



Gosford Hill School Parent Bulletin

No. 13 – Friday 5th December 2025

www.gosfordhillschool.org

Key Dates and Upcoming Events

Next Week (B)		
Date	Event	Time
Mon 8th December	Flu Vaccinations for Year 7-11 (Hall) Bring a Grown Up! French Workshop	4:00pm - 5:00pm
Tues 9th December		
Weds 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch Year 13 Parents Evening	4:00pm - 6:30pm
Thurs 11th December	Christmas Carol Concert at St. Mary's Church, Kidlington	7:00pm - 8:00pm
Fri 12th December		

Following Week (A)		
Date	Event	Time
Mon 15th December	Social Science Trip to the Bethlem Institute of Psychiatry	8:00am - 4:30pm
Tues 16th December		
Weds 17th December		
Thurs 18th December	BBC Careers Roadshow in the Hall Sixth Form Interform Competition	9:00am - 1:20pm 10:00am - 11:00am
Fri 19th December	End of Autumn Term	School finishes at 12:30pm

Next Parents CAN (Connect and Natter) Meeting – Monday 12th January 2026



ALL

Our next Parents CAN (Connect And Natter) meeting will be on Monday 12th January from 9:15am to 10:45am. Our Parent CAN meetings offer a supportive space for parents to meet up and talk about anything that might be on their mind, in relation to parenting and supporting their children, over light refreshments. These meetings are facilitated by our Lead School Counsellor. There will be a talk at 9:30am where we will be thinking this time about anxiety and how it can affect school attendance.

Posted on behalf of Parents CAN



Christmas Fair – Saturday 6th December – 2:00pm to 4:00pm

 Saturday 6th December 2025  2:00pm to 4:00pm  Gosford Hill School Hall

Join us for our traditional Christmas Fair, a joyful afternoon filled with festive fun for all ages! Enjoy a wonderful variety of stalls, games, live music, and seasonal treats to get you into the holiday spirit.

ALL

🌟 Tombola · Craft Stalls · Games · Live Music · Refreshments 🌟

We'd love to see you there as we come together to celebrate this special time of year!

Once again, we're inviting local small craft businesses to host a stall at the fair. Stalls cost £10 each, with all proceeds going to support the school.

If you – or someone you know – would like to take part, please contact the school office for more details.

Collection of Summer 2025 Examination Certificates

Summer 2025 examination certificates will be available to collect from Reception during the following dates and times:

Monday 8th December – Wednesday 17th December 2025 (between 9:30am and 4:00pm)

Monday 12th January – Friday 23rd January 2026 (between 9:30am and 4:00pm)

ALL

Candidates may arrange for certificates to be collected on their behalf, or posted via recorded delivery (at a cost) by completing the form on the 'Exams Information' page of our website:

<https://gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/information-for-parents/exam-information/>

Authorised persons must provide photographic ID evidence on collection of certificates.

We recommend that you collect your certificates as soon as possible. Gosford Hill School will keep your certificates for a maximum of one year. After that, they will be destroyed. Please look after your certificates, as some awarding bodies do not offer a replacement certificate service.

Posted by – The Exams Team

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

Throughout the academic year, Gosford Hill School hosts 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 Autumn term, come and create your own computer character, join us for a textiles workshop, learn all about Christmas traditions in France or have fun solving some Maths puzzles and quizzes, at one of our free family learning workshops.

ALL

French Workshop – Monday 8th December

[Please click here](#) to learn more or to book. Places are limited so please book sooner than later to avoid disappointment. All sessions start promptly at 4pm and run for an hour.

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

Christmas Carol Concert – Thursday 11th December – 7:00pm

You're warmly invited to join us for our annual Christmas Carol Concert at St. Mary's Church, Kidlington, on Thursday 11th December, from 7:00pm.

ALL

Enjoy a delightful evening filled with festive performances from our talented students, featuring a mix of timeless classics and modern favourites.

Admission is free – come share in the joy and spirit of the season with us! We can't wait to celebrate with you. 🌟🎅🎶

Posted by – Mr Purtell

LIVE Careers Infosheet

ALL

Please [click here](#) to access our LIVE Careers Infosheet. This useful document is regularly updated with the latest work experience opportunities, insight days, guides and support.

Posted by – Mrs Zajac

Safeguarding

ALL

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



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WR SPORTS CHRISTMAS CAMPS

EARLY BIRD CODE: EB10 ENDS 05/12

4-12 yrs
DEC-JAN
22ND, 23RD, 2ND

LOCATIONS:
BRACKLEY LEISURE CENTRE
TOWCESTER CENTRE FOR LEISURE
WHEATLEY PARK SCHOOL
WATLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
THE SWAN SCHOOL, OXFORD

WHY JOIN US?

- Perfect way to keep your kids active this holiday.
- Wide range of activities.
- Build confidence and skills.




Christmas Workshops **The North Wall Arts Centre**

NW Inventors
Ages 8-11
Creative Christmas Cracker!
Monday 22 December
10am - 4pm

A cracker of a workshop to start the Christmas holidays! Get crafty and creative as we explore a range of theatre skills and dive into seasonal storytelling in this hands on, festively fun workshop and theatre trip. Includes a ticket to see Creation Theatre's *The Nutcracker*.

Tickets £45

YouthLab
Ages 12-17
Stage:Play
Tuesday 23 December
10am - 4pm

Join us this Christmas for Stage:Play – a fast-paced creative skills workshop: improvise, devise, write, direct, build characters, explore movement and PLAY! All wrapped up in a theatre trip.

Includes a ticket to see Creation Theatre's *The Nutcracker*.

Tickets £45

Full bursaries available
Email participation@thenorthwall.com to apply
Book now: thenorthwall.com




The path to your future starts here...

Sixth Form Centre



Sixth Form Open Evening

Wednesday 14th January 2026
5:30pm to 7:30pm

GOSFORD HILL SCHOOL

Ofsted Good Provider

Dedicated Sixth Form facilities

Bespoke pastoral support

Consistently outstanding grades

www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/sixth-form 01865 374971





PARENTLINKS

PARENT SUPPORT Group for parents of secondary school-aged children

A peer support group for parents of secondary school-aged children who have additional needs and/or mental health concerns.

This is a parent-focused group, facilitated by a professionally accredited therapist (UKCP/MBACP) It provides a safe and supportive space to share and talk through the challenges you may be facing with your child.

When? **Tuesdays**
6pm - 7:30pm

Where? St Mary's Church Hall
Church Street
Kidlington OX5 2AZ

Cost? **Free!**

SUPPORT

Empowering parents through shared experience and professional support

If this sounds like the group for you, please get in touch with Rachel at parentlinkspg@gmail.com to request more information or to reserve a space. Alternatively, send a message on our Facebook page below.

www.facebook.com/parentlinkspg







10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website



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/www.thenationalcollege



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