold Book Awards</b>	Lola Benfield	Isabella Holiday	Kalil Kilany	Ella Slaven	Araya Kilany
	Freddie Groves	Huxley Hercules-Stock	Margot Lacey	Frankie Farrow	Rocco Keymer
<b>Good Citizen Awards</b>	Wendy Davies	Olivia Chapman	Mia Spencer-Peddie	Rosie Spackman	Ava Andress

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

As we prepare for our Harvest Festival on Tuesday 22nd October at the church, we kindly ask families to bring in donations for the local food bank. Non-perishable items such as tins, pasta, rice, cereals, and toiletries are all greatly appreciated. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to support those in need and reflect on the importance of generosity and gratitude. Thank you in advance for your kindness and contributions.

## RUGBY

This week, a group of our children took part in a rugby competition — a brand new sport for many of them! It was wonderful to see how quickly they embraced the challenge, showing real teamwork and encouragement throughout. They were constantly building each other up, cheering one another on, and demonstrating the true Gosfield spirit of care and camaraderie. We were also lucky to have a few rugby stars among the group who already play outside of school — they did a fantastic job helping others learn new skills and boosting their confidence. It was a proud moment for our school and a brilliant example of children supporting each other.



## HALLOWEEN DISCO

Our Halloween Disco was a fantastic evening filled with spooky fun, brilliant costumes, and lots of dancing! It was great to see the children enjoying themselves and getting into the spirit of the event. A huge thank you to FroGS and their amazing army of volunteers for organising and running the disco — your hard work and enthusiasm made it a truly memorable night for everyone!

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

Children have come home this week with a copy of the order form for their Christmas cards. These are specific to each individual child, please keep them safe. We'll be creating these festive designs in school next week, and they always make such lovely keepsakes! If you would like to place an order, please return your completed form no later than Wednesday 22nd October. Thank you for your support!

## DOUGHNUT DAY

We're excited to be holding Doughnut Day on Wednesday after school, with delicious doughnuts on sale at the front of the school for £1 each. All proceeds will go towards raising money for new netball posts, helping to support our sports provision and give children even more opportunities to thrive. Thank you in advance for your support — and enjoy the treat!

## CLUBS

Due to Parents' Evening next week, Little Coders and Reading Club **will not be running.** However, Dodgeball Club will continue as usual. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your understanding.

## COME AND READ

Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for our Come and Read session this week — it was so lovely to see so many children and adults sharing books together and enjoying the joy of reading. These moments really help to strengthen our school community and foster a love of reading. Our next session will be on Friday 7th November at 2:50pm, and we look forward to welcoming you again!

## WINNING WORD COUNT

Class 3	Ellenanne Simmonds- 3,724
Class 4	Jude O'Rourke- 71,123
Class 5	Isabel Archer- 499,425

## WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

We are now reporting on attendance weekly to help highlight the importance of being in school every day. Regular attendance plays a vital role in children's learning, progress, and wellbeing. You'll now see weekly attendance updates included in our newsletter — thank you for your continued support in helping every child make the most of their time at Gosfield.

Class 1	96.9%
Class 2	96%
Class 3	92.9%
Class 4	94%
Class 5	97%
Whole School	95.5%

## UPCOMING DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Parents' Evening** Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

**Harvest Festival**- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October afternoon

**Cross Country** at St. Peter's, Sible Hedingham- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 3.30pm (more details to follow)

**CHRISTMAS DATES**- more details to follow nearer

PTFA CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 3.10-5.45

CLASS 1 & 2 NATIVITY- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 9.15 & Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 5.30

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY and CHRISTMAS DINNER- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December

CLASS 3, 4 & 5 Christmas Concert- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2.30 & Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 5.30

CAROLS ON THE PLAYGROUND- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2.30



Essex County Council

## Helping parents to understand the changes to fines for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools after 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

### Who may be fined?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

### First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.

### National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence, including the U code (late after registers have closed).

For example: a 5 day holiday would meet the national threshold.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

### Second Offence

(within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday), per child, payable within 28 days.

### Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court.

Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2,500.

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.