



Gosford Hill School Parent Bulletin

No. 6 – Friday 11th October 2024

www.gosfordhillschool.org

Key Dates and Upcoming Events

Next Week (A)		
Date	Event	Time
Mon 14th October		
Tues 15th October		
Weds 16th October	Restart a Heart (Year 7) Bring a Grown Up! – Computing Workshop	4:00pm - 5:00pm
Thurs 17th October		
Fri 18th October	Sixth Form Interform Event	8:50am - 10:15am

Following Week (B)		
Date	Event	Time
Mon 21st October		
Tues 22nd October	Year 10 Interform Event (Part 1) Year 8 Interform Event (Part 1) Ghost-ford Hill School	12:15pm - 1:15pm 1:55pm - 3:15pm 4:30pm - 6:00pm
Weds 23rd October	Year 8 Interform Event (Part 2) Year 7 Welcome Event	1:55pm - 3:15pm 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Thurs 24th October	Year 7 Interform Event	9:50am - 12:15pm
Fri 25th October	Year 9 Interform Event Year 10 Interform Event (Part 2)	8:30am - 10:15am 11:30pm - 12:30pm

My Child at School (MCAS)

MCAS is an app/portal that provides access to view students' attendance, behaviour, homework as well as notifications and messages from school.

If you have not already activated MCAS you can do so by going to www.mychildatschool.com and completing the "Reset password" function using your email address that is registered with school (the one you received this Parent Bulletin via).

Once you have reset your password you can then login to the app on your mobile phone or via the online portal at: www.mychildatschool.com

MCAS will be used for Parents Evening bookings, so please do get it setup if you haven't already.

Posted by – The IT Support Team

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Toilets

A small number of students have spoken to us in recent weeks about access to high quality toilet facilities during the school day. Reports of issues relating to toilets is not new, or indeed unique, to Gosford Hill School. We know that there are three common problems that are reported to us by students:

- Vandalism of toilet facilities by a small number of students in our community
- Access to toilet facilities without groups of students 'loitering' in them
- Adequate supervision of toilet facilities to deter poor or antisocial behaviour

While these problems are not unique to Gosford Hill, and are regularly reported in local and national media, we recognise that we must work hard to ensure that students have efficient access to high quality toilet facilities which they feel safe and comfortable to use.

In order to achieve this, we are making two key changes to the way access to our toilet facilities work from Monday 14th October.

ALL

- **The toilets in the science block will be closed.** These facilities are some of the older and more difficult to maintain in the school. Closing these allows our site team to focus their attention on the maintenance and upkeep of other facilities around the school.
- **During the school day, students must use the female toilets at the end of the maths corridor, and the male toilets on the English corridor.** This allows us to increase staff presence outside these toilets during transition and unstructured times. During break and lunch times, staff will be managing the entry and exit to these facilities to control the flow of students such that students don't loiter in these areas.

We are confident that by using the main toilet blocks in the school we will be able to ensure that all students have quicker access to adequate toilet facilities and reduce the risk of antisocial behaviour.

During lesson times, our policy remains that we do not routinely allow students to leave lessons to use the toilets. Where students have a medical condition, they will have been issued with a toilet pass to use responsibly. Our teachers will also use their professional judgement to manage access to toilets when students are clearly in need of this access.

Posted by – Mr Bateman

'Restart a Heart' for Year 7 students

**Year
7**

Next Wednesday 16th October, students in Year 7 will be taking part in 'Restart a Heart', where South Central Ambulance Service will be delivering sessions on the use of CPR and a defibrillator.

The aim of the session is to support young people in learning to become the lifesavers of the future. If your young person is likely to be impacted by this, then please let us know.

Posted by – Mr Darvell

Safeguarding

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Please remember that if you have a safeguarding concern within school hours, please send a message to the following email address: safeguarding@gosfordhillschool.org

If you have any safeguarding concerns outside of school hours please contact our local MASH Team (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) on **0345 050 7666**.

Posted by – Mr La Porte

Ghost-ford Hill School – Tuesday 22nd October (4:30pm to 6:00pm)



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This spooky season, children in Years 4-6 are invited to wear their best fancy dress and explore our classrooms in search of sweets and treats. But who knows what Ghouls and Goblins roam the Ghost-ford Hill School corridors at night-time? Parents and carers are welcome to accompany or sit back and enjoy tea and coffee.

Please complete this short Google Form to register your interest in attending: <https://forms.gle/Wz166tVAuDe9jwSS7>

Posted by – Mr Birchall

Google Classroom

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Parents do not have direct access to Google Classroom to view work/homework that has been set. Parents receive a guardian summary email (if the invite has been accepted) which provides a daily or weekly summary of work set and highlights tasks overdue or coming up.

If you want to view the work directly you can do so via MCAS (although we are aware of a bug in the mobile app that currently prevents this on some devices) or you can login using the child's school login details directly to Google Classroom.

If you have any issues, please email directly to support@gosfordhillschool.org where the team will be able to assist you.

Posted by – The IT Support Team

Internet Matters – Free Digital Toolkit for Parents and Carers

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There are so many really good resources out there for parents/carers about how to help keeping children safe online, but it can quickly become really overwhelming.

Internet Matters has a really great resource for parents called My Family's Digital Toolkit. This is a personalised resource which gives age-specific advice, advice to deal with specific concerns, recommendations for digital tools to support children's interests and more.

The toolkit is free and you can find more details [here](#).

Posted by – Mr La Porte

Bring a Grown Up! – FREE Family Learning Workshops at Gosford Hill School

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Throughout the academic year, Gosford Hill School is hosting a series of fun family-oriented learning sessions, during which we invite **primary school-aged children in Years 4-6** to 'Bring a Grown Up!' and try something new!

This term, have fun solving Maths puzzles, explore French language and culture or learn to code a Microbit at one of our free family learning workshops.

Computing Workshop – Wednesday 16th October – 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Maths Workshop – Tuesday 3rd December – 4:00pm to 5:00pm

French Workshop – Monday 9th December – 4:00pm to 5:00pm

[Click here](#) to learn more or to book. Places are limited and are already filling fast, so please book today to avoid disappointment!

Please note that only one ticket is required to be booked to enable participation for one child and one accompanying parent. Should you need help with ticket booking, please give us a call on 01865 374971.

Posted by – Mr Birchall

English Schools' Football Association Council Vacancy – Parent Council Member

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The English Schools' Football Association is seeking a parent of a schools' footballer to join its Council. The Association is actively seeking to diversify its decision-making body and intends to appoint a parent of one of the thousands of schools' footballers to the Council in order to better understand the experience of schools' football from a customer perspective.

We have created an application pack, including a brochure about the role, an application form and diversity form and have housed them all on the ESFA website here: <https://schoolsfootball.org/about-us/join-in/vacancies/>

Applications are to be submitted via email with both forms filled out to ESFA CEO, Andrea Chilton by midday on 13th October 2024.

Posted on behalf of the English Schools' Football Association

Careers Update

OxLEP Skills – Picks of the Week newsletter

Parents can sign up to receive local career events relevant to all years direct to their mailbox: <https://oxlepskills.co.uk/schools-colleges/oxfordshire-careers-hub/#picks>

Main College & Training Open Days for the diary

ACE Training (Kidlington) Construction	26th October or 9th November (10am - 12pm)
Activate Learning Colleges	Banbury & Bicester College Sat 12th Oct (9:30am - 12pm) or Weds 13th Nov (4:30pm - 7pm) City of Oxford College – Blackbird Leys Weds 16th Oct (4:30pm-7pm) or Sat 9th Nov (9:30am-12pm) Rugby Programme Boys – Harcourt Hill Campus Sat 19 October (9am - 12pm) City of Oxford College – City Centre Sat 19th Oct (9:30am-12pm) or Weds 20th Nov (4.30pm-7pm) Rugby Programme Girls – Harcourt Hill Campus Sat 16th November (9:30am - 1pm)
Abingdon and Witney College	Abingdon campus: Wed 6th Nov 3:30pm Witney campus: Wed 13th Nov at 3:30pm Bicester Construction Skills Centre: 20th Nov at 4pm
Oxfordshire Advanced Skills Open Day	Weds 20th November (5:30pm - 7:30pm)

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OUH Pharmacy Careers Event: 17th October (5:15pm - 7:00pm)

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust are holding an after school talk on discovering pharmacy careers at the JR for students in Year 7 and above. Students can find out about all the careers in pharmacy, both in hospitals and the community and hear talks from people doing a range of pharmacy roles. Find out more.

PwC Virtual Classrooms: 17th October (4:30pm to 5:30pm)

PwC are running a series of virtual classrooms covering opportunities with PwC, including apprenticeships and degree programmes. The one on 17th October is for parents and carers.

Posted by – Mrs Zajac



Gosford Hill School
Admissions Open
 for students joining us in September 2025



It's an exciting time to join Gosford Hill School...

- Rated Good by Ofsted.
- Excellent GCSE and A Level results.
- We are the first school in Oxfordshire to be part of the Department for Education's Schools Rebuilding programme.



Apply online now:
www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/admissions
 Gosford Hill School, Oxford Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, OX5 2NT

Calling all brave students in Year 4-6!



Join us for a spooktacular night of trick-or-treating at
GHOST-FORD HILL SCHOOL
 (Gosford Hill School, Oxford Road, Kidlington)

Tuesday 22nd October (4:30pm to 6:00pm)

This spooky season, children in Years 4-6 are invited to wear their best fancy dress and explore our classrooms in search of sweets and treats. Who knows what Ghouls and Goblins roam the Ghost-ford Hill School corridors at night-time? Parents and carers are welcome to accompany or sit back and enjoy tea and coffee.

Scan here to register!



MORE



Intensive SWIMMING COURSES

October Half term - Crash Course

Do you want to give your child's swimming ability a quick boost over the October half term?

We have a 5-day crash course available to help! £35 for the week. New children welcomed. 4.5 years and above

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November 10-12:30 at Ferry Leisure Centre!

10:00 – Stage 1
 10:30 – Stage 2
 11:00 – Stage 3
 11:30 – Stage 4
 12:00 – Stage 5

Interested?
 To find out more, ask at reception or call us on 0330 109 8771

  let's do **MORE**



Kidlington FC Football Camps

OCTOBER-Tues 29th, Weds 30th, Thurs 31st, Fri 1st Nov

NEW YEAR 2025- Thurs 2nd and Fri 3rd January

Open to all abilities, engaging games to improve skill, fun challenges, matches & tournaments. Sessions led by UEFA & FA qualified coaches.

Venue- Kidlington FC, Yarnton Road, OX5 1AT

Boys and Girls Ages 6-14, 9am-3pm

£25 per day or £80 if booking full 4 days of October camp.

WhatsApp, Text, or Email to reserve your space. Payment to be made via card or cash at the course.

Contact Ben Sadler to book:
sadlerben@hotmail.co.uk / 077921 72430

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S KIDLINGTON



PRUE LEITH TALK

Prue will be recounting many colourful stories of her life, which has ranged from running her own cooking company, appearing in Celebrity Bake Off, writing novels and much more besides.

**Saturday 19th October, 6pm
St Mary's Church,
Church Street, Kidlington, OX5 2AZ**

Booking essential:
see fosmk.org.uk/prue-leith-talk or order
through Eventbrite
Further talks in our Storytelling programme:
Debbie Dance 16th November

Bring a Crown Up!



FREE Family Learning Workshops at Gosford Hill School

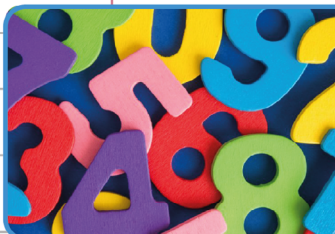
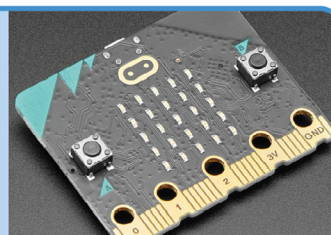
Autumn Term (2024 - 2025)

Suitable for children in Years 4-6

Computing Workshop

Wednesday 16th December, 4pm - 5pm

Join us to explore the fascinating world of MicroBits. During our hands-on workshop, you'll discover how to code a MicroBit using a user-friendly block editor and even create your very own computer character.



Maths Workshop

Tuesday 3rd December, 4pm - 5pm

Have fun and put your brain to the test with some Maths puzzles and quizzes – each with a Christmas spin!

French Workshop

Monday 9th December, 4pm - 5pm

Come and explore French language and culture with a Christmas theme. We will be learning key vocabulary through playing games and putting our linguistic skills to the test to find hidden Christmas presents.



We look forward to seeing you at one or all of these FREE workshops.

Scan the QR code today to book your place, or visit:
www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/community/bring-a-grown-up
Alternatively, you can give us a call on 01865 374971

