



The Gusford Gazette

Which month can't make a decision?
MAYbe

Issue 2570

Friday 9th May 2025

Circulation: 570

The Arrows over The Orwell

Did you see the Red Arrows on Bank Holiday Monday? (photo by kind permission of Martha). Visit our FB page to see some of the photographs.



Year 2 at the Mosque

On Tuesday, our Year 2 children visited the Ipswich Mosque and enjoyed finding out about the way Muslims live their lives and worship.



Year 4 Visit to BeWILDerwood

On Friday, Year 4 went to Bewilderwood.



VE Day-80th Anniversary

Thank you for your non-uniform day support.

On Thursday, we celebrated the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. It's important to remember the lives that were lost in order for us to live in a democratic society and serves as a reminder of the importance of peace, unity, and the lessons of history, ensuring such events are never repeated.



Summer Fun Run

Why not sign up for our Summer Fun Run? (very similar to our Santa Fun Run)

<https://forms.office.com/e/CTqKVNTQGf>



Attendance

Our attendance this week was just under 95%. Our target is 97%. Please note any request for a holiday in term time will be recorded as unauthorised and more than 4 days unauthorised absence will be followed by a fine.

Lisa Thompson (Best Selling Author)

On Thursday afternoon, Lisa Thompson visited school to talk to our KS2 children.



Year 6 SATs

Next week, our Year 6 children will be taking the Government's SATs. We ask the children to do their best.

Gusford Diary Dates

Year 6 SATs Week. Starting Monday 12th May

Year 6 Picnic. Friday 16th May.

Year 1 to Framlingham Castle. Monday 19th May.

Year 6 Group to Houses of Parliament. Tuesday 20th May.

Y6 Wellbeing for Transition Weds 21st May 1.30pm-3.00pm

Summer Disco. Wednesday 21st May

End of Term 5. Fri 23rd May. We return on Mon 2nd June.

Y6 to Hilltop 2nd-4th June

Year 5 Wellbeing Sessions Wednesday 4th June 1.30-3.00pm.

Y6 Wellbeing for Transition Thursday 5th June 1.30pm-3.00pm

Treasure Island Show. Friday 6th June

Green Peace Resilience Talk Monday 9th June. Y5 from 10.45am then whole school at 2.30pm

First Aid Year 1. Tuesday 10th June

First Aid Year 3. Wednesday 11th June

Year 6 Storytelling Wednesday 11th June.

Bluey Trip to Felixstowe. Friday 13th June

Year 4 WCET Festival Trinity Park. Tuesday 17th June.

Sports Days

Tuesday 17th June Reception Sports Day 1.30pm start
Wednesday 18th June Years 5 and 6 Sports Day 1.30pm
Thursday 19th June Years 3 and 4 Sports Day 1.30pm
Friday 20th June Years 1 and 2 Sports Day 1.30pm
Monday 23rd June Nursery 9.45am start

Summer Fete Saturday 21st June (Suffolk Day)

Y6 Wellbeing for Transition Thursday 26th June 1.30pm-3.00pm

Summer Fun Run. Sunday 6th July

Snape Maltings Music Festival. Monday 7th July

Reports home. Tuesday 8th July.

Meet the Teacher. Wednesday 9th July (after school)

Y6 performance. Dress rehearsal Friday 4th July. Afternoon performance on Tuesday 8th July at 2.00pm and evening show on Wednesday at 6.00pm

Y6 Leavers' assembly 2pm. Thursday 17th July followed by Y6 BBQ 5pm - 6.30pm

Also, the **induction days for Y6** at high school are:
25/06 and 26/06 - East Bergholt and Claydon
01/07 - Holbrook
02/07 and 03/07 - Chantry

End of Term 6. Friday 18th July. We return after the Summer holiday on Wednesday 3rd September.

New reception starter dates:

All children:

Parent information evening (adults only) - June 5th 5pm

Stay and play (with parents) - June 16th 2pm-3pm

Morning sessions (on their own) July 2nd and July 3rd 9.30am-11.30am (This will also be our moving up day for our children)

Picnic day - July 15th The children come in on their own at 9.30am-11.30am and then parents will join them and bring in a picnic for them both at 11.30am.

Additional session for non Gusford Nursery children:
Stay and play (with parents) - June 10th 2pm-3pm

Dear Parents/Carers

Gusford would like to ask you to encourage your child to have a school meal on Thursday 15th May 2025 as it is Census Day. This benefits the school for the whole academic year. We are serving Fish Fingers and Chips, followed by Vanilla Sprinkle Cake or Fresh fruit salad, as well as our ever popular 'ham roll - pick and mix' in order to appeal to as many children as possible.

For every infant child (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) that has a school meal on Thursday 15th May, the school will receive government funding to pay for provision of universal free school meals for infant pupils. Because our funding is based on the number of meals taken on census days, if our numbers are low the school will not receive enough funding to match the actual costs of providing meals throughout the year, and this will mean we have to use other school money for this purpose. Please support the school by encouraging your child to have a school meal on this day, even if they don't normally have school meals.

School meals are free for infant pupils so it will cost parents nothing to support the school in this way. Junior meals cost £2.40, unless your child is eligible for free school meals. It will also help our funding if our junior pupils who are eligible for free school meals have a school dinner on census day.

Kind regards
Gusford School office

The 'Green Power' Team

The children have built the car with Mr Garwood and will be racing it at a proper motor circuit testing it against other Green Power style cars from around the country. Don't they look good in the Gusford colours?



First official 'Green Power' Team photograph (thank you to Mr Garwood)



Year 2 Cricket Festival

Animal Kind

On Tuesday, 'Animal Kind' spent the morning with our Year 5 children. They learnt about animal care and animal welfare. Have you got a pet at home? Can you make an animal care booklet for your pet?



3.20-4.45

Free

GOOD for Us

Wellbeing

Wed

14 May

11 June

9 July

Food

**Bible
Stories**

Creativity

Friends

**Well
being
tips**

Games

Gusford Family Gathering

School Hall

All ages welcome

Children must bring an adult

More info:

sue.bridges@cofesuffolk.org



SALLY'S STORIES 2025



Children's writing competition in memory of Sally Billison

Jasper invites you to write a short story continuing on from this prompt:

"As the people feasted in the castle hall, a knight in green armour stormed through the entrance carrying a giant egg ..."

Launch Date: 14th May 2025

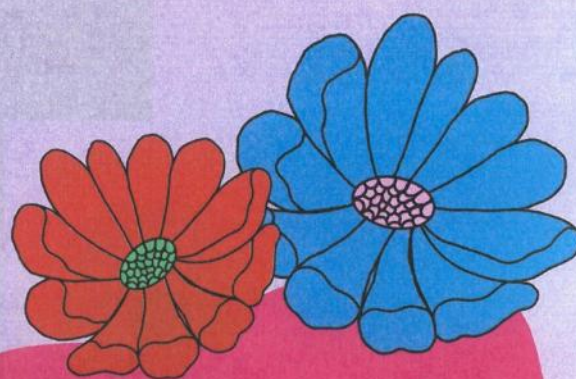
Closing Date: 13th June 2025

Requirements:

- One side A4 paper
- Black ink or typed up
- Can include illustrations

Categories:

- Years 1 - 2
- Years 3 - 4
- Years 5 - 6



**For more information
please contact:**

mark.girling@suffolklibraries.co.uk



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To register

Phone or text/Whatsapp **07751 890 912**

or email: **ipswich@bagsoftaste.org**

or you can sign up online: **<https://bagsoftaste.org/students>**

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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Feeling a genuine sense of belonging is essential for the emotional and social development of children and young people. Belonging significantly boosts self-esteem, resilience, and mental wellbeing, reducing feelings of isolation and anxiety. This guide provides practical strategies to help parents and educators cultivate inclusive environments, enhancing both academic outcomes and overall happiness among young people.

1 CELEBRATE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

Acknowledge and celebrate the uniqueness of every child. Promoting diversity and inclusion creates an environment where differences are valued rather than stigmatised. This acceptance empowers children to confidently express their identities and feel genuinely included, fostering a robust sense of belonging within both school and home settings.

2 CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION

Regularly communicate and actively listen to children, showing genuine interest in their thoughts and experiences. Creating open communication channels helps young people feel heard and valued. This approach not only builds trust but also reinforces children's perception of themselves as a vital part of their family, school and community.

3 MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION

Give children opportunities to actively participate and contribute, whether in classrooms, at home, or in community activities. Meaningful participation helps children feel their input matters, reinforcing a sense of purpose and value. Including them in decisions and responsibilities enhances their self-worth, promoting a deeper sense of belonging and inclusion.

4 FOSTER STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

Support and encourage positive relationships between peers, educators, and families. Strong, healthy relationships significantly impact a child's sense of belonging, providing emotional support and reducing feelings of loneliness. Facilitate social interactions through group activities, teamwork, and collaborative learning to strengthen these vital connections.

5 CREATE INCLUSIVE SPACES

Design environments that reflect diversity and are welcoming for everyone. Inclusive spaces where all children see themselves represented can dramatically improve their feelings of safety and acceptance. Consider classroom displays, books, and resources that celebrate various cultures, abilities, and backgrounds to visibly reinforce inclusivity and belonging.

6 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Adults play a crucial role by demonstrating inclusive, empathetic, and respectful behaviours. Modelling positive interactions and attitudes sets a clear standard for children to follow. Children are likely to replicate inclusive behaviour, creating a supportive community atmosphere where everyone feels accepted and valued for who they are.

7 BUILD EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Teach and encourage emotional expression and understanding among children. Developing emotional literacy enables young people to articulate their feelings and empathise with others. An emotionally intelligent environment cultivates mutual respect and compassion, fostering a deeper sense of belonging and interpersonal connection within groups.

8 SUPPORT PEER MENTORSHIP

Encourage peer mentorship or buddy systems within educational settings. Peer support enhances feelings of connectedness and security, reducing feelings of isolation. When children support one another, they naturally build community bonds, nurturing a supportive culture where belonging and friendship thrive.

9 RECOGNISE EFFORTS REGULARLY

Consistently acknowledge children's contributions and achievements, however small. Recognition reinforces a child's understanding that their presence and efforts are important. Celebrating individual and collective successes helps cultivate a positive environment where children feel acknowledged, motivated, and deeply connected to peers and adults around them.

10 ADDRESS BULLYING PROMPTLY

Quickly address any incidents of bullying. Promptly intervening demonstrates a clear commitment to an inclusive and safe environment. Creating a culture where incidents are swiftly and effectively addressed reinforces trust, security, and a sense of belonging for everyone involved.

Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is Director of Halcyon Education Ltd and Director for Wellbeing and Family Services at Leigh Trust. With extensive experience in systemic mental health in schools, she supports educational leaders across the UK to develop inclusive, resilient, and supportive learning environments. Anna is also the lead expert for mental health at The National College.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/fostering-a-sense-of-belonging

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Spring / Summer Menu Week 1

5th May, 26th May, 16th June, 7th July, 8th Sept, 29th Sept, 20th Oct 2025

Eativerse

WEEK ONE	FAVOURITES MONDAY	WORLD TUESDAY	ROAST WEDNESDAY	PIZZA PARTY THURSDAY	FISH FRIDAY
Main Meal Option 1	Pork Sausage Toad in the Hole & Home-baked Potato Wedges	Red Tractor Mild Chicken Curry, Mixed Wholegrain & White Rice	Roast Chicken Gravy, Stuffing & Roast Potatoes	Wholemeal Margherita Pizza & Pasta Salad	MSC Fish Fingers & Chips
Main Meal Option 2	Cheese, Onion & Potato Pie & Home-baked Potato Wedges	Macaroni Cheese	Beany Shepherd's Pie ^{VG}	Rainbow Vegetable Lentil Pitta Pockets & Hummus ^{VG}	Vegetable & Bean Quesadilla, Chips
Halal Option	Halal Chicken Sausage Toad in the Hole & Home-baked Potato Wedges	Halal Red Tractor Mild Chicken Curry, Mixed Wholegrain & White Rice	Halal Roast Chicken, Gravy, Stuffing & Roast Potatoes	Wholemeal Margherita Pizza & Tomato Pasta Salad	
Filled Sandwich	Cheese	Ham	Tuna Mayonnaise	Ham	Cheese
Vegetables	Broccoli, Cauliflower & Carrots & Sweetcorn	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Sliced Carrots	Broccoli, Cauliflower & Carrots	Carrot & Cucumber Sticks or British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Sweetcorn	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Baked Beans
Baked Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese, or Beans
Dessert	Banana Mousse & Orange Smiles	Marble Sponge ^{VG} & Custard	Strawberry Jelly with Watermelon Slice ^{VG}	Vanilla Cookie ^{VG}	Iced Sponge Cake with Sprinkles

Spring / Summer Menu Week 2

21st April, 12th May, 2nd June, 23rd June, 14th July, 15th Sept, 6th Oct, 27th Oct 2025

Eativerse

WEEK TWO	FAVOURITES MONDAY	WORLD TUESDAY	ROAST WEDNESDAY	PIZZA PARTY THURSDAY	FISH FRIDAY
Main Meal Option 1	Red Tractor Pork Sausage Roll & Home-baked Potato Wedges	Red Tractor Beef Pasta Bolognese & Garlic Bread	Roast Chicken Gravy, Yorkshire Pudding & Roast Potatoes	Wholemeal Margherita Pizza & Tomato Pasta Salad	MSC Fish Fingers & Chips
Main Meal Option 2	Macaroni Cheese	Veggie Sausage with Mash & Gravy Vg	Quorn Grill, Gravy, Stuffing & Roast Potatoes	Cheesy Bean Pitta	Tomato & Baked Bean Pasta Bake Vg
Halal Option	Halal Chicken Sausage Roll & Home-baked Potato Wedges	Halal Red Tractor Beef Pasta Bolognese & Garlic Bread	Halal Roast Chicken, Gravy, Yorkshire Pudding & Roast Potatoes	Wholemeal Margherita Pizza & Tomato Pasta Salad	
Filled Sandwich	Cheese	Ham	Tuna Mayonnaise	Ham	Cheese
Vegetables	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Baked Beans	Broccoli, Cauliflower & Carrots	Broccoli, Carrots & Sweetcorn	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, or Sliced Carrots	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Baked Beans
Baked Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans
Dessert	Banana Cake Vg & Custard	Shortbread & Orange Slices Vg	Hidden Fruit Chocolate Brownie	Flapjack Vg	Chocolate Oaty Slice Vg

Spring / Summer Menu Week 3

28th April, 19th May, 9th June, 30th June, 21st July, 11th Aug, 1st Sept, 22nd Sept, 13th Oct, 3rd Nov 2025

Eativerse

WEEK THREE	FAVOURITES MONDAY	WORLD TUESDAY	ROAST WEDNESDAY	PIZZA PARTY THURSDAY	FISH FRIDAY
Main Meal Option 1	Sweet & Sour Chicken Meatballs & Sunny Rice	Beef Lasagne & Garlic Bread	Roast Chicken Gravy, Stuffing & Roast Potatoes	Margherita Pizza & Tomato Pasta Salad	MSC Fish Fingers & Chips
Main Meal Option 2	Cheesy Tomato Pasta Bake	Chinese Sweet Chilli Quorn Stir Fry & Mixed Rice ^{VG}	Quorn Grill, Gravy, Stuffing & Roast Potatoes	Bean Burrito & Potato Wedges ^{VG}	Cheese & Onion Puff Pastry Roll
Halal Option	Halal Sweet & Sour Chicken Meatballs & Sunny Rice	Halal Red Tractor Beef Lasagne & Garlic Bread	Roast Chicken, Gravy Stuffing & Roast Potatoes	Margherita Pizza & Tomato Pasta Salad	
Filled Sandwich	Cheese	Ham	Tuna Mayonnaise	Ham	Cheese
Vegetables	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Baked Beans	Broccoli, Cauliflower & Carrots	Broccoli, Carrots & Sweetcorn	British Red Tractor Garden Peas or Sliced Carrots	British Red Tractor Garden Peas, Baked Beans
Baked Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans
Dessert	Strawberry Mousse & Fruit Slices	Chocolate Cookie & Orange Wedges ^{VG}	Vanilla Cupcake	Chocolate Crunch 'Concrete' ^{VG} & Chocolate Sauce	Homemade Jam Sponge & Custard