

## Autumn Term Newsletter

10th October 2025

# The Gattons Infant School

Another busy fortnight has flown by and it is great to see Reception settling into school life so well. They are really enjoying OPAL playtimes and the swings are particularly popular. I have been so impressed with their kindness towards each other, taking turns and pushing each other on the swings. Many of them are beginning to be able to swing themselves which is a brilliant skill to learn! Great Walstead School visited this week to see OPAL in action and described playtime as, 'Joyfull!'. They are hoping to transform their playtimes having seen what a fantastic time our children are having.

This year, on our school development plan, we are continuing to focus on embedding maths mastery and mastering number. Mrs Parsons leads on maths and has spent this week observing lessons and looking at the children's learning in their books. She has been really impressed with the children's fluency, as well as their reasoning skills. Please keep practising their number facts at home as it makes a huge difference.

Thank you to some of our parents and Governors this week who gave up time to help Year 1 make crumble - they smelt delicious and I hope your children let you try them!

Don't forget to sign up to the FOGS quiz on Thursday 23rd October at 7pm - we are continuing to raise money for a path onto the field so that we can access the swings all year round.

Have a great weekend!  
Sarah Gospel  
Headteacher

### Dates to remember

Monday 13th October  
Y2 trip to Hever Castle

Friday 17th October  
Y2 trip to Hever Castle

Friday 17th October  
Reception parents - family reading session @ 2.30pm

Thursday 23rd October  
OPAL stay and play  
1.30pm meeting,  
2pm play

### OPAL

Thank you for the donations we have had so far this term. It really does make a difference.



Please keep an eye out for big toy diggers, buckets and spades, as well as Barbies and Bratz type dolls. Please as always email Mrs Gospel on [head@thegattons.co.uk](mailto:head@thegattons.co.uk) before you donate resources.



Don't forget you are invited to come and enjoy OPAL play on Thursday 23rd October. There will be a meeting to find out more about OPAL at 1.30pm and playtime will start at 2pm. If you are just coming for playtime, please come through the blue gates. Don't forget that grandparents / aunts and uncles are invited if you are not able to make it. Thank you!

### Notifying us of an absence

If you need to notify us that your child is going to be absent from school, please either phone the school and leave a message - **REMEMBER TO LEAVE YOUR CHILD'S NAME & CLASS** - or email [office@thegattons.co.uk](mailto:office@thegattons.co.uk) Thank you.

## What's happening in school!

Last week in Reception we did Story Dough! We woke the dough up by singing a nonsense song. Next, we warmed the dough up with our hands by kneading it, pulling it, squishing it, poking it and pinching it and then we entered a story land. We had to create our own silly character. We shared lots of ideas like a custard witch, a bogey goblin or a chocolate alligator. We then got to moulding and shaping the dough using our fine motor skills. We used clay tools and added embellishments and talked about what we were creating, sharing lots of rich language together. We then created The Button of Doom. Once this button is pressed we have to put all our resources away and place the story dough back to the big blob. We counted down and pressed it and said goodbye to the dough! The children absolutely loved this and enjoyed sharing their ideas with each other.



Year 1 have been making crumbles this week. We have used seasonal fruit and we started our DT project by tasting fruits cooked and raw. The children then ate a range of homemade crumbles and picked their favourite flavours. Each child designed their crumble filling and topping, giving their crumble a special name. Mr Crumble is one wonderful example! Thank you to the governors, parents and carers that helped us to make the crumbles and for providing the fruit from your gardens.

Year 2 have been having lots of learning fun in Woodland Rangers these last few weeks. We have been identifying animal habitats, investigating perfect conditions for woodlice, noticing the change in seasons with tree identification and we have been categorising the woodland area into living/non living and never lived. We have also enjoyed singing songs around the fire circle and giving ourselves 'Woodland names'. The children really look forward to our adventures on Fridays.

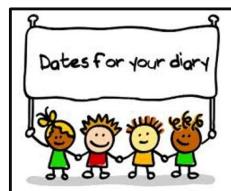


## Diary Dates

### October

Monday 13th  
Wednesday 15th  
Friday 17th  
Friday 17th  
Monday 20th  
Tuesday 21st  
Wednesday 22nd  
Thursday 23rd  
Thursday 23rd  
Friday 24th  
Monday 27th—Friday 31st

Y2 Trip to Hever Castle  
Y1 Parents in - 2.30pm - Details to follow  
Y2 Trip to Hever Castle  
Reception parents in - 2.30pm Family Reading Session  
Y2 Celebration of Learning - Owls Class 2.30pm  
Y2 Celebration of Learning - Eagles Class 2.30pm  
Y2 Celebration of Learning - Puffins Class 2.30pm  
OPAL Stay and Play  
FOGS Quiz  
INSET Day - School closed for children  
Half Term Holiday



### November

Monday 3rd  
Thursday 6th  
Friday 7th  
Friday 14th  
Thursday 20th  
Friday 21st  
Saturday 22nd  
Tuesday 25th  
Thursday 27th

Y2 Drama Workshop  
Reception Learning Meeting - 9am  
Non Uniform Day - FOGS Christmas Fayre Donations  
Children In Need Day - Details to follow  
Non Uniform Day - FOGS Christmas Fayre Donations  
Y1 Drama Workshop  
FOGS Christmas Fayre  
Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings - Details to follow  
Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings - Details to follow

### December

Monday 1st  
Tuesday 2nd  
Thursday 11th  
Thursday 11th  
Monday 15th  
Thursday 18th

Flu Immunisation - Details to follow  
Carol Service @ Kings Church - Years 1 & 2 - 2pm  
Reception Nativity at school 9.30am or 2pm  
FOGS Christmas Discos—Y1 & Y2  
Thank you assembly for volunteers  
'All Things Christmas' Day - Details to follow

**31ST OCT - 2ND NOV 2025**

(October Half Term)

SWAMP  
KEEP OUT!

WINGS YOUTH THEATRE

**PRESENT**

A large silhouette of Shrek's head and shoulders is on the right, and a silhouette of a donkey is on the left. In the center, there's a small signpost with a sign that reads "SWAMP KEEP OUT!"

DREAMWORKS  
THEATRICALS

# SHREK

## THE MUSICAL JR.

Music by  
Jeanine Tesori

Book and Lyrics by  
David Lindsay-Abaire

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**Croft Theatre,  
Burgess Hill Girls School**

£13.50 Adult | £9.50 Child/Concession

Friday 31st October - 7:30pm

Saturday 1st November - 2:30pm

Saturday 1st November - 7:30pm

Sunday 2nd November - 2:30pm



Grab  
your  
tickets!

**[ticketsource.co.uk/wingsyouththeatre](https://ticketsource.co.uk/wingsyouththeatre)**

or email **[hello@wingsyouththeatre.co.uk](mailto:hello@wingsyouththeatre.co.uk)**

For more information, visit **[wingsyouththeatre.co.uk](http://wingsyouththeatre.co.uk)**

Based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion Picture and the Book by William Steig. Originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions. Original Production directed by Jason Moore and Rob Ashford. "I'm a Believer" by Neil Diamond. This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI ([www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk))