GORSE RIDE SCHOOLS

GROW | RESPECT | SUCCEED

NEWSLETTER

March 2021

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Gorse Ride Schools
Gorse Ride South
Finchampstead
Berkshire

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(Infant & Nursery School)

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(Junior School)

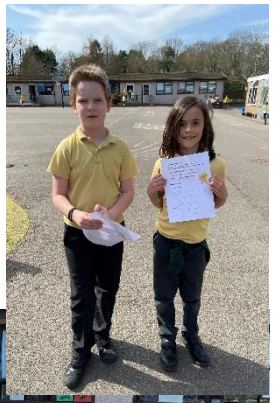
Headteacher's Message

We are so proud of our children and how they have shown huge resilience and adaptability as we moved from remote learning to in-school learning this term. They have worked extremely hard in their lessons and have reconnected with their peers and staff, following all our additional measures to remain COVID secure and undertaking really busy days at school. We would like to thank you too for supporting your children at home in their learning since January. Without your efforts your children would not have made the transition back to school so smoothly or have maintained so much of their learning. A special mention and thank you to the whole staff team who have been truly amazing throughout these most challenging of times. They have overcome their own worries and concerns, been highly adaptable and flexible in their working practices and learned many new skills to ensure our children continue to receive high quality teaching and learning. Gorse Ride you are amazing!

The staff and I wish you all a relaxing Easter holiday with time to rest and recuperate for the summer term.

Easter Egg Hunt

Thank you to everyone for your donations, you have helped us to raise over £300. We are thinking about how we can spend this on the children's experiences later in the year which we will share with you soon.



Positivity

School Council Activities

Our School Council have been discussing activities around this terms message, positivity. They have come up with some incredible ideas on ways to stay positive during current restrictions.
Here are just some examples of what the children have come up with.

Euan
Positivity Bingo – everyone could have a Bingo grid with lots of different ideas about how to be positive. Each day they could choose 1 and mark it off when they have done it. When the grid is full it is bingo and they win some house points, or something.

Henry
After school, for 20 minutes engage in an activity/activities you enjoy.

Catherine
- *Play with your brother or sister.*
- *Colour in.*
- *Learn some French.*
- *Write a story.*
- *Have a zoom call with your friends.*

Kian
I think I have a really good idea. And I hope everybody would like it. I think everyone can make paper airplanes and we can call them "joyful jets" or "positive planes". I have made some planes to look at.

The PTA received a kind donation of sunflower seeds from Squires, thank you to the team who have put together little packs of sunflower seeds for each child to take home and plant a little ray of sunshine.

Share a Wave Trail

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Share A Wave Trail. It has been lovely seeing so many waves across the community and we hope the children enjoyed the initiative. You helped to raise £150.50, so thank you very much

Red Nose Day

Children in year 2 brightened up the school pick up by displaying jokes

Dates and Reminders

Support group for Gorse Ride parents & carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

A support group is available online via Classlist. It was set up by parents Anne-Marie Lansley (parent in year 4) and Debbie Jacobs (Teaching Assistant at Gorse Ride and former parent).

The group is for parents/carers of Gorse Ride children with additional needs.

The aim of the group is:

- To help parents / carers connect with others supporting a child with SEND
- To share worries/concerns, in confidence, without fear of judgement and criticism
- To share knowledge of strategies, local events and training
- To celebrate successes and share positive stories

Before Covid-19 the group would also meet up in person. However, now the group is looking to hold meetups over Zoom.

They hope to be able to meet up in person again once life returns to normal.

If you wish to join the Classlist group, please request membership via the Classlist website or app.

Considerate Parking: Please be mindful of where you are parking and please do not block our neighbours driveways.

A **reminder** that children will finish an hour early tomorrow:

Year 5 & 6 – 1.55pm
Year 4 & 1 – 2.05pm
Year 3, 2 & Reception – 2.15pm

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SALE INFANT SCHOOL HALL

Wednesday 7th April
10 am - 2pm

Thank you to everyone for your recent donations. These have now been put aside and quarantined in preparation for a safe, socially distanced uniform sale.

We will be operating a one-way system and limiting the number of people in the hall at any one time.

Please use hand sanitiser AS SOON As You arrive AND when you leave.

Please respect social distancing and government recommended COVID-19 best practices in social gatherings.

If you still have donations, these can be brought in on the day of the sale but will be put aside for the next sale. Please ensure all donations are of good quality, have retained their colour and are not ripped or marked.

If you have uniform that is no longer at its best, please bag these up and put them in the blue bin on the school site - near to the year 1 outside classroom area. The school gets paid by the weight of donated fabric so you are helping the school even if the uniform is no longer of a quality to hand on to others.

Dates for Summer Term 2021

New dates are highlighted in green

April				
19th	**Start of Summer Term**	**Both**	Yr R - 6	All children return to school
20th	**Start of Summer Term**	**Nursery**	Nursery only	Nursery children return to nursery
26th	**Extra-Curricular Clubs start**	**Both**	Yr R - 6	Please refer to the clubs newsletter for information
May				
17th	**Walk to School Week**	**Both**	Yr R - 6	Families are encouraged to ditch the cars and walk, scoot or cycle to school.
31st	**Half-Term**	**Both**	Yr N - 6	
June				
7th	**Return to School**	**Both**	All	All children return to school
14th	**Healthy Eating Week**	**Both**	All	Further information will be sent nearer the time
July				
20th	**Nursery – End of Summer Term**	**Nursery**	Nursery only	Nursery children's last day of term
21st	**END OF SUMMER TERM**	**Both**	Yr R - 6	Last day of the academic year

Diary Dates: These are the dates we have set at present. Further events may be added and these will appear in Newsletters throughout the term. Occasionally events are cancelled for a variety of reasons and they too will be highlighted in our newsletters.

GORSE RIDE SCHOOLS ARE COMMITTED TO SAFEGUARDING AND PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AND EXPECTS ALL PUPILS, STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, VISITORS AND EXTERNAL AGENCIES TO SHARE THIS COMMITMENT. SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS PLEASE SPEAK TO MISS ROGERS, DESIGNATED CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER.

Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for members of Gorse Ride Infants' School** if they sign up by Monday 3rd May. Parents should quote GORI030521 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120.

perform.org.uk/try.

Wokingham Rocks has lots of ideas for families to do over the Easter holidays from community Easter egg hunts, local walks as well as plenty of Easter craft ideas which I hope will be helpful for some Easter lockdown inspiration.

FOR INSPIRATION VISIT:
www.wokinghamrocks.co.uk

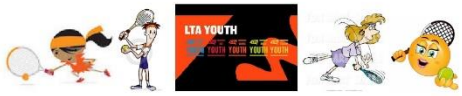
TENNIS COACHING

Summer Term - Mondays

Indoors in the sports hall @

fbchurch
finchampstead baptist church

Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead RG40 4ES



Get to know all the strokes, understand the techniques and learn more about the game. Bring your friends & try this fantastic sport together… Lots of ball skills & fun activities. Great games. Play with smaller courts, nets, rackets and lower bouncing sponge or red balls.

For players new to tennis – this is the perfect introduction to the sport, with all the fun and energy of the real thing. For more experienced players, Tennis @ FBC is a great opportunity to refine your tennis technique indoors.

To keep everyone safe we will be following government, LTA and FBC Covid 19 guidelines.

Inside – warm & dry! We'd love to see you!

Dates: 19, 26 April & 10, 17, 24 May & 07, 14, 21, 28 June & 05, 12 July 2021

Times: 15:30 - 16:20 (4-9 yrs) or
16:30 - 17:20 (8-13 yrs)

Cost: £99 for 11 lessons (refunds if further lockdowns)

Enquiries – email, ring or message me. ☺

AZ Tennis
Coaching by Alison Longfield

az.tennis@hotmail.com
07906 263430
Level 3 Tennis Coach