Thursday 22nd October 2026

As we reach the end of a fantastic first half term, I would like to thank everyone for their support and enthusiasm. It has been a busy and successful start to the year, filled with opportunities for our children. We have celebrated the opening of our new library, enjoyed our refreshed classroom environments, taken part in a range of sporting events, and welcomed our Inclusion Review. It has been wonderful to see our pupils embracing every opportunity with such positivity and enthusiasm.

This week, our Year 5 and 6 boys represented the school brilliantly at the Small Schools Football Finals. We are incredibly proud of their teamwork, determination and sportsmanship. A special thank you goes to Luke Farrow and Beau-Jaxx for giving up their time to support and manage the team.

Yesterday, children took part in the Cross Country event at St Peter's. Despite the rain and windy conditions, our runners showed resilience, determination and a fantastic attitude throughout the day. We are so proud of all they achieved and most importantly, that they had such a wonderful time. Thank you to Sarah Spackman and Kelly Norris for their commitment to running our Cross Country Club and supporting the children throughout the season.

We are incredibly fortunate to have so many volunteers who generously give their time to enrich opportunities for our children. Thank you to Louise Jacob for leading Recorder Club, Sophie Turner for Gardening Club, and Sam and Hugh Conway for their support with the library and choir. A special thank you also goes to Laura Parker-Smith for volunteering with reading, and to all of the parents who have supported school trips, local walks and events this half term. Your contributions make a huge difference to our school community.

Thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening. We were delighted that 98% of families booked and attended appointments. The strong partnership between home and school is crucial in helping our children thrive, and we greatly appreciate your ongoing support.

This week we have also said goodbye to Mrs North and Mrs Pearce. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their hard work, dedication and commitment to our school community during their time with us. They have made a positive difference to the lives of many children and families, and we are incredibly grateful for all they have contributed. We wish them both every success and happiness in the future and know they will be greatly missed by staff, pupils and parents alike.

We are already looking forward to an exciting second half term as we begin our journey towards Christmas. Please remember the upcoming Reception Phonics Session and our Open Classroom event on Friday 13th at 2.45pm, where families will be able to look through children's books and discuss next half term's learning with class teachers. Christmas dates can be found in last week's newsletter and are included again at the bottom of this week's edition.

Have a wonderful, restful half term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting half term of learning, achievement and celebration.

Mrs Bower

R A I S E

Respect Aspiration Integrity Safety Empathy

Raising the bar in everything we do: Because our children deserve the best.

SWAP SHOP

Our Eco Council will be running a School Uniform Swap Shop at the FroGS Halloween Trail. This is a fantastic opportunity for families to browse a selection of good-quality pre-loved school uniform and help support our commitment to sustainability by reusing items that still have plenty of life left in them. A huge thank you goes to the parents who have kindly volunteered their time to help organise and run the stall. We hope many of you will stop by and support this wonderful community initiative.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all of our families for their generous donations for this year's Harvest Festival. Thanks to your kindness and support, we collected an amazing 46.95kg of food donations for the local foodbank, which will help support those in our local community who need it most. We are incredibly proud of the compassion and generosity shown by our school community and appreciate everyone who contributed. Your donations will make a real difference to many people. Thank you for helping us make our Harvest Festival such a success.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

We wanted to share some of the work we have been doing in school to support children's emotional wellbeing.

In September, we launched the Zones of Regulation across the school. Since then, all classes have been learning about the four coloured zones and exploring how feelings can affect our thoughts, behaviour and ability to learn. The aim is to help children recognise how they are feeling, communicate their emotions appropriately and develop strategies to help them regulate themselves when needed.

At the same time, we introduced My Happy Mind, a whole school programme designed to support children's mental health and wellbeing. Through weekly lessons and activities, children learn about how their brains work, how to build positive relationships, develop resilience, practise gratitude and grow their confidence.

To support **ALL** parents and carers with this important area of learning, we are pleased to be offering a **free ACL parent workshop**. The workshop will run over **two consecutive Thursdays, 5th and 12th November, from 9:00am to 11:00am**. This informative and engaging programme is all about why children experience big emotions and how we can support in managing them. This course introduces the tools and language your child is already using in school to help them recognise, understand, and regulate their feelings. We would strongly encourage parents and carers to attend if they are able to and hope you will find the sessions both valuable and enjoyable.

If you would like to attend, please follow the link below to register your interest.

Enrolment link:

https://courses.aclessex.com/CourseDetailsView.asp?CODE=HO4A01JO26&NAME=Zones+of+Regulation+%28Gosfield+Only%29&ID1=9000&ID2=306146&ID3=1

If you have any questions please do email Miss Healy on **senco@gosfield-pri.essex.sch.uk.**

SWIMMING

A reminder that swimming lessons will resume during the first week after half term for our Year 6 pupils. Year 5 swimming lessons will begin the following Wednesday, 11th November. Please ensure that your child brings their swimming kit, towel and any other required items on their allocated swimming day. We look forward to another successful block of swimming lessons and to seeing the children continue to develop their confidence and skills in the water. Please can all Year 3 and 4 come in their PE kits on Wednesdays from the 11th November.

RECEPTION PHONICS SESSIONS

We know that learning to read is one of the most important skills children develop in their early years at school. To help parents gain a better understanding of how we teach phonics, we are pleased to invite Reception parents to join us for a phonics session on Friday 6th November at 9:00am in the school hall. This will provide an opportunity to see a phonics lesson in action and learn more about how you can support your child's reading journey at home. If you would like to attend, please confirm by emailing pupilsupport@gosfield-pri.essex.sch.uk . We will also be offering a similar opportunity to parents of children in Year 1 later in the term.

NATURE SCHOOL

After half term, our Nature School days will change slightly due to staffing. On Mondays, the sessions will now be for the children who are invited as part of their intervention. On Thursdays, Nature School will be for Reception, and on Fridays, it will run for the year group of the half term. Next half term, it is Year 2's turn to enjoy their weekly Nature School sessions. Thank you for your understanding as we make these adjustments to ensure the provision continues smoothly and meaningfully for all children.

Please ensure your child comes with a change of clothes for Nature School - layers, a waterproof coat, and wellies are essential now that the weather is turning. We do have spare waterproof coats and trousers available if needed, so don't worry if something is forgotten. A gentle reminder to label all clothing and wellie boots, as this helps us return items quickly and keeps our cloakrooms running smoothly.

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS

Class	Class winner
Attenborough Class	Thomas- 7,183 coins
Jemison Class	Ellie- 37,357 coins
Hawking Class	Daisy- 24,785 coins
Luther King Jr. Class	Emmanuel- 60,243 coins

WINNING WORD COUNT – FOR 1st HALF TERM

	1st	2nd	3rd	Class total
Jemison	Isabel- 186,596	Bella- 128,584	Ellie- 79,655	651,447
Hawking	Jude- 426,595	Rosie- 188,371	Aubrey- 172,835	1,396,738
Luther King Jr.	Gabe- 128,293	Harriet- 54,363	Emmanuel- 39,080	297,986

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Kahlo Class	97.8%
Attenborough Class	99%
Jemison	89%
Hawking Class	90.8%
Luther King Class	100%
Whole school	95.4%

HOUSE POINTS

	Weekly points	Half-term points
Cowell	506	2423
Donaldson	547	2487
Morpurgo	488	2333
Rosen	522	2610



Join us for an open and supportive session looking at strategies to support with managing anxiety for children and young people with SEND

Team Dandelion are being joined by SPACE (Support for Parents and Carers in Essex) at Braintree Baptist Church for our usual Coffee Hub on Tuesday 17th November.

They will be sharing a workshop on Anxiety to help you support your anxious child.

Anxiety Workshop *Free to attend* Tickets, Tuesday, November 17 • 1 PM - 2:30 PM | Eventbrite

UPCOMING DATES FOR THE TERM

Friday 23rd October- INSET day
Friday 6th November- Panatholn 10 pin Bowling event (more details to follow)
Friday 6th November- Reception Parents Phonics session at 9.00
Friday 6th November- FroGS Halloween Trail after school
Friday 13th November- Open Classroom at 2.45pm
Thursday 19th November- Kahlo Class and Attenborough Class trip to Hedingham Castle
Friday 27th November- Luther King Jr. Class trip to Essex Police Museum
Saturday 28th November- Halstead Christmas Fayre- Choir to perform (more details to follow)
Tuesday 1st December- KS2 Pickleball Competition (more details to follow)
Tuesday 1st December- KS2 Netball Competition at St. Peter's (more details to follow)
Wednesday 2nd December- Jemison Class and Hawking Class trip to the National Gallery, London (more details to follow)
Saturday 5th December- FroGS Christmas Fayre 10:00-2.00
Tuesday 8th December- Kahlo and Attenborough Christmas Nativity at 5.30
Wednesday 9th December- Kahlo and Attenborough Christmas Nativity at 1.30
Thursday 10th December- Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day
Tuesday 5th December- Winter Concert for Jemison, Hawking and Luther King Jr Class at 5.30
Friday 18th December- Carols on the Playground at 2.15













WREATH MAKING *Evening*

Join us for a festive evening of
Christmas wreath making with
Harper Rose Flowers
at
Gosfield Community Primary School



Tuesday 24th November

7pm – 9pm

Gosfield Community Primary School

Includes a glass of fizz / soft drinks

£50 pp

£20 deposit to school office to secure your place

Come along, get creative and enjoy a lovely festive evening!

PLACES ARE LIMITED, SO BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!

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Saturday Crafts

Halstead Library

Every Saturday, 11am to 1pm

- **Try some fun crafts**
- **Drop in and discover what we are making each week!**

libraries.essex.gov.uk

Essex County Council Libraries

This is a digital poster, please do not print



Baby and Toddler Rhymetime

Halstead Library

Every Monday and Tuesday, 10.30am to 11am

- **Free your child's imagination with songs and stories, give their early communication skills a boost and have fun together!**
- **Booking required**
- **Bookings open 11am one week before the session and close 9am on the day**

libraries.essex.gov.uk