

Gorsley Goffs Primary School



NEWSLETTER



Our value for this
month is



Welcome back everyone. We hope you had a great summer. It is lovely to see all the children returning, happy and ready to settle back into School life. We offer a special welcome to our new children and their families.

We have a busy term ahead and this Newsletter is to welcome you all back, remind you of routines and hopefully be informative for our new parents.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT. TOPIC WEBS/HOMEWORK SHEETS, DIARY DATES, AND CLUB DETAILS WILL BE SENT SHORTLY.

The children need in school:

- A waterproof coat
- Their named book bag
- Refillable named drinks bottle and lunch box if they are not having prebooked meals
- NO RUCKSACKS please as these are too big to be kept in the cloakrooms and are not necessary
- All clothing to be labelled please

PE lessons start next week. Children in Lynders, Oxenhall, Rudhall and Wye need to come to school in their PE kit on Wednesdays and Fridays. Children in Acorn, Briery and Kempley need to keep their PE kit in school ready to change for their lessons



Year R - Acorn



A warm welcome to our new children in Acorn Class. We feel confident that they will settle in quickly. Half the class have attended this week and have already been learning all the school routines with our new Reception Teacher, Mrs Laura Symonds, Mrs Williams and Mrs Long. Mrs Symonds has a wealth of experience and we welcome her to the Gorsley team.



We welcome Evelyn and Evie who have joined us in Year 5.

We are so delighted to welcome Miss Baugh back following her absence.

DATA COLLECTION SHEET

Please remember to notify us if you have changed your mobile numbers. If you would like a copy of your child's data collection sheet to check the information we hold, please get in touch with the school office.

Our new parents have already provided us with up to date details.

The Safeguarding Team at Gorsley Goffs

If you have any concerns about a child's welfare or safety, please speak to a member of the safeguarding team by phoning 01989 720321:

Mr S Pascoe - Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mr S Manning and Miss L Baugh - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL)





We have had lots of school improvements over the summer holiday including:

- New windows throughout the whole school
- New interactive whiteboards in Briery and Kempley
- New flooring in Briery, as well as redecoration
- New entrance for year 3 and 4.
- Redecoration through Key Stage 1 corridors to include new classroom doors, and also painting the library
- Spray painting of the main entrance doors by Kevin of Elite Coatings
- Planting of new shrubs around the playground area
- Replacement of several pieces of furniture throughout the school
- New home corner in Acorn Class



Acorn Class now have a wonderful new mud kitchen and potion bench in their outdoor shelter.



Year R - Acorn



Special thanks to Mr Bogdan Popa (Mrs Popa's husband) for helping us to enhance our Acorn outdoor area with a peephole hideaway hut, water-wall, table and chairs and a water balance. We are very grateful and feel sure the children will thoroughly enjoy these enhancements.

Thank you so much for making time to help us!



REPORT AN ABSENCE

If your child is poorly and cannot attend school their absence must be reported by telephoning school prior to 8.40 am and leaving a message on the absence line. Please state the reason for their absence, and not just say 'they are not well.' This helps us identify clusters of any particular illnesses in circulation. If they have a temperature you must state what the reading is please.



Medical and dental appointments should be made for after school where possible please and bear in mind attendance matters ALL DAY, EVERY DAY!

If you do have medical appointments during the school day please send proof of appointment/time to the school office as we are now required to see this.

PLEASE PASS THIS INFORMATION ON TO PEOPLE DROPPING OFF OR COLLECTING ON YOUR BEHALF!!!

CHANGE OF PLANS

End of day changes

If there are any changes to pick up arrangements and someone else is collecting your child you must telephone the School **prior to 2.45 pm** to inform us who will be collecting your child so that we can pass the message on to them and the class teacher. Please remember, if there are specific people who are not permitted to pick up your child we must be advised. **PLEASE do not park in the staff car park or use the disabled bay unless you hold a Blue Badge.**

We will shortly send home a new forms link so that parents can advise who is permitted to collect their child/children.



Registration is prompt therefore children need to be in school for 8.40 am.

If you arrive after this time, and the gates are closed, **you must** accompany your child to the office and sign them in the late giving the reason for lateness.



Remember choices need to be ordered by midnight on Wednesday for meals required the following week! Please log in to Parent Pay for the current menus.



COLD WEATHER

Once the colder days start setting in, please ensure that your child has a suitable coat, hat and gloves to wear. Also joggers for outdoor PE is a good idea.

PLEASE make sure all items are named! We cannot return uniform back to rightful owners if there are no labels. Also, if you purchase second hand uniform it is important to label, as we are finding uniform with children's names in who have left the school.



The School Photographer is in School on

Monday, 5th October 2026

All children will have individual

photographs and family groups taken with brothers or sisters in school unless you instruct us otherwise.

Also, parents with pre-school children are welcome to come along to the school hall, between 8.00-8.30 am, to have a group photo with their brothers or sisters. Please let the School Office know in advance if you will be attending with pre-school children at this earlier time.

Email: admin@gorsleygofts.hereford.sch.uk

For your calendar:

- After School Clubs start week commencing 14th September, except for those who have already prebooked for Young Voices which starts on Thursday 10th September. Other club details to follow next week for booking on School Cloud.
- Monday, 14th September Meet the Teacher. Parents are welcome to drop in any time between 3.30-4.30 pm for an opportunity to look around their child's new class and informally meet their new teacher. Information about class expectations will be shared.
- Monday, 14th September—7.30 pm. PTFA Meeting and AGM in the School Hall.
- Friday, 16th October at 9.30 am Harvest Service at Gorsley Baptist Church— all welcome.



The NHS Nasal flu vaccine for all children is on 16th November

Electronic consent forms will be sent out shortly. It is really important that

Vaccination UK receive an electronic consent form back for every child, **even if you do**

NOT wish for your child to receive the immunisation.

Reception admissions for 2027-2028



The online portal for parents to apply for a reception class place for the academic year 2027/28 is now open and closes on 15th January 2026. The website can be accessed by clicking the following link [Apply for a reception class place academic year 2027/28](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/primary-school-admissions) www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/primary-school-admissions

Closing date for Secondary applications for 2027 is 31st October

Parents are advised to read the relevant information regarding the admissions process before making an application <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/secondary-school-admissions>



If applications are not submitted by the 31st October they will be classed as late (unless a genuine reason for lateness) and will not be looked at until after all on-time applicants have been allocated a school.

For further information please contact the school admissions team on 01432 260926.



A REMINDER THATThe school gates open at 8.25 am and close at 8.40 am. Your co-operation ensuring that the children arrive on time is much appreciated to ensure they have the best start to the day. If your child becomes reluctant to get out of the car whilst in drop zone please feel free to park up further down the lane.



We understand it is not always possible to gauge how busy the traffic will be, but if you arrive prior to 8.25 am please be respectful to our wishes to NOT park outside the cones. Even momentarily, this in turn will cause traffic to build up behind you and cause potential blockage on the main road. We apologise in advance, but we will politely ask you to move if you do this, and asked to either do another circuit around the school or park up down the lane. Thank you for your support with this in helping dropzone run smoothly.



For children in Key Stage 2 who previously signed up to Young Voices Club to attend the Concert at the BP Pulse Arena in January 2027, club starts on Thursday 10th September.

All parents should have now signed up for the Parent Music Room where you should have purchased any tickets required to attend the concert in the evening, and any t-shirt pack for your child.

After School Club telephone number for emergency care after 5.30 pm only

if you are unavoidably delayed to pick up your child by 5.30 pm when Club finishes, you can telephone the school on **01989 720587 after 5.00 pm** to get hold of Mrs Taylor or Mrs Stevenson to let them know. This number is only to be used if you know you are going to arrive after 5.30 pm. After this time you pay an additional premium for childcare as you can appreciate wages will need to be covered.

For parents using Childcare Vouchers—please ensure you allow plenty of time for your childcare vouchers to be added to your Parent Pay account before the care is needed. We need to have sufficient time for your instruction to hit our bank account and the credit to be applied to your account. Please always ensure you email us as to how you want your payment applied, ie: whether for breakfast or after school club. Doing this in advance ensures the credit is applied so you can adhere to our request to book your child into the club when care is needed.

Also, if you are late picking up for any other after school club which finishes at 4.15 pm your child will be sent to GAS (Gorsley After School Care) to ensure they are safe and supervised until you arrive.

Mrs Popa provides a snack or choice of fruit for club. This is included in the price for the first hour only.

A reminder that those children joining after 4.15 pm, when they have already been to a school club, need to bring their own snack to eat as one is not included in the price.



Parents **MUST** book onto Parent Pay by 10 am where possible on the day care is required. We will still allow emergency care for unavoidable changes to home time plans but please either telephone or email us of these changes.

Did you know your child could get free school meals?

As previously communicated from September 2026 the new Government changes mean many more families could be eligible for free school meals. Previously, eligibility was limited to households earning under £7,400.00 but this income threshold has now been removed.



Targeted free school meals—For households receiving Universal Credit with net annual earnings of **£7,400 or less**. This category continues to unlock extra pupil premium funding for the school.

Expanded free school meals -A new category for households receiving Universal Credit with net annual earnings **above £7,400**

This means that all children in families receiving Universal Credit will qualify for free school meals. For more information visit: www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals.

You must apply or re-check eligibility, even if your child already gets free meals.

Universal Infant Free School Meals: All children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 still receive free school meals automatically, regardless of your household income or benefits, but should still apply as this may attract extra pupil premium funding.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Reception admissions for 2027-2028

Do you have a child born between
1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023

If so you will need to apply for a school place
by 15 January 2027
(to commence September 2027)

Applications can be completed from
14 September 2026 online
(scan QR code) or visit:



www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/primary-school-admissions

Please note: a place at a nursery does not
guarantee a place at the associated primary
school, therefore you must still apply.

For further information please contact the school
admissions team on 01432 260926 / 261574 or
schooladmissions@herefordshire.gov.uk



GORSLEY GOFFS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Invite prospective parents for Reception
September 2027 intake to an

Open Afternoon

Thursday, 5th November 2026

1.30– 2.45 pm

Tea and Coffee served and School Tours with Year 6 children. Come and see our vibrant school which offers wraparound care from 7.45 am until 5.30 pm.