



The Gusford Gazette

Did you know that there are 5 days in the year when we have 5 birthdays but no days that we have six?

Issue 2577

Friday 4th July 2025

Circulation: 570

Year 2 at Suffolk One

Our Year 2 children visited Suffolk One on Monday for a careers escalator they found out and then tried out lots of different jobs and careers.



Year 5 at Felixstowe

On Monday, Year 5 spent the day at Felixstowe. It was a beautiful day so they spent most of the day making sand castles, paddling and eating ice-creams.



Gusford Diary Dates

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. Afternoon performance on Tuesday 8th July at 2.00pm and evening show on Wednesday at 6.00pm

GGT Thursday 10th July 1.30pm

Year 4 to Felixstowe. Friday 11th July

Reception Time Trial Balance Bikes. Monday 14th July

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

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

New reception starter dates:

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

Move Up Day

On Wednesday and Thursday, the children moved up to their new classes for the morning. Your child should have brought a letter home confirming their new teacher's name and class.

Book Challenge

Andrew Marsh at [Dial Lane Books](#) has come up with a very interesting reading/writing competition. He is going to provide the school with 10 copies of 'Cruise Ship Kid' by Emma Swan (we'll buy another 10) and give them out to the children who want to take part. Each child then reads the book and adds their own chapter, set after the book ends (closing date September 25-start of term). We already have four children who want to take part, so let me know if you are interested.

Fun Run Sunday 6th July

Don't forget to join us for our Summer Fun Run/Jog/Walk. Medals and an ice-pop for all participants.

Green Power Goblin

On Sunday, our Green Team took to the track once more at the amazing Goodwood race track. 86 Green Goblins took part from all over the country, including one from Australia. The children had to set the car up, take on a slalom, navigate the chicane, accelerate down a speed test and race in the champions of champions one lap race. They were brilliant all day and we finished in the top half! Well done Brook, Nevaeh, Remy, Riley and Leighton. Mr Garwood and Mr Bland had to take seats out of the van to fit in the car and pack it up and then drive to Sussex, leaving school at 3.30am. They definitely finished in the top half too. Follow us on FB to see some of the videos and photographs.



Den Building

We are lucky enough to have a small forest area in school. At lunchtimes groups of children sometimes make dens.



Holidays in Term Time

Please note all holidays in term time will be marked as unauthorised and subject to a fine. The fines go to Suffolk County Council and not the school. We have to be black and white about this. A holiday in term time is followed by a fine.

Animal 'Thingies'

There were exactly 80 animals in the pink bag. Three people guessed it correctly, so we put the names in a spinner and Bronte P was the chosen one.

Rainbow Day

Monday was Rainbow (Pride) Day in school. We celebrated kindness, inclusion, friendship and human rights.



Sad News

Vivica Ogongo (Y10) at Chantry sadly passed away this week. She was an ex-Gusford pupil who had a significant health condition which resulted in a cardiac arrest from which she didn't recover. Our deepest sympathy goes out to all her family and friends.

Honey and Harvey

Our Hare is in 'Honey and Harvey' in Ipswich. If you send me a picture of you standing by the Hare I will put the photo on FB and add your name to the raffle for a £20 H+H voucher (to be drawn the last week of term). Good luck.

Challenge

On the gate on Monday morning I will be thinking of a number from 1 to 100. Come up and tell me your guess. Winner gets a shark tooth neck lace. If more than one person guesses the number correctly then we will do the spinner thing.

Choir at Snape

On Monday our children will be performing at Snape Maltings. Good luck.

PE kit and changing arrangements for next year

We have listened to feedback from parents over the course of the last year and decided to slightly change our PE kit for the juniors (Years 3,4,5 and 6) commencing in September. We hope this maintains the high expectations we have for all our children in terms of school uniform and also gives the opportunity for the younger children to work on getting changed independently.

All children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be required to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days.

They will need to wear black shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms, a black zipped hoody, a new logo PE T shirt and black/white trainers. The school will be providing each child in these year groups, for this year only, their first PE T shirt. The children have already been measured up and will be given their new PE T Shirt before we break up.

The other items of PE kit are not to be branded items, these can be purchased from local supermarkets.

Additional PE T shirts can be purchased from PMG school shop in the town centre (available from Monday). If you lose the T Shirt the school has provided you with, it will be your responsibility to replace it.

<https://www.pmgschoolwear.co.uk/>

All other year groups (Reception, Years 1 and 2) will still need to bring their PE kit to school to get changed into on their PE days. Their PE kit is a green round neck T shirt, black shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms, a black zipped hoody and black/white plain trainers. As they move up through the school into year 3, you will then be required to buy them a school logo PE T shirt.

Many thanks

Stephen Tapley
Headteacher.



Absence Reporting

We are now at a stage where we can move absence reporting over to Arbor rather than ParentMail. This will take effect from Monday 30th June. You can still call the school office to report absences or pop into the office, but you will no longer be able to do this on ParentMail.

To do this on Arbor, log onto your account, click the 3 little lines in the bottom left hand corner, click attendance, and here you can log your child's absence. You can only do it on the day of absence so please ensure you report their absence on a daily basis.

All absences must be reported by 9am.

Many thanks
Carly Ling
Admissions and Admin
Gusford Primary School
Monday - Friday 8.45am - 1.00pm

Top-up School Payments

Please be advised that you can now only top up your child's dinner balance on Arbor. This is no longer available on ParentMail.

All balances have been now transferred over to Arbor. To top up your account, log onto Arbor, on the 'accounts' section this will show you your current balance. Click on this and you will then be able to top up.

If you have any issues, please contact the school office.

Thank you for your patience.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APPLE IPADS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

WEEKEND CAMPING 2ND - 3RD AUGUST

MOTOR SHOW EVENTS
Presents

Festival of Wheels

OUTDOOR BAR
EVENING ENTERTAINMENT
EVENING FUNFAIR
LIVE MUSIC
OUTSIDE STAGE
COMEDY CLUB*
*over 18s
EARLY ENTRY TO THE SHOW!
CAMPING
FRIDAY TO MONDAY
SATURDAY NIGHT
KIDS PARTY
WITH **BAM BAM**

BOOK NOW
PAY OVER
3 MONTHS

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
MOTOR SHOW EVENTS.COM



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