



# The Gusford Gazette

Please remember we break up for half term on Friday 20th October and return after the holiday on Monday 30th October.

Issue 235

Friday 6th October 2023

Circulation: 540

## Share Sessions

Nursery/Reception 11th October 2:15 - 3:15pm

Year 2 12th October 2:15 - 3:15pm

Year 1 13th October 2:15 - 3:15pm

## Seeing is Believing

Year 5/6 11th October 9:00 - 9:30am

Year 3/4 12th October 9:00 - 9:30am

## Reading Cafe (8:20 - 8:40am)

October 12th Year 1 and Year 6

October 19th EYFS and Year 4

Parents are welcome at all sessions. No need to book, just turn up on the day.

## Phonics and Early Reading Presentation

We'd like to invite you to a presentation on Phonics and Early Reading and also how we'll be using Tapestry this year to create the EYFS learning journeys. This will be on Thursday 12th October at 1:45pm (prior to the EYFS share session) in the school hall. Many thanks, EYFS Team.

## Black History Month

October is Black History Month although it should be a focus all year. At Gusford, we will be looking at some influential black Britons who have changed the way we live our lives.

## New Lunchtime Menu

After the October half-term, there will be a new lunchtime menu (still a three week cycle). Please see the attached. It looks great!

## National Mental Health Day

Tuesday 10th October is National Mental Health Day. It is a universal right to have mental health; to help raise awareness, the children can wear as little or as much yellow as they like to school.

## Pumpkin Carving Competition

Tuesday 31st October. Bring in your pumpkins in the morning, we'll put them on display outside the Year 3 classrooms, choose 3 winners and you can then take them home at the end of the day.

1. Classic pumpkin
2. Most intricate carving
3. Best decorated

## Awareness Days and Whole School Diary Dates

**National Mental Health Day**-Tuesday 10th October. Wear something **yellow** to school (no donation, just celebration).

**Parents' Evenings**-Monday 16th October 4:00pm-7:30pm and Wednesday 18th October 3:45pm - 5:45pm.

Friday 20th October-**Multiple Sclerosis** (MS) Orange Day (non-uniform £1.00 donation). All money raised to MS.

**Pumpkin Carving Competition**-Tuesday 31st October. Bring pumpkins to school in the morning and take them home at the end of the day.

Wednesday 1st November-**Attendance Celebration** (for all those children with 96% attendance and above). 10.30am.

We are holding an **Open Evening** on Thursday 2nd November 6.00-8.00pm in the school hall. You can phone up and book in or just turn up on the night. You are also welcome to ring the school at anytime and the Headteacher will show around while the children are at work.

Friday 10th November-**Remembrance Day Service** 10.45am. We will also be sending a small group of children to the British Legion's Schools' Service at Ipswich Cemetery.

Friday 17th November-**Snowwhite LIVE!** In the school hall. £1.00 donation please.

Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd December. St. Francis Church **Christmas Tree Festival** which will take place over the weekend. Look out for our tree

## Nursery/Reception Christmas Performances

Two performances, 7th and 8th December starting at 2.00pm.

## Year 1/2 Christmas Performances

Two performances, 18th and 19th December starting at 2.00pm

Wednesday 12th December-**School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day**

Wednesday 12th December- **School Disco**

Reception 2.00-3.00pm

Y1/2/3 3.30-4.30pm

Y4/5/6 5.00-6.30pm

Friday 15th December-**Ipswich Town Day** (money raised towards installation of a school flag pole £1.00 donation)

Friday 2nd February-**World Cancer Day** (Sunday 4th). Non-uniform £1.00 donation. All money raised to CRUK.

Thursday 7th March-**World Book Day** (dress up as your favourite book character. No donation just celebration)

Friday 21st June-**Suffolk County Day** (wear something connected to Suffolk). No donation just celebration.

## Sports Days

Nursery and Reception - Monday 1st July 10:15-11:45am

Years 5 and 6 - Tuesday 2nd July 1.30pm

Years 3 and 4 - Wednesday 3rd July 1.30pm

Years 1 and 2 - Thursday 4th July 1.30pm

### Last week's challenge

We have five 'knight' adjective winners: Oliver Year 1, Tyler Year 4, Emily Year 4, Harrison Year 4, Riley Year 5 and Ava Year 5. Congratulations!

### This week's challenge

Start with an animal, for example, dog. Dog ends in 'g' so think of animal beginning with g, for example gerbil. Gerbil ends in 'l' so think of animal beginning with l.

dog-gerbil-lama-ant-tiger-rabbit-tarantula etc

How long can you keep the animal trail going? Get your entries to me by Friday next week and the longest trail wins an animal prize.

### Nursery and Reception Outside Area

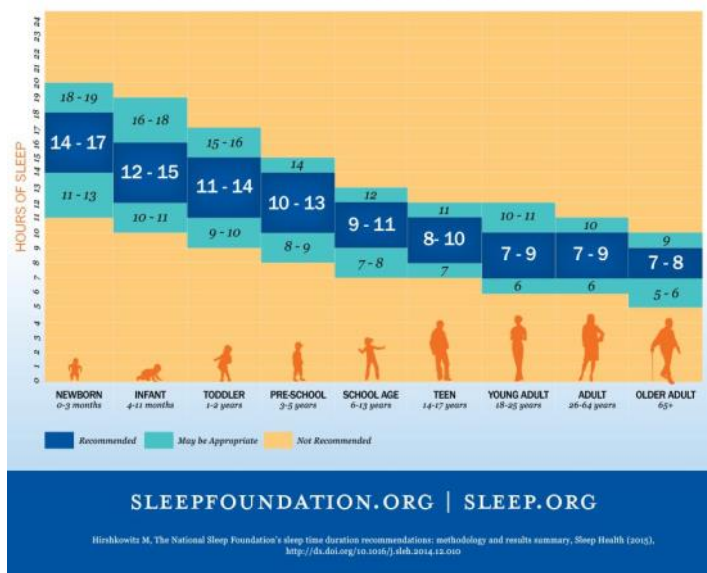
In the morning, a number of KS2 children have started to play in the Nursery and Reception outside area, climbing on the blocks/in wheelbarrows and taking the covers off the mud kitchen etc. It is often set up in a certain way to help with the day's learning. Please can you ask the children to stay off the equipment in the mornings. Thank you.

### Attendance Matters

Our attendance this week was 93.8%. 5SI were the highest attenders with 98.3%. Quite simply if the children are in school they are much more likely to be successful in their learning. Thank you.



### SLEEP DURATION RECOMMENDATIONS



### Our Nursery and Reception Teachers



Miss Watson (Nursery)



Miss Law (Reception)



Miss Rush (Reception)

Option 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza Whirl with New Potatoes	Spaghetti Bolognese	Roast of the Day, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy	Yamas! NEW Greek Chicken Pita with Seasoned Wedges or NEW Spinach & Cheese Parcel with Seasoned Wedges	Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
Option 2	Tomato Pasta	Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese	Vegan Quorn Fillet with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Fresh Salad Rainbow Slaw	Quorn Burger with Chips & Tomato Sauce
Vegetables	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Apple Flapjack	Peas Baked Beans
Dessert	Peaches with Ice Cream	Chocolate and Apple Sponge	Fruit Salad		NEW Cornflake Tart
Or a choice of Yoghurt & Fresh Fruit available daily					





# Menu for after half-term

Autumn/ Winter 2023/ 2024		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>WEEK ONE</b>  30/10/2023 20/11/2023 11/12/2023 15/01/2024 05/02/2024 04/03/2024 25/03/2024	Option one	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Pasta Salad	A choice of Burger (Beef & Bean or Vegan) with Toppings and Potato Wedges	Roast of the Day, Stuffing Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Spaghetti Bolognese with Garlic Bread	Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option two	<b>NEW</b> Chef Mariam's Vegetable Couscous		Veg Wellington, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Veggie Bolognese with Garlic Bread	Cheesy Bean Pasty with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Vegetables	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	Mandarin and Cinnamon Cake	Fruit Jelly with Mandarins	<b>NEW</b> Melting Moment Biscuits	<b>NEW</b> Jam and Coconut Sponge	Oaty Cookie
<b>WEEK TWO</b>  06/11/2023 27/11/2023 18/12/2023 22/01/2024 19/02/2024 11/03/2024	Option one	Tomato Pasta	Sausage Roll with 1/2 Jacket Potato	<b>CHICKEN SHACK</b> Roast Chicken or Roasted Quorn Fillet Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Bean Fajita with Rice	Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option two	Macaroni Cheese	Phat Mexican Bean Roll with 1/2 Jacket		Veggie Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice	Cheese Omelette with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Vegetables	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Apple Crumble with Custard	Peaches and Ice Cream	Chocolate Drizzle Cake with Chocolate Sauce	Vanilla Shortbread
<b>WEEK THREE</b>  13/11/2023 04/12/2023 08/01/2024 29/01/2024 26/02/2024 18/03/2024	Option one	<b>NEW</b> A choice of Tomato or Carbonara Pasta with Toppings	Mexican Beef with Rice	Sausages, Onions and Gravy with Roast Potatoes	Chicken Pie with Mashed Potatoes	Fishfingers or Salmon Fishcake with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option two		Vegetable Fajitas with Rice	Veggie Sausages, Onions and Gravy with Roast Potatoes	<b>NEW</b> Loaded Jackets	BBQ Quorn Fillet with Chips
	Vegetables	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	Ice Sponge	<b>NEW</b> Chocolate Orange Cookie	Fruit Jelly with Pineapple	Peach Upside Down Cake with Custard	Cornfake Tart
<b>MENU KEY</b> Added Plant  Power  Wholemeal  Vegan  Chef's Special		<b>ALLERGY INFORMATION:</b> If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of cross contamination.				
<b>Available Daily:</b> - Freshly cooked jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings - Bread freshly baked on site daily- Daily salad selection		<b>caterlink</b> feeding the imagination				

## Garwood's Gusford

Mr Garwood took our school to the FA 4v4 football festival and the school games 7v7 development competition. All the boys were a massive credit to Gusford on and off the pitch. All gave 100% in every game they played. Great support and encouragement from parents as well. Mr Garwood was very proud of all of them.







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# OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMP

23 - 27 OCT

9AM - 5PM



## Activities

- ✓ Homework Help
- ✓ Fun & Games
- ✓ Maths, English & Computing Tutoring
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For Booking after 13th Oct

**FULL DAY (8HRS) : £45  
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## All Saints Church Hall

Blenheim Road, Ipswich, IP1 4EB

Please bring packed lunch and state any allergies or medical information/needs



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# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AMONG US

A multiplayer 'social deduction' game set in outer space, Among Us enjoyed a surge in popularity in 2020, and has since maintained a dedicated fan-base (globally, around 60 million regular players each month) thanks to its unique nature, simple premise and ease of access across numerous platforms. The game's on-screen action revolves around danger, disguise and deception – and there are certain parallels to be drawn with some of the real-life risks that parents and carers of young Among Us players need to be aware of.



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### SENSITIVE PREMISE

In Among Us, up to three players are secretly assigned to be alien imposters, tasked with murdering their colleagues while the survivors try to unmask them. While the concept's not far removed from traditional games like Wink Murder or TV shows such as The Traitors, some parents may feel uncomfortable about their child playing a video game in which deception and killing are prioritised.

### VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

The on-screen death of characters may be fundamental to the gameplay of Among Us, but the majority of the animations depicting this are deliberately cartoonish and only appear very briefly. However, it is worth bearing in mind that the game has a PEGI age rating of 7 – meaning that certain elements (however heavily stylised they may be) could still upset some younger players.

### CHAT BETWEEN PLAYERS

With up to 15 people participating in each game online, a large part of Among Us' appeal is speculating with fellow players who the imposters might be and making accusations. This dialogue through the in-game text chat can occasionally become heated – and could, of course, involve your child being put into contact with people (including adults) who they don't know in real life.

### GOING OFF PLATFORM

While Among Us provides basic ways to communicate, many gamers prefer to use external services such as Discord: a popular app which offers voice and video chat functions. These undeniably make cooperation easier, but also create a potential route for children to hear inappropriate language – or for strangers to message them privately in an environment which isn't regulated by the game itself.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES

Among Us is free to download on mobile devices, and costs less than £5 to obtain on console and PC. A related longer-term pitfall, though, is that the game also includes options to pay for upgrades such as removing ads on the mobile version or adding cosmetic touches to characters (such as different costumes). It's certainly possible that a child could spend a significant sum without realising it.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### CONSIDER SOFTER ALTERNATIVES

Although Among Us is hugely popular with young gamers, it's possible that some children might find the murder themes unsettling. If so, plenty of similar social deduction games are available (in both digital and traditional board game formats) which downplay the potentially griller elements: some centre around undercover spies, for instance, and there's even a Marvel superhero-themed variant.

### CHAT ABOUT CHATTING

You might feel it's prudent to talk to your child about the risks associated with voice chat while gaming, explaining in particular that strangers online aren't always who they claim to be. Keeping the conversation relaxed will reinforce your child's confidence that they can always come to you with any online concerns – not just about Among Us, but any potential future issues as well.

### DISCUSS DISCORD

In general, Discord is an excellent app for keeping online communities together because of its use of dedicated individual servers, which allow comprehensive control over who can join – and who can't. Once you're familiar with the platform, you could set up a secure server for your child and their friends to communicate during games of Among Us, with no access for people they don't know.

### AMONG US, AMONG FRIENDS

When your child and their friends get together, they can enjoy a private game of Among Us by choosing a 'local' lobby – that is, only people connected to the same WIFI (your home network, for example) can enter. This prevents any random online users – who may be total strangers – from joining and removes the need for voice chat, as the players are all physically in the same location.

### STOP SURPRISE SPENDING

If you're concerned about the possibility of your child racking up an unexpected bill on Among Us' microtransactions, you could consider using a prepaid card with a set limit. Likewise, you could specify in the game's options that adult authorisation is required for every purchase – or you could make sure that no payment methods are enabled on the device that your child plays the game on.

## Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



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