



## WELCOME BACK!

### ROMAN BRITAIN

Year 4 have been immersed in Roman Britain. We looked at the different symbols and designs on Roman shields and came up with our own designs with a special meaning. We then learned that Romans had a special formation that helped to make them successful during their invasions. This was called the tortoise (or testudo). It ensured the legions were all protected from each side and on top.



## RAINFORESTS

This half term, Year 3 will be exploring rainforests. On impact day, we looked into the 4 different layers of a rainforest which are the forest floor, understory, canopy and emergent. After learning the rainforest song, we took our knowledge and collaborated to create a marvellous mix-media collage to show our learning.



One of our key aims at Wray Common is to support children in developing a **positive wellbeing**. Over the summer, we will be sharing our **wellbeing toolkit** with children during assemblies. Check how children's knowledge and understanding develops over time.



# Attendance Matters

*At Wray Common Primary School we expect children to attend school every day, as long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so. Everyday attendance at school and good punctuality are vital for pupils to get the most out of their education. We seek to support children and their parents and carers as best we can to make this a success.*

## Reporting absences

All absences must be reported on a daily basis by 9.20am. If a child is absent for 5 days or more, we ask that parents provide **medical evidence** for the absence.

If a child is absent from school with no explanation, it will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

If a child is absent without explanation from their parents or carers, for the equivalent of 5 days or more (which do not need to be consecutive) within a 10 week period, parents and carers will be liable to receive a penalty notice.

## Requesting a leave of absence

Term dates are published well in advance, allowing parents to plan family holidays outside of term time.

As such, please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2013, which became law on 1st September 2013, state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances would only ever be considered on the rarest occasion in which a child's absence from school is wholly unavoidable.

Should parents and carers still choose to take their children out of school without the approval of the school, for 10 sessions (the equivalent of 5 days) or more, which do not need to be consecutive, they will be liable to receive a penalty notice upon their return to school.

Each parent is liable for a penalty notice for each child who is absent from school. If a child has not had a penalty notice in the last 3 years, the amount payable if paid within 21 days, is £80. Thereafter, the amount increases to £160, if paid between 21 and 28 days.

If a child has had a penalty notice in the last 3 years, the amount payable is £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.

If a penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court.

If a child has had 2 penalty notices in the last 3 years, a 3rd penalty notice would not be issued - The Local Authority would consider prosecution under s444 Education Act 1996.

**Thank you for your ongoing support - children's attendance at Wray Common continues to be excellent.**

## Did you know?

If your child misses 1 day of school every two weeks, this will add up to 20 days each year.

Over children's 13 years at Primary and Secondary School, this would be the same as them missing 1.5 years of school.

## Reasons for absence when children are unwell

Children should attend school unless they:

- are not well enough
- have been physically sick and/or had diarrhoea within the previous 48 hours

## When children become unwell during the school day

If a child becomes unwell during the school day, they will be supported by school staff. If it is felt that a child is too unwell to continue with their learning, they will wait in the medical area outside the school office while parents or another nominated person, are contacted.

## How is attendance monitored?

Every half term, attendance and punctuality are monitored. Schools have a **statutory duty** to report on children's attendance when it has fallen below 95%. This will include writing to parents to make them aware of their child's attendance level and, where appropriate, seeking to work with them to support improved attendance for their child.

## Punctuality

Registration is completed promptly at 8.50am. If your child arrives after this time, they will be marked as late.

Persistent lateness disrupts children's education and can lead to poor attendance.

## Did you know?

Being just 10 minutes late each day is the same as missing 50 minutes a week. That is almost 1.5 weeks in a year. Over a child's 13 years at Primary and Secondary School, this would be the same as missing almost half a year of schooling.

## THANK YOU - SCIENCE CURRICULUM

We have an exciting new science curriculum starting next year which includes lots of practical, hands-on learning within lessons. Due to this, there are lots of resources needed. Here is an updated list of some of the things that we need. If anyone has any of these resources, or can collect some for us to use in school, please could you bring them in before the end of the Summer 1 term? Thank you to all the people that have already collected resources!

- A doll, puppet or teddy bear
- Toys with eyes
- Chimpanzee toys
- Toy cars
- Plastic animal figures including dinosaurs or insects
- Plastic bones
- Wooden toys
- Lab coat and stethoscope
  
- Hard hat
- Sunglasses
- Old clothing
- Polyester clothing
- Key
- ~~Nails~~
- Bolts
- Marbles
- Coins
- Nylon rope
- T-shirts
- Wool gloves
- Opaque pillowcase
  
- ~~Glass jars with lids including metal lids~~
- Transparent containers
- Transparent bowl/mixing bowls
- ~~Glass bottles~~
- Opaque containers or pots with lids
- Plastic cups
- Yoghurt pots
- ~~1 litre and 2 litre plastic bottles & caps~~
- ~~500ml plastic bottles & caps~~
- Metallic pots
  
- ~~Cardboard boxes~~
- ~~Corrugated cardboard and other cardboard~~
- Fabric
- Everyday objects made from various materials - wood, plastic, glass, metal, rock and fabric
- Materials - denim, rubber
- ~~Bubble wrap~~
- Plastic bags/shopping Bags
- Newspaper including A3
- ~~Pegs~~
- Kitchen roll tubes
- Sandpaper
- Sponges
- Bottle tops including milk bottle tops
- Egg cartons
- ~~Food packaging - crisp packets, empty boxes of biscuits and juice cartons~~

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Wed - Fri - Bikeability L1 (Y4)

Thurs - VR Workshops (Y3 and Y5)

Fri - Football v Furzefield (away)



## PE REMINDER

Just a reminder of the PE/swimming days:

Reception - Monday and Thursday - *please note this is a change of day.*

Y1 - Wednesday and Friday (swimming).

Y2 - Tuesday and Friday.

Y3 - Thursday and Friday.

Y4 - Wednesday (swimming) and Thursday.

Y5 - Tuesday and Wednesday.

Y6 - Monday and Thursday.

As the weather is warming up, please can we remind you of the Uniform Policy which can be found [here](#).

**Black shorts for PE are not permitted - red only.**

## GREEN GUARDIANS

We, along with all Surrey schools have introduced a new initiative in partnership to reduce food waste and improve recycling efforts. Please note that only food waste bins are provided in the lunch hall. All other waste should be taken home by children so it can be recycled, rather than being sent to landfill. As Wray Common citizens, we are proud to take responsibility and act as guardians of our planet.

## ARBOR PAYMENTS

Please can we remind you that dinner money should be paid for in advance. If your child has a school dinner and is not entitled to free school meals, the total cost for this half term is £64.40, assuming dinners are taken daily. Club spaces have also been allocated, therefore please make payments for the clubs prior to them starting next week. If you have any problems with making payments, please speak to the office.

## SUMMER

As we (hopefully!) head into warmer weather, please remember to ensure children bring their water bottles and hats.

If you need any support, please do not hesitate to contact us. We can help you source information about support through the right agencies, and make referrals ourselves to local support groups. Here are some of the things we have supported families with recently:

- School uniform, school bags, P.E. trainers and school shoes
- Pre-loved clothes for children
- Foodbank referrals
- Housing applications and letters of support
- Seasonal gifts for children

If you have any questions or would like to talk about how we can help, please contact Miss Kober on 01737 761254 or email [familysupport@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:familysupport@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk)

## HONOUR BOOK

1EL	Maryam	For aspiring to be the best she can be this week and working hard in all areas of learning.
1B	Avnee	For her positive attitude to her work even when challenged.
2T	Faye	For her positive attitude towards her learning and starting the term with great enthusiasm.
2P	Finley	For his courage in answering s many questions during our lesson inputs and discussions.
3S	Bradley	For persevering and working hard when telling the time to 1-minute intervals.
3F	Ben	For continuously challenging himself within all lessons and contributing to class discussions.
4BR	Arran	For excellent focus and contributions to class discussions this week particularly in History and PSHE lessons.
4BE	Zachary	For excellent contributions during out topic lessons this week. It is lovely to hear his enthusiasm for our Romans topic.
5E	Ottilie	For great collaboration, taking time to carefully explain the steps to her learning partner.
5J	Inaya	For trying her best in every lesson and challenging herself.
6C	Aspen	For persevering in her maths learning this week.
6F	Isaac	For great participation in Spanish this week.

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SEARCH ENGINES

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Search engines are an integral part of everyday life – with Google alone processing around 100,000 searches every second. Search engines use algorithms to predict which results will be useful to us, though this can expose children to inappropriate content, misinformation and even scams. This guide explains the risks associated with search engines and offers practical advice to help safeguard young users online.

## MANIPULATED SEARCH RESULTS

Although search engines take site reputation into account, trustworthiness isn't the main factor. Instead, they use algorithms that can be gamed via tactics like search engine optimisation (SEO), which is big business. As a result, users may encounter misleading content and low-quality commercial products that appear more credible than they actually are.

## MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION

Search engines index billions of web pages – and not all of them are factual or safe. Children might stumble across false information or even deliberate disinformation, especially when searching for trending topics or controversial issues.

## ENGINES BEYOND GOOGLE

Even if Google's SafeSearch is enabled, children may use lesser-known search engines that don't have similar protections. Some of these alternatives are less effective at blocking unsavoury content – sometimes by design – making it easier for children to encounter harmful or explicit material. Parental controls may also struggle to detect and block these sites.

## FUNNY JOKES

## ILLEGAL CONTENT CAN SURFACE

Search engines are designed to retrieve content based on keywords – not to judge whether that content is lawful. As a result, even illegal or harmful material can appear in search results. Children might assume that anything found through search engines must be safe, just because they're so widely used. This misunderstanding can lead to accidental exposure to seriously inappropriate content.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT EXPOSURE

Although parental controls like Google's SafeSearch exist, they aren't foolproof, and search engines may bypass them. Young users may still see inappropriate images or content, especially in image searches, even though they may not be able to click on the results. Some niche search engines lack even basic filtering, posing further risks.

## UNRELIABLE AI SUMMARIES

Some search engines now offer AI-generated answers at the top of results. While these can be helpful as webpage summaries, they're not always accurate. There have been instances where AI summaries have presented false or even dangerous information, reinforcing the need for critical thinking.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

While no parental controls tool is perfect, this software can help reduce the likelihood of inappropriate content appearing in search results. Use tools like Google Family Link to set search restrictions and monitor your child's browsing activity.

### QUESTION AI-GENERATED CONTENT

While AI content is generated quickly and often appears legitimate, teach children that, just because an AI summary is well presented, it doesn't mean it's accurate. Encourage them to review the sources behind AI summaries and check the information with reputable sites or fact-checkers.

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



### IDENTIFY AND AVOID ADVERTS

One of the ways search engines generate revenue is by showing adverts to their users. Sponsored search results are labelled, but they're not always easy to spot and can sometimes be malicious. Show your child how to distinguish between paid ads and organic search results – explain why some ads might be misleading or unsafe.

### PROMOTE DIGITAL LITERACY

Encourage children to question the motivation behind online content and develop critical thinking, as not all sites can be trusted. Some deliberately misinform users in order to sell products or promote misinformation. Developing a critical mindset is one of the best defences against these tactics.



The National College®

# Parentkind

Get ready to be inspired, empowered and equipped with the knowledge to be the best parent you can be...

At Parentkind, we support everyone in a parenting role. And let's face it, that's a challenging job. Tackling a wide range of topics, our webinars are designed to share insight on how you can support your child with a wide range of learning and life experiences, strengthen your understanding of education and school life, and foster solid parent-child relationships along the way.

During these interactive webinars, you'll be able to engage with our experts, ask questions and connect with others on a similar journey — we believe in the power of community and the strength of sharing experiences and learning together.

## Autism in women and girls

Research shows that autism is more often diagnosed in males, with females frequently overlooked due to differences in how the condition presents. Autistic girls are more likely to mask their struggles and internalize distress, which can lead to missed diagnoses and a lack of appropriate support. This webinar will explore the unique experiences of autistic women and girls, with a particular focus on gender differences in diagnosis, social interactions, and school experiences. The session will also offer practical recommendations for educators on how to create a more supportive and inclusive learning environment for autistic girls.

Date: 07/05/2025 Time: 7.30 — 8.30pm

Location: Zoom (online) Facilitator: Cynthia Gouveia Caria, Beyond Autism [Book now](#)

## Time management for parents juggling work and family life

Balancing work and family life can be overwhelming, but with the right time management strategies, busy parents can feel more organised, less stressed, and create a calmer home environment. This webinar will provide practical tools to help you manage daily tasks, optimise routines, and make time for both your family and yourself. By the end of the session, you will have actionable steps to take control of your schedule, reduce stress, and enjoy more free time with your loved ones.

Date: 21/05/2025 Time: 7.30 — 8.30pm

Location: Zoom (online) Facilitator: Matthew Carlton, Shine Workplace Wellbeing [Book now](#)

## Healthy snacks and lunchboxes on a budget

In this session, nutritionist Jenny Tschiesche will share her expert advice on creating healthy, balanced lunchboxes without breaking the bank. With the rising cost of food, Jenny will guide parents in selecting affordable, nutritious options that children will enjoy. Drawing on her 15 years of experience in creating recipes and running workshops, she will provide practical solutions to help families navigate the challenges of lunchtime nutrition.

Date: 13/06/2025 Time: 12.30 — 1.30pm

Location: Zoom (online) Facilitator: Jenny Tschiesche [Book now](#)  
Keeping your child with SEND entertained over the summer

The summer holidays can be a challenging time for parents of children with SEND, but it also offers an opportunity to foster development and fun. This webinar will provide tips and strategies for keeping your child engaged and entertained while ensuring they are learning and growing through play. We'll explore the importance of play, how it helps with skill development, and how to make the most of your summer activities without feeling pressured.

Date: 26/06/2025 Time: 7.30 — 8.30pm

Location: Zoom (online) Facilitator: Georgina Durrant [Book now](#)

## Helping your child succeed in reception

This webinar will help parents understand the key knowledge, skills, and concepts that young children will acquire in Reception, the year they turn five. We will cover the 7 areas of learning and development in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), the Early Learning Goals, and the Reception Baseline Assessment. Learn about the balance between adult-led and child-initiated learning, and how scaffolding play can enhance your child's development. Additionally, we'll explore how early maths, literacy, and communication/language skills are taught, and how you can support your child to maximise their growth during this crucial year.

Date: 11/07/2025 Time: 12.30 — 1.30pm

Location: Zoom (online) Facilitator: Lisa McLeod [Book now](#)

## Helping your child develop the habit of reading

Children thrive when they are supported in developing the habit and love of reading. As a parent, you can play a vital role in sparking that interest and nurturing it over time. This webinar will explore practical strategies that parents can use to encourage, share, and support reading at home. We'll provide tips for making reading a fun, enjoyable, and everyday part of family life, while helping children discover the benefits of developing strong reading habits early on.

Date: 14/05/2025 Time: 7.00 — 8.00pm

Location: Zoom (online) Facilitators: Professor Teresa Cremin and Kelly Ashley of The Open University [Book now](#)

## Preparing for secondary

The move from primary to secondary school can be a big change for both children and parents. This webinar offers practical advice on how to help your child navigate the transition smoothly. We'll discuss key differences between primary and secondary school, how the parent-school relationship will evolve, and the most effective ways to communicate with the secondary school. Additionally, we'll address common parental concerns, assess their validity, and provide strategies to manage them.

Date: 03/06/2025 Time: 7.30 — 8.30pm

Location: Zoom (online) Facilitators: Michael Whitworth and Miranda Perry, Abrial [Book now](#)

## Preparing for primary

Starting school is a big milestone for both children and parents, filled with excitement and nerves. The transition to primary school is crucial, and parents play a key role in laying the foundation for success. This webinar will provide practical advice from the perspective of both a parent and an experienced teacher, offering tips on how to prepare your child for their first school experience and ensuring they are ready for a positive start.

Date: 18/06/2025 Time: 7.30 — 8.30pm

Location: Zoom (online) Facilitator: Rachel Vecht [Book now](#)  
Coping tools for your child's big emotions

Join us for a practical and insightful webinar designed to help you confidently navigate your child's big emotions. In this session, you will learn when and how to implement effective strategies that provide the right support at the right time. We'll explore a diverse range of coping tools, from mindfulness exercises to creative outlets, tailored to different personalities and preferences. This webinar will empower you to make emotional moments more manageable and meaningful, strengthening your connection with your child.

Date: 02/07/2025 Time: 7.30 — 8.30pm

Location: Zoom (online) Facilitator: Jennifer Wyman, Bridge the Gap Child Mental Health C.I.C [Book now](#)

# Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

Free online course for all parents, carers, and grandparents.

- Reading your child's behaviour and understanding their feelings
- Effective communication techniques
- Reflecting on your relationship and how to nurture your child's emotional health
- A transformative journey that can strengthen your bond with your child at every age

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents



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# Understanding your child with additional needs

Free online course for all parents, carers, and grandparents.

- Reading your child's behaviour and understanding their feelings
- Effective communication techniques
- Reflecting on your relationship and how to nurture your child's emotional health
- A transformative journey that can strengthen your bond with your child at every age

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents



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# Understanding your teenager's brain

Free online course for all parents, carers, grandparents.

- Understanding your teenager's brain development in adolescence
- Reading your teenager's behaviour and understanding their feelings
- Reflecting on the importance of your relationship and how to nurture your teenager's mental health

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents



www.inourplace.co.uk

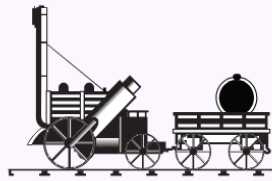


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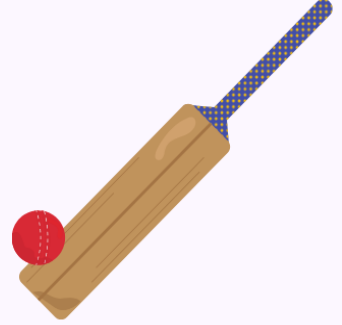
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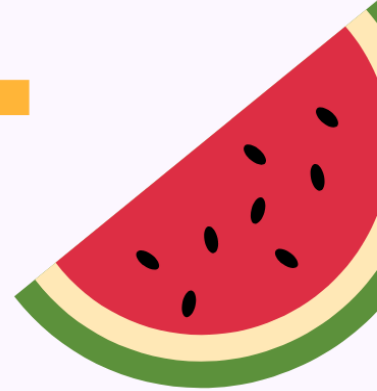
MERSTHAM CRICKET CLUB  
Founded in 1864



# GIRLS' CRICKET FESTIVAL



MERSTHAM CRICKET CLUB,  
QUALITY STREET



5 MAY

11:30-15:00

FREE ENTRY

ALL AGES AND ABILITIES WELCOME!

JOIN US FOR SOME FUN  
ACTIVITIES AND MATCHES,  
CRICKET TEAS,  
AND A BBQ (from 17:00)!



INTERESTED?

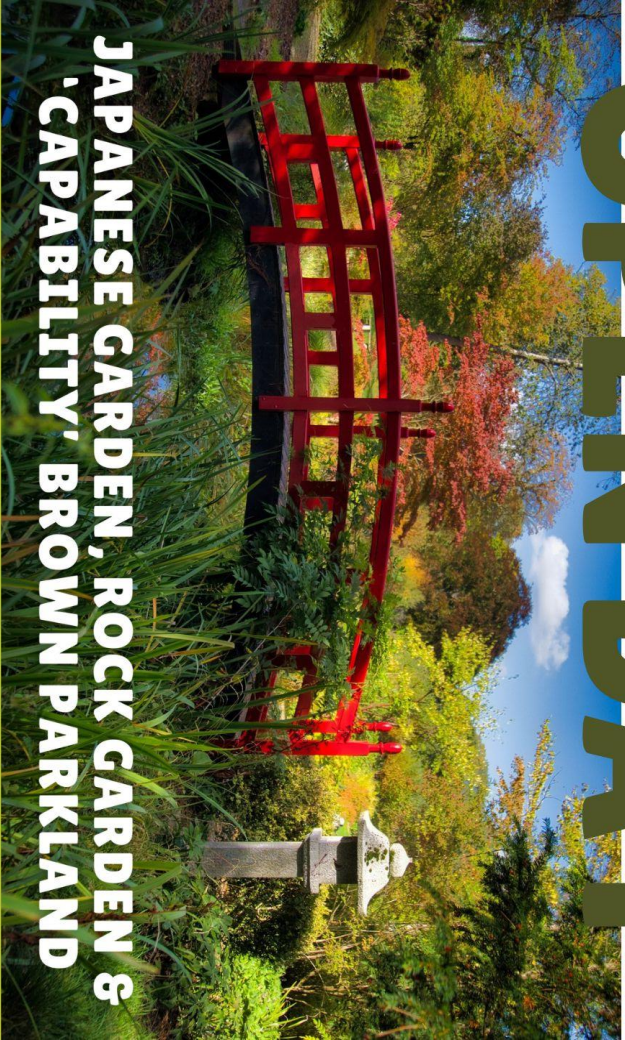
CONTACT [ORLA@MERSTHAMCC.CO.UK](mailto:ORLA@MERSTHAMCC.CO.UK)



find out more...



# GATTON PARK OPEN DAY



**JAPANESE GARDEN, ROCK GARDEN & 'CAPABILITY' BROWN PARKLAND**

**250 ACRES OF STUNNING PARKLAND AND EDWARDIAN GARDENS / GATTON HALL TEAROOM OPEN FOR REFRESHMENTS / FREE TOURS / DOGS ON LEADS WELCOME**

## **SUNDAY 4 MAY 12-5PM**

**ONLINE BOOKING: ADULTS £6, CHILDREN FREE**

**ON THE DAY: ADULTS £8, CHILDREN FREE**

**BOOK AT [GATTONPARK.CO.UK](http://GATTONPARK.CO.UK)**

**GATTON PARK, REIGATE, SURREY, RH2 0TW**

# GATTON PARK Fairry Tale Treasure Hunt



**Spring Bank Holiday  
Monday 26 May, 1pm – 4pm**

Join characters from well-known fairy tales and children's stories and follow their clues in a treasure hunt around the magical

grounds of Gatton Park

In partnership with Gatton Community Theatre

**Book at [gatttonpark.co.uk](http://gatttonpark.co.uk)**

Online booking: £6 adult, £3 child

On the day: £8 adult, £3 child, subject to availability

