

# The Gorsey Weekly

## THE GORSEY BANK MISSION STATEMENT

*To nurture lifelong learners who are confident and ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities of the outside world.*



## SAFER INTERNET DAY



This week, we were proud to take part in Safer Internet Day 2026 - a national event that encourages children and young people to think carefully about how they use the internet and stay safe online.

In assembly on Tuesday, a group of confident Year 6 children led a special assembly to mark Safer Internet Day. Encouraging children to think carefully about their digital behaviour and the importance of speaking to trusted adults.

Year 3 enjoyed a wonderfully creative workshop where they explored different online scenarios and thought about how to stay safe using role-play and drama! They even performed their play to parents at the end of the school day!

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers of the growing number of online-safety incidents we are supporting in school. Many of these issues begin at home - on group chats, gaming platforms or social media. We kindly ask families to remain vigilant by regularly checking devices and talking openly with children about their online use.

There are some resources on the 'Family Support and Guidance' section of our website. Additionally, [here](#) is a link to recommended online safety resources entitled 'What I wish my parents or carers knew...'



**Why talking about digital life is hard for kids ...**  
... and how to make it easier

**Parents and carers don't know enough**

- 1 **Talk about both the good and the bad of life online**  
Young people say parents don't always understand the online world they live in. They also feel that adults focus mostly on what can go wrong, and rarely acknowledge the positive things that matter to them.
- 2 **Be involved early and collaborate on key decisions**  
Young people say parents should take an active role from the start, they're more inclined to help if something goes wrong. They also say parents should be involved in what's around their digital use, so they understand the reasoning and feel the rules are fair.
- 3 **When in doubt, ask your child**  
They say their online world isn't -- and isn't the person best placed to help them manage it.
- 4 **If you're still unsure, speak to a teacher or trusted professional**  
They can guide you towards the right advice and further support.

**Fear of consequences**

- 1 **Create a safe space for talking about what they see online**  
Young people want to share their experiences, but they may feel they can't. Help them feel comfortable talking about the things they use and what they're seeing online.
- 2 **Set ground rules together**  
Agree on rules with your child and be prepared for them to change over time. Make sure they understand them, especially as they grow older. Making sure the rules are clear and consistent helps them feel respected and appreciated, as they can share their voice in the process.
- 3 **Be honest and explain**  
If you're worried about media stories or end up taking their phone, give reasons. Young people understand that parents might have a sensible response, but needs to be explained properly. They might feel embarrassed and children might not open up a second time.

**It's awkward/embarrassing**

- 1 **Start conversations early and keep them going**  
Keep the conversation going, responding to what your child says. Don't let awkward or 'taboo' topics stop you. Download our guide to common topics in the guide, and the [Talktothehead website](#) has age-appropriate ideas.
- 2 **Keep it casual**  
Use everyday moments to talk about their online experiences — for example, when you're watching TV, or when they say they don't want 'the big talk'.
- 3 **Be a role model**  
Think about how your own habits set an example for your child. Encourage them to shape family rules, and share stories from your childhood or teenage years that show how things can be different in today's digital world.
- 4 **Have a conversation and ask questions**  
If you're not sure where to start, try watching an [#AsktheHeadteacher video](#) together.
- 5 **It's okay to laugh!**  
Sharing a laugh can ease tensions and help you both feel more comfortable. Teens say they don't want parents to be too serious or intimidating.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

13th February - HALF TERM

23rd February - Children return to school

26th/27th February - Y5 Bikeability

27th February - 4LVS Swimming (1.30 - 3pm)

5th March - World Book Day

6th March - Y2 Fire of London Workshop

6th March - PTA quiz night (time tbc)

10th March - Y5/6 Jet 2 workshop

11th March - PTA Mother's Day Stall

12th March - Y3 Residential Talk

13th March - Year 1 Assembly



## THIS WEEK'S HOUSE POINTS SO FAR...

364



ALTIUS



MAGNUS

457



CITIUS



FORTIUS

413

380

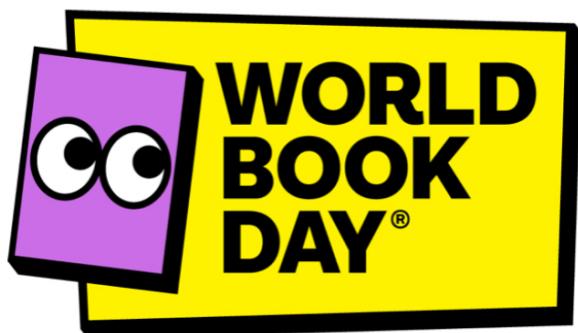
PLEASE REMEMBER WE ARE AN ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL - UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD NUTS, OR ANY PRODUCT CONTAINING NUTS, BE BROUGHT ON TO SCHOOL PREMISES.

## MYSTERY READERS WANTED!

As World Book Day is fast approaching, we are in the midst of planning lots of exciting things to inspire our children's love for reading.

On the week of World Book Day, we would like to invite as many 'mystery readers' as possible into our classrooms to share the excitement of reading.

If you are available at 2.30pm any day of the week beginning Monday 1st March, and would like to come in to your child's class to read a story or a chapter or two, please email [admin@gorsebank.org.uk](mailto:admin@gorsebank.org.uk) with the subject Mystery Reader. This offer is extended to wider family members too, grandparents, aunts, uncles etc!



## LUNAR NEW YEAR

As we approach Lunar New Year, we would love to recognise and celebrate this special occasion in our school community. If your child celebrates Lunar New Year and would like to bring in an item that represents the celebration such as decorations, traditional clothing, red envelopes or anything meaningful to your family, they are very welcome to share it with their class.

We would also be delighted if family members or relatives would like to come in to talk to the children about how Lunar New Year is celebrated in your home or culture. If this is something you would like to do, please contact your child's class teacher. We would love to hear from you!



To help the children learn more about this celebration, here are some picture books you might enjoy sharing at home:

**Logan's Lantern** - an introduction to traditions and family celebration.

**The Lucky Red Envelope** - exploring customs and meaning behind giving red envelopes.

**Lunar New Year Around the World** - a beautifully illustrated look at how different communities celebrate.

To anyone in our community who is celebrating, we wish you a Happy Lunar New Year!