



The Gattons Infant School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2026
9th October

I can't believe we've finally had a wet play this week - it really has been months since that happened! Please make sure your child has wellies and a waterproof at school, as we will still go outside at lunchtimes. Thank you for your continued support as we still have problems with ISS and our school lunches. Please make sure you have ordered lunch for your child. We can't always give them a choice of meal if you have not ordered for them.

Thank you to the parents who came to our FOGS (Friends of The Gattons) AGM this week. We are in desperate need of volunteers for our events this term. If you would like to volunteer, please let your class rep know in your What's app group and they will send you a link to a Volunteers What's app group. Our first event is the quiz next Thursday. You don't need a team and can just come along. Please buy tickets in advance so that we know we have enough people coming to run the event. Have a lovely weekend.



Sarah Gospel
Headteacher

Dates to remember

Monday 12th & Tuesday 13th -
Y2 Trip to Hever Castle

Thursday 15th -
FOGS Quiz 7pm

Thursday 22nd -
Outdoor Stay and Play

Friday 23rd -
INSET day -
school closed for the children.

Outdoor Play

We are looking forward to welcoming you in to play on Thursday 22nd October. If you'd like to learn more about OPAL and how our outdoor play journey began, please join me in the hall at 1.30pm. If you'd just like to come and play, the blue gates will open at 2pm. Younger siblings are welcome but please make sure you supervise them. FOGS have a cake sale on this day, so play will finish at 2.45pm. This will hopefully give you time to buy cakes before pick up if you'd like to.

We are looking for scooters and bikes if you are getting rid of any for children to use at lunchtimes on the Year 2 playground. Please don't forget to send photos to the office on office@thegattons.co.uk before you bring things in. Thank you!



What is happening in school!



In Reception, we have been learning about our brilliant bodies and all the amazing things they can do. We welcomed baby Josiah and his mummy and thought about how much we have grown and changed and all the things we can do now we are at school that we couldn't when we were babies.

Year Two 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 in 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.



Year One have tasted fruit, designed and now made their crumbles! They chopped the fruit carefully, followed a recipe to make the crumble topping and combined it all together to make a delicious crumble for you to enjoy! Thank you for all the ingredient donations.

In RE, we have had visits from Cathie and Katy from St Edward's Church and Angie from The King's Church. They kindly gave up some of their time to come in and talk to us about Christianity and being a Christian.

We have also enjoyed taster tennis sessions with Jimmy from Encore Tennis. We listened carefully and practised hitting the ball with the tennis racket. We even managed to hit some over the net!

Finally, we are continuing to look for Bog Baby. We keep singing the Bog Baby song in the hope he will reappear. Please come and join us on Wednesday 21st October at 2.30 to help look for him!

Amazon Wishlists

We have been asked by some parents if we have an up to date wishlist. The link can be found below. Thank you to the parents who have already bought us things - we really appreciate it!

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/JT5AXI81QAL4?ref_=abls_nvfly_swo

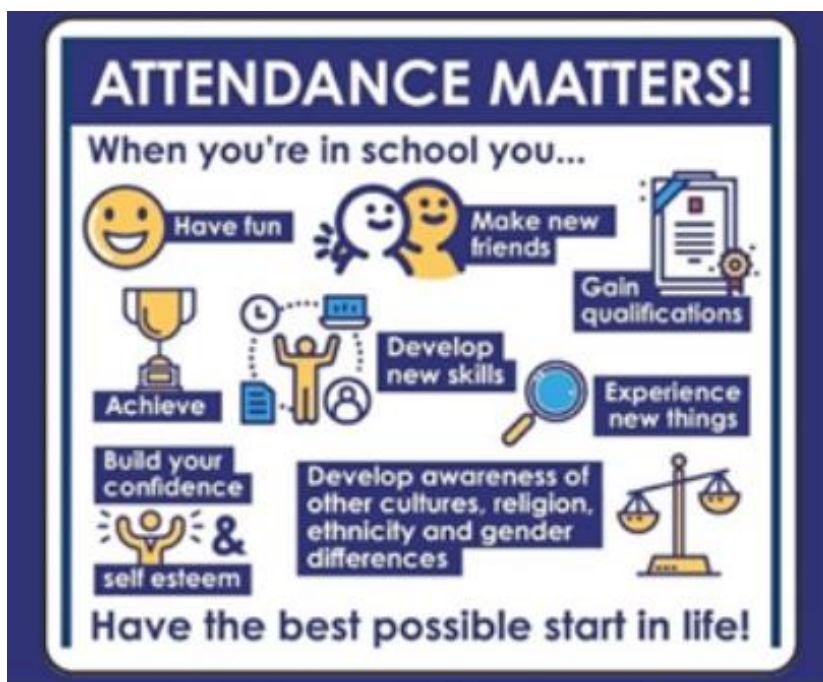
Parent Teacher Consultation Meetings

Bookings will open via ParentMail for Parent Teacher Consultation meetings on Monday 12th October at 8am. These meetings are a chance for you to talk to your child's teacher about how they have settled in their new year group and their progress. Please note that slots go quickly, so if you need a specific date/time please book early.



Attendance

Letters will be coming out soon if your child's attendance has fallen below 95%. We know that illnesses are unavoidable but will still let you know about your child's attendance. We are aiming to reach 97% attendance this year. As we begin to head into the cold and flu season, please remember that your child can come to school with a cold, if they feel well enough.



Scooters and Bikes

Please make sure all **scooters and bikes are named** - it is not unusual for several children to have the same model. If you have accidentally taken home a dinosaur helmet, please return it to the scooter park or the office. Thank you.



Low Income Free School Meals

All infant school children receive a Universal Free School Meal. However, if you are on a low income your child may be eligible for pupil premium/low income free school meals which releases vital funding to the school (£1,550, per year, per eligible child), in addition to over £100 worth of benefits from the school, as follows:

- * the Government provides shopping vouchers for school holidays including half terms (approx £10-£15 per child per school holiday week)
- * free school jumper or cardigan per year (usually saving £14-16)
- * free book bag, PE bag, and water bottle per year (saving of £9)
- * free school trips (approx saving of £12-£16)
- * free in-house school clubs (approx saving of £15)
- * free holidays clubs, including meals

If you think that your child may be eligible please apply online using the link below, or search "WSCC free school meals" to navigate to the application:- <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals>

If you need help with this application or access to a PC, we would be very happy to assist. Please contact Clare Tidbury in the school office, or email office@thegattons.co.uk Thank you for helping to support our school.

TUMMY BUGS!

Please remember that if your child is unwell with sickness and/or diarrhoea for whatever reason, they **MUST** stay away from school until they have been symptom free for a **MINIMUM** of 48 hours. This period of time significantly reduces the risk of the bug spreading throughout the school. We will request that children are collected if we discover they have not been symptom free for 48 hours. Thank you.



Open Mornings

We will be holding open mornings for the parents/carers of prospective Reception children (September 2027 intake) on various dates in November. Please see the poster below and pass this information on to any friends or family that you know have a child due to start school next September. Please don't forget to put your application forms in if you have a child for September 2027. The application window is now open -

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-places/apply/starting-school-places/>



THE GATTONS INFANT SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

Do you have a child starting school in **September 2027**?

Come and discover what makes **The Gattons Infant School** such a special place to learn, grow and thrive.

-  A nurturing, child-centred school
-  Fantastic outdoor learning and play spaces
-  Experienced, engaging and dedicated staff
-  A school where every child is known, valued and treated as an individual
-  Every child is supported to achieve their very best

⇒ Come and See Us in Action! ⇐

Visit our vibrant school community, meet our wonderful staff and experience the warm, welcoming atmosphere that makes The Gattons Infant School unique.

 **Scan the QR Code to Book Your Place at one of our Open Days**

Find out more about us on our website: www.thegattons.co.uk Find us on: Royal George Road, RH15 9SL

Call us on: 01444 235071



early.years.training@westsussex.gov.uk

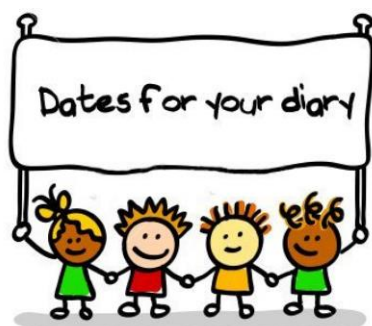
 **west sussex county council**

Considering childminding: Your first steps

West Sussex County Council is offering a selection of **free** online information sessions for those interested in finding out more about childminding as a career.

FIND OUT MORE HERE





October

Monday 12th	Y2 Trip to Hever Castle - Puffins and half of Owls
Tuesday 13th	Y2 Trip to Hever Castle - Eagles and half of Owls
Thursday 15th	FOGS Quiz - 7pm
Thursday 22nd	Outdoor Stay and Play Meeting at 1.30pm, play from 2pm
Thursday 22nd	FOGS Cake Sale
Friday 23rd	INSET Day - School closed for children
Monday 26th—Friday 30th	Half Term Holiday

November

Wednesday 4th	Non Uniform Day - FOGS Chocolate Donations
Thursday 5th	Reception Learning Meeting - 9am
Monday 9th	Open Mornings for new Reception Parents
Tuesday 10th	Flu Immunisation - Details to follow
Wednesday 11th	Open Mornings for new Reception Parents
Friday 13th	Children In Need Day - Details to follow
Friday 20th	Non Uniform Day - FOGS Christmas Fayre Donations
Saturday 21st	FOGS Christmas Fayre 12.00 - 2.30pm
Tuesday 24th	Open Mornings for new Reception Parents
Tuesday 24th	Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings - Details to follow
Thursday 26th	Open Mornings for new Reception Parents
Thursday 26th	Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings - Details to follow

December

Tuesday 1st	FOGS Christmas Discos - Y1 & Y2
Tuesday 8th	Carol Service @ Kings Church - Years 1 & 2 - 2pm
Monday 14th	Reception Nativity at school 9.20am or 2.15pm
Tuesday 15th	Thank you assembly for volunteers
Thursday 17th	'All Things Christmas' Day - Details to follow

Provisional dates - please be aware these are subject to change

REMAINING INSET DAYS 2026/2027

Friday 23rd October 2026
Monday 4th January 2027
Thursday 25th March 2027
Monday 7th June 2027