

# Gordon Primary School News

Headteacher: Mr Jason Taylor

Deputy Head: Mrs Charlie Fabian

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**Be the best you can be.**

## THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

It has been a busy and exciting week across the school, with lots of valuable learning experiences for our pupils.

On Monday, **Ammolite Class** enjoyed a visit to Eltham Library, where they explored books and developed their love of reading beyond the classroom. Our **Year 6** pupils took part in the **Young Voices** concert at the O2 Arena on Thursday evening. This was an unforgettable experience and a fantastic opportunity to perform as part of a large-scale event with thousands of other children from across the country. They represented our school brilliantly.

**Nephrite Class** shared their learning about *the Romans* and *Sound* during a class assembly today, giving parents and other pupils a wonderful insight into the work they have been doing recently.

Our youngest pupils were also busy learning about the wider world, as the police visited the **Nursery** as part of their "People Who Help Us" topic, helping children understand the important role of the emergency services.

Also, this week, pupils took part in an assembly exploring **Martin Luther King Jr and the Civil Rights movement**, encouraging thoughtful discussion about racial equality, respect and justice.

It has been a week full of enrichment, learning and memorable experiences for children across the school.



## RSPB BIG SCHOOLS' BIRDWATCH

This year we are excited to be taking part in the RSPB's Big Schools' Birdwatch giving the children the chance to observe and learn about the birds that visit our school grounds. We would love families to get involved at home by joining the Big Garden Birdwatch, which takes place between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January. Taking part is easy: simply spend one hour watching the birds in your garden, or local green space, and record what you see. You can sign up and find all the details on the RSPB website.

## THIS WEEK'S LET'S TALK TASK

This week's discussion topic links to Martin Luther King Jr Day and the civil rights movement which we discussed in Monday's assembly.

**What does the word *fair* mean to you?**

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

[trybooking.com/uk/FUSX](https://trybooking.com/uk/FUSX)

TICKETS  
£12 Adult  
£8 Child

## FOG EVENT - THE GORDON CEILIDH

Join us for the **Gordon Ceilidh** on **Saturday 7th February, 2:30pm - 5:30pm**, for a fun, family-friendly afternoon celebrating Scottish poet Robert Burns. With live music from *The Sassenachs* and a professional caller, everyone is welcome — no experience needed!

- **Tickets:** Adults £12 | Children £8 (under 3s free)
- **Early Bird offer:** £2 off ticket prices until 24<sup>th</sup> January
- **Book now:** [Click here to book your ticket](#)

Lots of amazing volunteers are needed for our events. If you can spare some of your time, please:

- email [friendsofthegordon@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthegordon@gmail.com) or
- register at: <https://tinyurl.com/GordonCeilidhVolunteers>

If you can volunteer for 1.5 hrs (1 ceilidh set & turnaround) you'll be offered a free ticket to enjoy the rest of the event. Thank you for your support!

## BUILDING BELONGING & RACIAL LITERACY IN OUR SCHOOL

We are extremely proud that, as a result of our ongoing work around belonging and racial literacy, our school has been featured as a case study in a **National Children's Bureau** report, highlighting effective practice. This recognition reflects our commitment to ensuring that every child feels valued, represented and included within our school community. We are also looking forward to a visit from the **Department for Education's** Pupil Wellbeing Lead in the coming weeks, who will be visiting to see our work in action.

There are a number of initiatives that support belonging in our school. Last year, Mrs Beattie and Mrs Altiparmaki took part in a racial literacy research project in partnership with the University of Greenwich and some other schools in the borough. This research focused on the experiences of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

This year, the project has been extended into Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, with Miss Niazi representing our school. Miss Niazi also leads our **Rights Respecting Schools Award** work. We have already achieved Bronze status and will be undertaking our Silver assessment in the summer.

We are proud members of the borough's **Educate Against Racism** group and are currently undertaking **Hemisphere** training, which supports the elimination of bias and the development of racial literacy across schools.

We take the responsibility of being a welcoming and inclusive school very seriously and are incredibly proud of this work. We will continue to share updates through the newsletter, and you are always welcome to speak to us directly if you would like more information or support.

## DIARY DATES

### January 2026

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> **Rhodolite Class** assembly - 9:10am / 2:45pm

### February 2026

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> **Nursery** tour for prospective families - 3:30pm

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> **Coral Class** visit to the Linnean Society

**Year 2** visit to St Luke's Church

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> **Reception** visit to National Gallery

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> NSPCC Number Day

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> **FoG event - Gordon Ceilidh - 2:30pm to 5:30pm**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> International Women's Day

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> School Journey meeting for parents - 6pm

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Managing emotions workshop for **Year 4**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> **Years 5 & 6** visit to Eltham Hill School to see production of Annie

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Final swimming sessions for **Year 4**

Freshwater Theatre Group visiting **Year 3**

Big Gordon Playdate (5pm - 6:30pm)

16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> **Half term break - school closed**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Maths workshop for **Reception** parents (9am to 10am)

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> **Year 3** swimming lessons begin

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Smartphone-Free Childhood parents group meeting (9am)

### March 2026

1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> Women's History Month

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Secondary School National Offer Day

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> World Book Day

**Nursery** visit to Eltham Library

9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> **Year 6** residential School Journey

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Gordon Day Performance (**Years 4 and 5**) - afternoon

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Gordon Day performance (**Years 4 and 5**) - morning

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> **Year 2** visit to the Royal Festival Hall - *BrightSparks* concert

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> **Year 5** visit to the Science Museum

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Gordon School **Band** performing at Bexley Grammar School

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> **Year 1** visit to Sealife Centre London

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> **Ammolite Class** assembly - 9:10am / 2:45pm

## CEILIDH WORKSHOPS

We would like to say a huge thank you to the parents who volunteered their time to come into school and lead ceilidh workshops with our classes. Three classes enjoyed lively dance sessions this week, with other classes taking part next week. The sessions were great fun, and the children thoroughly enjoyed learning the dances and joining in together!

## REQUEST FOR SOCKS

We would be grateful for donations of socks in any size which we can lend to children who may need to change their footwear during the school day (for example, after wet weather or accidents).

Thank you for your continued support in helping us look after our pupils.

EVERYONE  
BELONGS!

# BIG GORDON PLAYDATE

Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> February

5 - 6.30PM

If you are able, please bring along a dish or snack that your family enjoys or that feels meaningful to you to share with others at the playdate!

Card games

Dressing up

Dominoes

Lego

Mindfulness

Playdoh

Dinosaurs

Chess

Train sets

Board games

...and more!

Find us  
in the  
Sports  
Hall!

Top Trumps

Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in cultural and artistic activities.

# Everyone's Invited!



REST, PLAY,  
CULTURE, ARTS

## ATTENDANCE

Congratulations go to **Sapphire, Moonstone, Opal and Emerald** classes for achieving excellent attendance last week and earning **Attendance Star Awards**.

## HOUSEPOINTS

House points were awarded this week for excellent work, attitudes, behaviour and kindness. Well done to everyone who received them! Here are the House Points for this term so far:

<b>Grangehill</b> 550	<b>Rochester</b> 513
<b>Dunvegan</b> 542	<b>Nesbit</b> 527

## NSPCC NUMBER DAY

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) are hosting a Number Day on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February. To mark this, we will be holding a **Maths Week** from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, participating in various maths related activities and raising funds for the NSPCC.

We will be having a special visitor joining us on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February - mathemagician David Hall who will be presenting "**dynamic and inspiring tour of maths stories and tricks, demonstrating its history, importance and uses across the world**". David will host an assembly and then run workshops for all classes from Nursery to Year 6.

We are asking for a donation of £3 for this fun day which covers the cost of the workshops and includes a donation to the NSPCC. Thank you for your support!

Finally, please remember that the children can wear maths themed clothes on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February! Thank you!



**Crystal (N)** - Maisie for her super singing of the six times table

**Beryl (R)** - Lily for her super subitising and problem solving

**Opal (R)** - Alba for her skilful colour mixing when painting the world

**Emerald (1)** - Milla for always having such enthusiasm when sharing her ideas during class discussions

**Jasper (1)** - Genesis for her wonderful use of adjectives when describing liquids in Science

**Ammolite (2)** - Johanna for writing some excellent facts about dragons

**Sapphire (2)** - Tallulah for putting thought and effort into her writing - and handwriting in particular

**Azurite (3)** - Sienna for blending light and dark to create even tones when shading in Art

**Rhodolite (3)** - Flo for her wonderful use of emotive language and simile in her writing

**Nephrite (4)** - Chloe for her fantastic understanding of partitioning and multiplication

**Ruby (4)** - Leo for explaining his mathematical strategies when adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers

**Coral (5)** - Ronnie for his fantastic and confident recall of numbers from 1-100 in French

**Diamond (5)** - Alex for his enthusiasm in our history lesson learning about the importance of Viking trading routes

**Moonstone & Sunstone (6)** - all the children who attended the Young Voices Concert at the O2 Arena yesterday evening for their amazing singing and enthusiastic dancing

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Find us online: [www.gordonprimary.co.uk](http://www.gordonprimary.co.uk)

Instagram: @gordonprimaryschool