

The Gosford Times



Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School
Learn Lead Inspire

Issue 9 November 2014

Remembrance Assemblies

This year's Remembrance Assemblies focussed on the fact that it is 100 years since the outbreak of World War I and around the imagery that is used around this time of year to remember and show a mark of respect for those who have lost their lives in or been affected by wars.



Students listened to an audio recital of the poem followed by a short video clip of what *Remembrance* means to our country and the various ceremonies and commemorations that takes place across the British Isles and abroad. Students were asked to talk within their families as to what Remembrance means to them.

The assembly concluded by noting the well-publicised poppy exhibition at the Tower of London and how our Sixth Formers will be running the Poppy appeal in school, as in previous years, for

our school community to contribute and wear their poppies with pride and a sign of respect for 'The Fallen'.

Mr D Ward - Deputy Headteacher



Stakeholder Conference

This event is looking at the future curriculum of our school and the skills needed by students for the future. It is relevant for all year groups from Year 7 upwards. It is not too late to confirm your attendance – please return the original slip or contact reception. Thank you.

Dr S Bizley - Headteacher



CLOSING THE SKILLS GAP

Please join Students, Parents, Governors, Staff and Local Business Organisations at this event looking at ways in which the School can continue to prepare its students for work in the 21st Century

Gosford Hill School
Wednesday 12th November
6 - 8.30pm

RSVP Liz Hounsell
Gosford Hill School Oxford Road
Kidlington OX5 2NT
01865 374971 x 702 ehoul28668@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk



School Transport

Dear Parent/Carer

There are many students who travel to Gosford Hill School who are not entitled to transport provided by Oxfordshire County Council and have to make their own way to school, many having to use public transport.

Some parents from Bicester have approached the school about helping to facilitate a bus service. The Governors and school are very keen to support this pilot initiative. The idea is that there will be a bus service for students of Gosford which picks up students from Arncott; Ambrosden; Caversfield (by pass); Bure Park; Highfields; Howes Lane or Shakespeare Drive; Bicester Rugby Club/Tesco; Chesterton. The key drivers for this initiative are: safety on a dedicated bus, guaranteed seat, surety, timeliness, and control and redress. The bus service will be funded by parents with the school providing administrative and accounting support.

Letters have been sent out to parents/guardians of students who live in the areas we believe could use this proposed bus to determine levels of interest and to see if such a service could be viable.

We are also aware that there are other students that may benefit from a bus to take them to and from school. If you have not received a letter, and would either like to see a copy of the letter or register your interest in exploring opportunities for school bus travel from your home for your children, then please email gfin3209@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

Rachel Foord -Chair of Governors

Gifted and Talented Day

Last year four students; Harry Whitehead, Rico Dines, Jade O Dowda, Chloe Ridewood from Gosford Hill joined athletes from the rest of North Oxfordshire School Sports Partnership on the Junior Athlete Education course run by the Youth Sport Trust.

The students attended 6 workshops run by athlete mentor Miriam Luke (Olympic Silver Medalist) that focused on supporting them as athletes and helping them to develop a balance between academic and sporting commitments. As a follow up to the sessions last year all students attended a trip to Worcester University Sports Science Department to inspire them to continue with their studies alongside sporting commitments.



During the day students managed to use some of the specialist equipment and question some of the university's sporting scholars. At the end of the day they were also given tickets to watch the Worcester Wolves basketball team (national champions) in the newly opened arena.

Mr P Green – Subject Leader, P.E.

Year 8 Football



We went to King Alfred secondary school after a hard day of work. Gosford Hill started the game with a new goalkeeper stepping in at the last minute (Neché Obifuna).

We controlled the game with total possession and playing fantastic football. Dean Dodworth opened the scoring with a well worked goal with great link up play with Jake McGovern.

Just before half time King Alfred's levelled the score. The second half wasn't so good but we scored again following a great piece of play down the left wing with Charlie Hopwood, Josh

Redfearn'Doney, ZackHarwood and Jago Edwards applied the finish. King Alfred attacked again but the midfield and defence (Esah Hakimi, Mason Rhodes, Ben Helfrich, Louis Strauther, Jake McGovern, James Bateman and Harry Brock) stayed strong but couldn't deny King Alfred's a goal. The game went into extra time and the introduction of subs Roy Ruci and Arta Nickfarjam helped give Gosford an edge. The game ended up going to penalties, first taker James Bateman...goal, second taker Jago Edwards....goal, third taker Mason Rhodes....goal, fourth taker Jake McGovern...goal, fifth taker Zack Harwood....goal. It went to the last penalty from King Alfreds who put his penalty wide so Gosford qualify for the next round. Man of the match Jake McGovern.

James Bateman – Year 8 Student

Adobe Creative Cloud

We've got them all. New in this term is the whole of the Creative Cloud suite of programs. The industry standard for photography, illustration, video and digital effects.

The core programs are:

- Photoshop – Image editing and composition
- InDesign – Page design and layout for print and digital publishing
- Premier Pro – Video production and editing
- After Effects – Visual effects and motion graphics
- Dreamweaver and Muse - Web and mobile design
- Lightroom – Digital photo editing



So if you want to make an animation, edit some pictures, make a video or a website we have the latest professional tools.

Don't be scared, they do look complicated because they are designed for professional outcomes. Get stuck into a project by using the 'how to' videos on the Adobe You Tube channel or the Adobe Creative Cloud Get Started website.<https://helpx.adobe.com/creative-cloud/learn/start.html>

I look forward to seeing what you can do.

Mr S Marinari – ICT Teacher

The Learning Centre



Young Blood and Old Hands Unite

A new start to the school year has brought with it some enthusiastic Year 7 chess players. Following the success of the newly formed chess club, over thirty students from Years 7-11 signed up to attend a demonstration from our visiting chess master, Carl Portman. The students took up their boards on both sides of a banquet-style table to play *blacks* versus *whites* – game on! The moves were played out on a giant, magnetic chess board with students offering their thoughts and rationale behind the next crucial move for their respective colour, while replicating the game on their own boards. The Year 7s were treated to some extra time with Carl to conclude the game. A hard fought and tactical match ended in victory for the blacks.

Chess Club

Thursday lunch times in the Learning Centre @ 1.20pm. Bring your lunch for a prompt start.



Web Page Update

The Learning Centre area on the Gosford Hill website has been updated. With useful links to reading suggestions, our library system 'Oliver', Patron of Reading, Ben Davis and much more... Access the information via the school website drop down menu - Students & Parents, The Learning Centre.

Mrs A Hedges – Learning Centre Manager

The Learning Centre



Maths Puzzle of the Month

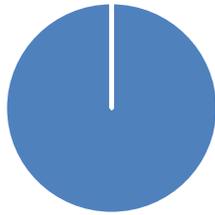
Introducing a new monthly puzzle for any students to try to solve. Each month, the maths team will challenge you to 'think outside of the box'. Puzzles will be displayed in the maths corridor and Learning Centre. Answers should be posted in the puzzle box located in the Learning Centre. Correct answers will go into a prize draw. Good luck!

Ms E Doherty – Team Leader, Maths Faculty

Year 12 and 13 Parents Consultation Evening Survey

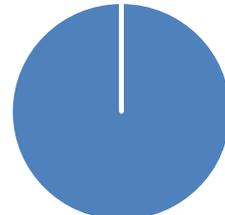
Wednesday 15.10.14 was the Gosford Hill School Parent Evening for Year 12 and 13. Below are key points from the parents and carers survey:

My child is happy at this school



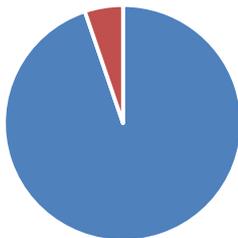
■ Agree or strongly agree (100%)
■ Disagree or strongly disagree (0%)

As a new student to Gosford Hill School, my son/daughter has been well supported in settling in



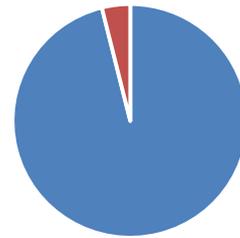
■ Agree or strongly agree (100%)
■ Disagree or strongly disagree (0%)

My child is taught well at this school



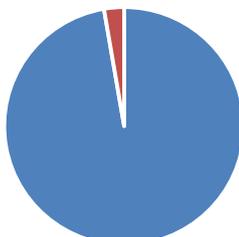
■ Agree or strongly agree (94.81%)
■ Disagree or strongly disagree (5.19%)

My child makes good progress at this school



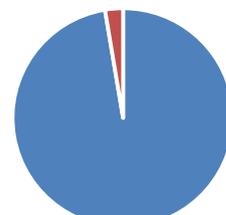
■ Agree or strongly agree (96.10%)
■ Disagree or strongly disagree (3.90%)

My child receives the appropriate homework for their age



■ Agree or strongly agree (97.30%)
■ Disagree or strongly disagree (2.70%)

This school is well led and managed



■ Agree or strongly agree (96.10%)
■ Disagree or strongly disagree (2.60%)

C. Hall - Assistant Headteacher

CONTACTING YOUR SCHOOL

Your views are very important to us, whether they're about your child, school activities or wider community issues. For all contact details telephone School Reception.

If you have a concern about your child contact:

- **The subject teacher** - if it concerns learning in a particular subject. Contact Reception to leave a message or alternatively, if you have internet access, you can ask for their email address.
- **The Head of Faculty** - if you wish to discuss any matter in greater detail.
- **Their Form Tutor** - if it is a more general issue about your child's wellbeing.

Staff will endeavour to phone you back as soon as possible. All information is treated in the strictest of confidence. If you want to raise an issue or query about a more general area of school activity or a community matter contact a Parent Governor. (Telephone numbers available from School Reception)

SCHOOL RECEPTION: Telephone: 01865 374971

SCHOOL EMAIL: office.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

ABSENCE LINE: Telephone: 01865 855378 (please use this number to report absences)

or

email – absence.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk The Parent Support Site has information on supporting your child(ren) in a number of curriculum areas.

TERM DATES – 2014-2015

Term 2

Monday 3 November – Friday 19th December 2014

Term 3

Monday 5 January – Friday 13th February 2015

Term 4

Monday 23 February – Friday 27 March 2015

Term 5

Monday 13 April – Friday 22 May 2015

Term 6

Monday 1 June – Friday 17 July 2015

INSET DAYS: 1 & 2 September, 10 October, 5 December 2014

Bank Holiday: 4 May 2015