Spring Term Newsletter

13th February 2026

The Gattons Infant School

I can't believe we have already reached half term— the last 6 weeks have flown by! There have been so many more fantastic experiences in the last fortnight across the school. Year 2 had a wonderful time singing at London Meed on Tuesday with other Year 2 children in Burgess Hill. The children then enjoyed sharing their songs and artwork with their parents.

Thank you to all the parents who have come in for DT workshops in Reception and Year 1. There are now some brilliant fairytale houses in Reception and moving space pictures in Year 1.

We hope you have a happy half term and we look forward to the weather improving after the holidays!

Sarah Gospel
Headteacher

Dates to remember

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February
Half Term holiday

Monday 23rd February - INSET Day

Tuesday 24th - Friday 27th February
Nepal Week

Attendance

We are nearly half way through the year. Well done to the 177 children who have managed 95% attendance or above this year so far. Please remember that every day in school matters and your child is missing learning, as well as social time, every day that they are not in school. If you would like any support to improve your child's attendance or punctuality, please speak to Mrs Gospel.

OPAL

We are looking for:

Waterproof backed picnic blankets

Lego figures

Sylvannians

small world figures and toy cars

Chalk

Royal George Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 9SL
parentline@thegattons.co.uk
office@thegattons.co.uk
Tel 01444 235071 Fax 01444 230050
Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Gospel

What have we been doing in school!

Year 1 had a visit from two geologists, Sarah and Simon Cook, who brought in fossils and rocks that were millions of years old; the children were very excited to be able to hold them. The children also learnt abut the energy at the centre of the earth as well as the chalk, clay and other rocks in our local area.

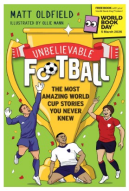
Thank you to everyone who was able to came in and help the children make their moving space pictures at our DT workshops - we couldn't do it without you.

In Year 2 the children have been working hard to learn songs for our exciting Little Sing Workshop at London Meed. On Tuesday afternoon, we braved the drizzly weather and did a healthy walk to get there. The children performed pre-learnt songs and even learnt a new song with specialist music coordinators leading the way.
We also performed 'High' by The Lighthouse Family and the Year 2's did so well to perform in front of all the other local Year 2 children from different schools. Thank you to the parents who helped to walk the children so that they could be part of this lovely event.

Reception have enjoyed their final week learning about traditional tales. They welcomed parents and carers to a workshop where they created their own fairytale house. There were so many wonderful houses and any fairytale character would be delighted to live in!

World Book Day—5th March 2026

We will be celebrating World Book Day on 5th March. You will have received a book token this half term so that you can buy the World Book Day books ahead of 5th March. In previous years, we have found they sell out quite fast! If your child wants to enter the 'Get Caught Reading' competition, please can all entries be returned by Thursday 5th March so that we can celebrate them in assembly on Friday 6th. FOGS have kindly donated a book token for a winning drawing from each year group. Thank you!



HAF Funding

As part of the Best Start in Life initiative, the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme will continue to run during the Easter holidays. If you are eligible, you will receive more information from the office. Don't forget to book early to avoid disappointment . **Families can book from 09:00 on 2nd March 2026**

Tax Free Childcare

Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) is a childcare top-up for working parents. It can be used to help pay for breakfast clubs, after school clubs, holiday clubs, childminders, or sports activities. TFC is available for children aged up to 11, or 17 if the child has a disability. Families can visit the Best Start in Life website to check if they are eligible using this link: https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/childcare-early-years-education/tax-free-childcare/

West Sussex Children and Family Plan

Please look at the animation below to find out more about the West Sussex Children and Family Plan 2026-2029.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=28QFB_JTIgE

Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings - 10th & 12th March 2026

Bookings for Parent/Teacher consultation meetings are now open on ParentMail. If you did not receive an invitation (info@parentmail.co.uk), please check your spam/junk mail. Appointments should be booked online via ParentMail. If you are not able to book an appointment, please contact the school office and we will be happy to help you.

Resources needed for Reception

Reception are looking for some resources. They would like a small world castle with any accessories, 3 small world farms, any Playmobil and any medium sized good condition dolls for the children to play with.

If you have any of these resources or are good at hunting on freecycle we would be extremely grateful! Thank you!

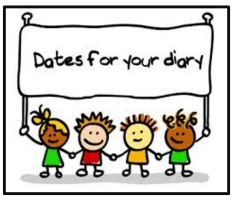
Resources needed for reading areas

Mrs Shipman is currently working on improving our reading areas. We would be very grateful for donations of any good quality cushions or blankets so that we can make these areas into cosy spaces where the children will want to snuggle and enjoy a book.

Family Reading in Reception

Family reading for Reception children will begin on Friday 27th February. This is an opportunity for you to come into school on a Friday morning at 8.40am and enjoy reading with your child before school starts. Please remember that children cannot be dropped off before 8.50 if you are not coming for family reading. If you have children in other year groups, you are welcome to alternate the weeks you come into each class. We look forward to seeing you.

Diary Dates



February

Monday 16th - Friday 20th	Half term holiday
Monday 23rd	INSET Day - School closed for children
Friday 27th	Family Reading starts in Reception
Tuesday 24th - Friday 27th	Nepal Week

March

Thursday 5th	World Book Day - Family reading today NOT Friday
Tuesday 10th & Thursday 12th	Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings
Tuesday 17th	FOGS Cake Sale
Tuesday 17th	Multi Skills Competition
Wednesday 18th	Let's Dance at The Dome - Y1 & Y2
Friday 20th	Comic Relief - Details to follow
Tuesday 24th	Reception Library Visit
Thursday 26th	Year One Library Visit
Thursday 26th	FOGS Discos - all year groups
Friday 27th	Last day of the Spring Term
Monday 30th - Friday 10th April	Easter Holiday

April

Monday 13th	First day of the Summer Term
Tuesday 14th	Year Two Library Visit

Looking for help?

Come along for a cuppa, cake & a warm welcome at

Burgess Hill One Stop Support Shop

Held on the third Thursday each month
11am-1pm at The Salvation Army

There will be a wide range of services to offer residents free, face-to-face support and practical advice – all under one roof.

If you have any questions please call Burgess Hill Town Council on 01444 247726

Dates for 2026:

19 February
19 March
16 April
21 May
18 June
16 July

Full address: 34 Cyprus Rd, RH15 8DX
Nearest parking: Cyprus Road Car park, Crescent Way

Co-organised by

BurgessHill Town Council befriended · Burgess Hill & District PANTRY · Burgess Hill Youth Nurturing Growth BYH · The Salvation Army · Burgess Hill Community Food Bank

Worried about bills, housing, food, health, parenting or loneliness?

You are not alone.

Join the Burgess Hill One Stop Support Shop for a free, friendly drop-in with experts who can help.

The list of attending organisations will be available the Monday before the session, from the Burgess Hill Town Council, either in person at the Help Point (96 Church Walk) or by calling 01444 247726, or visit the dedicated webpage: www.burgesshill.gov.uk/one-stop-support-shop