

Gordon Primary School News

Headteacher: Mr Jason Taylor

Deputy Head: Mrs Charlie Fabian

Assistant Head / SENDCo: Mrs Hannah Cuesta



Be the best you can be.

WELCOME BACK

Happy New Year! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable break! We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the wonderful Christmas gifts you gave to the staff at the end of last term. It was not necessary or expected, but very much appreciated. We would also like to thank you for the incredibly generous £828 you donated to School Found at the performances.

We have lots of exciting things planned for the Spring Term - please see the diary dates - and check out the **Curriculum** page on our website as we have been uploading information about the children's new learning for the 2026 Spring Term.

THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

We would like to thank all the **Year 1** parents and carers who attended the maths workshop on Wednesday. We hope you enjoyed spending time in your child's classroom and experiencing a maths lesson. If you need any support with the home learning tasks, please contact the **Year 1** teachers.

HOUSEPOINTS

House points were awarded this week for excellent work, great attitudes to learning, fantastic behaviour, helping others and showing kindness. Well done to everyone who received them!

Here are the House Points for this term so far:

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Grangehill 180 | Rochester 166 | Dunvegan 129 | Nesbit 128 |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|

RECEPTION 2026 ADMISSIONS

Please note that the closing date for applications for Reception classes starting in September 2026 is **Thursday 15th January 2026**.

If you need support with making your application, please visit the Royal Borough of Greenwich website, where you will find full guidance and information on applying for a primary school place. Please click here: <https://bit.ly/4pN9775>

THIS WEEK'S LET'S TALK TASK



What would you like your word of 2026 to be, and why?

I suggest

*I hear what you're saying,
but have you considered ...*

I agree because ...

Volunteers Needed!

Friends of the Gordon

Gordon Ceilidh

(Kay-Lay)

SAT 7th FEB | 2.30PM-5.30PM

Live Music | Dancing | Food & Drink

Tickets on Sale Soon

TICKETS
£12 Adult
£8 Child

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS ON MANAGING CHILDREN'S DIGITAL LIVES

Dame Rachel de Souza, the Children's Commissioner has published a new guide: [What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives.](#)

In her accompanying statement, Dame Rachel de Souza says: *Supporting children's safety is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For parents and carers, this responsibility has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now deeply intertwined with the digital world. Many parents face difficult decisions about how to balance protecting children from online harm with enabling access to spaces that are now central to learning, socialising and play.*

This guide is in recognition of the complex, rapidly evolving landscape in which children - and parents - are navigating. It focuses on the challenge of managing children's everyday online habits.

SMARTPHONE-FREE CHILDHOOD

The next meeting of our **Smartphone-Free Childhood** parents' and carers' group will take place on Friday 30th January (time to be confirmed). Everyone is welcome to attend.

BIG 5 - 6.30PM
Thursday, 12th February

GORDON PLAYDATE

Everyone's Invited!

EVERYONE BELONGS!

DIARY DATES

January 2026

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Monday 12 th | Dentist visiting Nursery |
| Wednesday 14 th | Diamond Class visit to the Linnean Society |
| Thursday 15 th | Closing date for Reception applications (to start September 2026) |
| Friday 16 th | Coral Class assembly - 9:10am / 2:45pm |
| Tuesday 20 th | Nursery tour for prospective families - 3:30pm |
| Thursday 22 nd | Year 6 perform at Young Voices concert - O2 Arena - evening |
| Friday 23 rd | Nephrite Class assembly - 9:10am / 2:45pm |
| | Police visiting Nursery |
| Friday 30 th | Rhodolite Class assembly - 9:10am / 2:45pm Smartphone-Free Childhood parents & carers group meeting - time TBC |

February 2026

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 3 rd | Nursery tour for prospective families - 3:30pm |
| Wednesday 4 th | Coral Class visit to the Linnean Society |
| Thursday 5 th | Reception visit to National Gallery |
| Friday 6 th | NSPCC Number Day |
| Saturday 7 th | FoG event - more information to follow |
| Monday 9 th | School Journey meeting for parents - 6pm |
| Tuesday 10 th | Managing emotions workshop for Year 4 |
| Wednesday 11 th | Years 5 & 6 visit to Eltham Hill School to see production of Annie |
| Thursday 12 th | Final swimming sessions for Year 4 Freshwater Theatre Group visiting Year 3 Big Gordon Playdate (5pm - 6:30pm) |
| 16 th to 20 th | Half term break - school closed |
| Wednesday 25 th | maths workshop for Reception parents (9am to 10am) |
| Thursday 26 th | Year 3 swimming lessons begin |

March 2026

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday 2 nd | Secondary School National Offer Day |
| Thursday 5 th | World Book Day Nursery visit to Eltham Library |
| 9 th to 13 th | Year 6 residential School Journey |
| Monday 9 th | Gordon Day Performance (Years 4 and 5) - afternoon (change of date) |
| Tuesday 10 th | Gordon Day performance (Years 4 and 5) - morning (change of date) |
| Wednesday 11 th | Year 2 visit to the Royal Festival Hall - BrightSparks concert |
| Thursday 12 th | Year 5 visit to the Science Museum |
| Tuesday 17 th | Gordon School Band performing at Bexley Grammar School |
| Wednesday 18 th | Year 1 visit to Sealife Centre London |
| Friday 20 th | Ammolite Class assembly - 9:10am / 2:45pm |
| Saturday 21 st | Gordon Chamber Choir performing at Choir Festival |
| Monday 23 rd | Open Evening 1 - 3:30pm to 7pm |
| Tuesday 24 th | Leigh Stationers Academy Dance Festival - evening performance |
| Wednesday 25 th | Year 4 visit to Maritime Museum Open Evening 2 - 3:30pm to 6pm |
| Friday 27 th | Year 6 assembly - 9:10am / 2:45pm Last day of the Spring Term - school closes 3:15pm |

RULES AND REMINDERS

We would like to share some rules and reminders with you. Please note that rules and policies are reviewed regularly and do sometimes change, so please read through the points below. Thank you for your support.

| | |
|--|---|
| Children need to wear school uniform every day. This includes black school shoes - trainers should only be worn on PE days. The list of uniform items is available from the office and the school website. Please also remember to label everything. | With the exception of Year 6 children who are developing their independence, we expect all children to be accompanied to and from school. If your Year 6 child walks to or from school without an adult, please inform us in writing. |
| Children must come to school in their PE kit on their PE days. Kit consists of navy shorts, plain white or navy t-shirts, and black trainers. Navy/black track suits can be worn during the winter. No football shirts / strips please. | If you have a concern, please raise it with your child's teacher via email - addresses are on the website. Teachers are very busy and will respond as soon as they can but we cannot guarantee it will be the same day. |
| PE and swimming are statutory parts of the curriculum. In most cases, if a child is well enough to be in school, they are well enough to participate in these lessons. If you feel your child is not able to take part, please inform the class teacher. | We are a Healthy School and do not give out sweets or cakes on children's birthdays. Stickers, fresh fruit, boxes of raisins, pencils, rubbers or a book dedicated to the class are great alternatives if you wish to mark your child's birthday in school. |
| Dogs can only come onto school premises if they are carried. If your dog distresses the children, you will be asked to keep it at home. | Please ensure you are not parking on the zigzag lines, on yellow lines, near junctions or across our neighbours' driveways. |
| If you have a concern about something that has happened in school you need to see the class teacher in the first instance. If you have not been able to resolve the concern at this stage, you should see a member of the Senior Leadership Team - Mr Taylor, Mrs Fabian or Mrs Cuesta. | Please keep us informed of your child's medical needs and allergies . You will need to complete an <i>Administration of Medication</i> form if prescribed medication is needed during the school day. If there are any changes to medical needs, please let us know. Please make sure that your child's medication is in date. |
| No jewellery should be worn to school. The only exceptions are stud earrings and watches. Please keep friendship bracelets and plastic wristbands at home. No smart watches please. | Long hair should be tied back at all times. Headbands and hair clips must be small and plain. Bows must be plain in colour and no larger than your child's palm. |
| We expect children to complete the home-learning activities we set. To make the best progress, children need to read (or be read to) at home. A few minutes of reading every day makes a huge difference. | If your child is unwell , please let us know as soon as possible. If your child has vomited or had diarrhoea, they can return once they are feeling better. They do not need to be clear of symptoms for 48 hours. |
| Toys and games should stay at home. Children get very upset if their belongings are lost or damaged. | Children must not bring electronic devices, including mobile phones and smart watches to school. |
| Taking photographs and videos of events in school, including assemblies and performances, is not permitted. This is for child protection reasons. | We produce a weekly newsletter . Please ensure that you check it for information every week. We send it out by ParentMail and it is also available on our website |

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN TEAM

If you have a concern regarding a child's well-being, care or safety, including bullying, please contact a member of our Safeguarding Team: Mr Taylor, Mrs Fabian, Mrs Cuesta and Ms Newlove. Additionally, you can call Greenwich Council (020 8921 3172) or the NSPCC (0808 800 5000). In the case of an emergency where you feel a child is in immediate danger, call 999.

Mr Taylor - Headteacher

headteacher@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk

Mrs Fabian - Deputy Head

cfabian@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk

**Mrs Cuesta - Assistant Head /
SENDCo**

hcuesta@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk

**Ms Newlove - Learning Mentor &
Wellbeing Practitioner**

lnewlove@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk



READING DIARIES

We're excited to be launching our new bespoke reading diaries next week! As well as giving children a place to record their reading, the diaries include fun, book-related activities to enjoy at home as part of their reading homework. We'll be introducing the diaries to the children in an assembly on Wednesday, so please look out for your child's new reading diary from then. We will also be sending out a guide for parents and carers with further details about how to use the diaries.



Crystal (N) - Alfred for fabulous engagement at carpet sessions

Beryl (R) - Hali for showing courage and resilience this week

Opal (R) - Nathan for sharing his ideas about maps when learning about our local area

Emerald (1) - Liam for always being such a kind and thoughtful member of the class

Jasper (1) - Jaxson for his wonderful effort in both phonics and reading this week

Ammolite (2) - Mila for a super effort with her handwriting

Sapphire (2) - Gilda for her determination and enthusiasm when completing her work

Azurite (3) - Ethan for identifying imperative verbs in an advert

Rhodolite (3) - Ziggy for his fantastic contributions all week, particularly in science when discussing sources of light

Nephrite (4) - Frederico for his accurate and precise mathematical vocabulary when explaining and reasoning

Ruby (4) - Mo for his resilience in swimming and amazing input in PSHE lessons

Coral (5) - Tyler for great focus and confidence when converting improper fractions into mixed numbers and finding equivalent fractions

Diamond (5) - Leland for his great effort in maths finding equivalent fractions

Moonstone (6) - Victor for his fantastic effort in Geography when discussing populations

Sunstone (6) - Anya for her excellent observations and inference when discussing our new class text in English

Contact us: 020 8850 5486

office@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk

Find us online: www.gordonprimary.co.uk

Instagram: @gordonprimaryschool