



The Gosford Times

The Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School

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Matt Takes us into his Magical World



During December, author Matt Ralphs visited the whole of Year 8 and talked about his new book 'Fire Girl'. Fire Girl is an amazing fantasy book based around the life of Hazel and witchcraft.

Matt talked to us about the progress of the book, telling us: "It took me two years to write my book, I wrote it in between my shifts at work and by candlelight on my canal boat." He told us it wasn't easy and he could've easily given up, but he was glad that he hadn't because he'd persevered and achieved his dream. Matt inspired a number of students at Gosford Hill when he gave his talk:

*"A read I can't put down." "An inspirational talk." "Simply inspiring."
"I loved it when he brought out his sword." "I loved it when Matt involved the audience."*

As the last quote shows, Matt spoke to the audience and involved us. He based his talk around the students and was described by them as 'confident' and 'interesting'.

As a prolific reader, I can honestly say that the genre of the book didn't appeal to me, but as soon as I heard Matt read the extract, it soon changed my mind. I bought a copy of the book which Matt Ralphs signed. I think the book is a fantastic read and I can't put it down.

Cerys McAdam - TSWR



Learn * Lead * Inspire

Record Attendance and Punctuality Figures for Gosford Hill School

I am delighted to report that the whole school attendance figure at the end of Term 2 was 95.78% and that punctuality to school was 98.87%.

These are both school records.

Thank you very much indeed for supporting the school attendance and punctuality policies and procedures.

**Richard Belmont - Senior Assistant
Headteacher**

Annual Student Safety Survey

During Term 2, I have conducted the annual student safety survey. The results have been very positive. Where students have identified issues, a response has been put into place.

I will feedback the results of the survey and responses in assemblies during the week starting Monday 18th January.

**Richard Belmont - Senior Assistant
Headteacher**

Is your child entitled to additional funding?

School meals will give your child a real appetite for learning and help them to achieve their full potential.

If your child is eligible for free school meals it means they can enjoy delicious, healthy meals without the bills and the fuss of making packed lunches. Many students at our school are already entitled to free school meals, and your child may be able to have them too.

Also, for every student registered for a free school meal, the school receives additional money from the Government to spend on extra school resources.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Please note that you do not normally need to provide evidence of your income, only your National Insurance Number and Date of Birth.

If you think your children may be entitled to free school meals, please contact Reception for an application form or download one from our Gosford Hill School website.

Ms P Challans – Business Manager