



The Gusford Gazette

This week's attendance was 94.5%. Little Dragons LR had the highest attendance with 98.3%.

Issue 2417

Friday 12th January 2024

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Tom Hunt

Tom Hunt, our MP, visited Gusford on Thursday afternoon. He toured the school and spoke to a group of our children about democracy, answering a number of their questions on local issues including the Orwell Bridge, knife crime, special educational needs and Ipswich Town Centre. In assembly, we then voted for the flag we were going to fly on our newly installed flagpole. Thank you Mr Hunt.



Awareness Days and Whole School Diary Dates

Thursday 18th January. **Curious Families Workshop (Realise Futures).**

Friday 2nd February. **World Cancer Day.**

Bikeability

5/2 and 6/2 - 5NT
7/2 and 8/2 - 5SI
12/2 and 13/2 - 5LP
14/2 and 15/2 - Year 6

Monday 5th February and Wednesday 7th February. **Parents' Evenings** (appointment slips to follow).

Tuesday 6th February. **Safer Internet Day.**

Wednesday 7th February. **Our Big Schools' Birdwatch.**

Friday 9th February. **Gusford Performing Arts Festival.**

Tuesday 13th February. **Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday).**

Wednesday 14th February. **Valentine's Day.**

End of Term. Friday 16th February.

Start of Term. Monday 26th February.

World Book Day. Thursday 7th March.

Mother's Day. Sunday 10th March.

Monday 11th March. Our **Choir** are performing at **Snape Maltings.**

Friday 15th March. **Year 5 Stargazing Sleepover.**

Monday 22nd April. **Bluey Club trip to Felixstowe.**

Tuesday 23rd April. **St George's Day.** Wear red and white (or club uniforms).

Week beginning Monday 13th May. **KS2 SATs.**

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

Sports Days

Nursery and Reception - Monday 1st July 1015-1145am
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

Go-kart Festival. Saturday 13th July. 10.00am-12.00pm.

End of Term. Thursday 18th July (no school on Friday 19th July).

Christchurch Park

Mr Hazelwood and his son were out for a walk around Christchurch park last weekend, and they spotted this...Does anyone know more? (and thank you Mr Hazelwood)



School Uniform

Please remember school uniform, including school shoes, unless it is your child's PE day. Trainers are for the evenings and weekends. Thank you.

Reading Books and Reading Diaries

Please remember to send in your child's reading book and reading diary everyday. Thank you.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March. We are planning a costume parade in the morning. We are also pleased to announce the visit of our local author, Sophie Green (Ghostcatcher) to Gusford on Wednesday 6th March.

Three Statue Challenge

You can still take part in the three statue challenge. Simply visit Portman Road and take a photo standing by the three iconic statues. Send the photos to me and you will receive a unique and stylish badge.

Stargazing

Our Year 5 children are taking part in a stargazing sleepover later this term. Can you identify the following stars and star constellations:

1. Orion's belt
2. The Plough (Ursa Major)
3. The North Star

Family Learning Festival Workshop

If you are interested in taking part in the family workshop and join your child for an afternoon in school, then please return the attached slip. Thank you. A paper copy is available from the office.

Share Sessions:

Nursery - Monday 12th February 10:30 - 11:30am
Reception - Thursday 15th February 2:15 - 3:15pm
Year 1 - Wednesday 14th February 2:15 - 3:15pm
Year 2 - Tuesday 13th February 2:15 - 3:15pm

Seeing is Believing:

Year 3 and 4 - Tuesday 13th February 9:00 - 9:30am
Year 5 and 6 - Thursday 15th February 9:00 - 9:30am

Reading Cafes:

Monday 4th March 8:20 - 8:40am - Year 6 and 2
Tuesday 5th March 8:20 - 8:40am - Year 5 and 1
Weds 6th March 8:20 - 8:40am - Year 4 & Reception
Thursday 7th March 8:20 - 8:40am - Open to everyone!
Friday 8th March 8:20 - 8:40am - Year 3 and Nursery

Holiday Dates

Please note the term dates for both this year and 2024-2025 are on the school website.

Attendance Matters

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our school and other schools across Ipswich are working with an evaluation partner to better understand any barriers that are preventing pupils attending school. As part of this, they have asked a small number of schools in the area to get responses from their parent community. This survey will take around 5 minutes and will ask you questions about your child's attendance at school, including things about your understanding of the school's attendance policy. There is also an opportunity for you to share your views on how the school could further support pupil's attendance at school.

We would really appreciate it if you were able to complete this survey. All responses will remain anonymous and will be used by the school and the wider area to better understand how to support pupils and families in our local community.

This survey is currently available in four different languages. Please click below to access the survey in your chosen language:

English survey:

<https://impacted.typeform.com/lpswichEnglish>

Polish survey:

<https://impacted.typeform.com/lpswichPolish>

Latvian survey:

<https://impacted.typeform.com/lpswichLatvian>

Portuguese survey:

<https://impacted.typeform.com/lpswichPortug>

The window for this survey is open from **8th January** until **26th January**.

Performing Arts Competition

Do you want to be a politician, newsreader, teacher or even a youtuber?

On Friday 9th February 2024, in the evening we are running a performing arts competition for our children which may help. There are three age groups: Year 2 and under, Year 4 and under and Year 6 and under and there are three categories you can enter in each of the age groups.

1. Recital set piece. Learning the given poem and then reciting it from memory (practise at home/school first).

2. Reading set piece. Reading the narrative text from the book (practise at home/school first).

3. Sight reading. Reading a given piece out loud but only after seeing it for the first time two minutes before the performance.

There will be certificates for everyone and medals for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed winners in each category. You can download an entry form and see all the set pieces on our website:

<https://gusfordprimary.net/curriculum/performing-arts-competition>

It's free to enter and should be good fun. Give the school a ring if you require any more details and good luck!

Christchurch Junior Parkrun

Why not join me at the Ipswich Junior Parkrun (Christchurch Park) on Sunday morning, 9.00am start. Register below then come and say hello in the morning. Walk, run or jog.

<https://parkrun.org.uk/register/?eventName=ipswich-juniors>

Autumn/ Winter 2023/ 2024	GUSFORD	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE						
30/10/2023 20/11/2023 11/12/2023 13/01/2024 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	 NEW 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	NEW Melting Moment Biscuits	NEW Jam Sponge and Custard	 Oaty Cookie



Are you entitled?

Supporting your child

If your child is eligible for free school meals, your child's school will receive funding, known as Pupil Premium funding, of £1,455 each year for every child who is eligible for free school meals. This funding is used to support your child in school; the school decides how this funding is best spent.

All children in Key Stage 1 (Reception Year, Year 1, and Year 2) are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals, regardless of family financial circumstances. However, Universal Infant Free School Meals does not provide the school with Pupil Premium funding unlike income related free school meals.

If you believe your child may be eligible for income related free school meals, we urge you to apply now. If your child proves to be eligible for free school meals, your child's school will receive the extra £1,455 funding each year. Receiving free school meals saves a family approximately £440 each year.

The government has agreed that all children receiving income related free school meals will have their eligibility protected until the roll out of Universal Credit is complete, which is currently March 2025. Thereafter, they will receive free school meals until the end of the school phase they are in at that time (primary or secondary). This means that eligible children starting in Reception Year or Year 3 in September 2023 will continue to receive free school meals until they finish Year 6, despite any changes to your financial circumstances. Further information is available at www.suffolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals.

Could your child be eligible?

If you think your child may be eligible, please visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals to view the criteria and to make an application. It only takes a few minutes, and you will receive an instant response. If you have any questions or are having trouble completing the online form, please email your contact details to freeschoolmeals@suffolk.gov.uk or ring us on 01473 260989 for assistance.

Don't miss out – apply now!

www.suffolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals



2024

A YEAR FOR BETTER EMOTIONAL HEALTH

EMOTIONAL WELLBEING CAN MAKE A
BIG DIFFERENCE TO CHILDREN'S
PROSPECTS IN SCHOOL AND BEYOND

In Suffolk, we believe in supporting children's emotional health development, and that's why we've invested in online courses in understanding your child for parents. So you can have **FREE ACCESS**.

By understanding how your child's brain develops and responds emotionally, you can better support their needs as they navigate the big milestones in school.



- Learn to better read and understand behaviour
- Help them to communicate how they feel
- Gain psychologist-informed ideas to support your child



GO TO [INOURPLACE.CO.UK](https://www.inourplace.co.uk)
AND ENTER THE CODE WOLSEY
FOR FREE ACCESS TO THE ONLINE COURSES

Dear Parent/Grandparent/Carer

FAMILY LEARNING FESTIVAL WORKSHOP

Realise Futures Learning in Families is coming into school to do a fun workshop for parents and their children. The theme is 'Curious Families', addressed with fun facts and activities; we have chosen to look at various aspects of over and under the sea in Suffolk and elsewhere.

I am very happy to release children from class for this activity. The workshop will take place on Thursday 18th January from 1.30 pm to 3 pm.

Come along if you would like to:

- ☐ Make a collage of Dunwich town which is now submerged by the sea
- ☐ Make various puppets of the creatures of the sea
- ☐ Make a moving model of a Ferris wheel to celebrate the new one at Felixstowe.
- ☐ Make a model of a 'feeding pyramid' for sea creatures.

The workshop is free. Please return the tear off slip below to the school office by Monday 15th January. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

If you have any additional support needs that you would like us to be made aware of, please telephone Eileen Richards on 07860 268074 or email her on

eileen.richards@realisefutures.org

This information will only be disclosed to the tutor. You may wish to bring a recyclable bag to take your child's work home. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Tapley
Headteacher



To: **School office**

I would like to book a place on the workshop on Thursday 18 th January.

Name of parent/carers:

Name of child in school:

Class:

Realise Futures courses are a part of the Adult Learning programme in Suffolk. Courses aim to offer 'engagement activities' and learning opportunities for parents/carers and grandparents. We are funded by the Government and so they require you to complete a few basic forms which you will be asked to complete during the session. You can learn how to support your children more confidently, re-connect with learning and acquire new skills.

FEBRUARY HALF TERM SOCCER SCHOOLS

PORTMAN ROAD

19, 20 February - 10:00-15:00
Portman Road, IP1 2DA
Open to ages 6-12

BECCLES

21 February - 10:00-15:00
Beccles Town FC, NR34 9BU
Open to ages 6-14

STOWUPLAND

23 February - 10:00-15:00
Stowupland High School Sports Centre, IP14 4BQ
Open to ages 6-12

PORTMAN ROAD

23 February - 10:00-15:00
Portman Road, IP1 2DA
Open to ages 11-16



**IPSWICH TOWN
FOUNDATION**

Click on the link below to book a place.

<https://www.itfcfoundation.co.uk/2024/01/10/february-half-term-sessions/>

What Children & Young People Need to Know about

FREE SPEECH VS HATE SPEECH

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's *not* the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right *not* to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE

The
National
College

NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/schedule/10/text/Everyone%20has%20the%20right%20to%20freedom%20of%20expression>

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