

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.



THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

It has been a lovely first full week back at school, and it has been great to see the children settling in so well and getting back into the routines of school life.

A big "thank you" goes to everyone who attended our Welcome Meetings for **Years 1 to 5** on Tuesday. We hope these provided a useful opportunity to share information about the year ahead and to answer any questions. The slides will be available soon on Google Classroom.

We have completed our home visits for our new **Reception** children, who have now started joining us in school. We extend a very warm welcome to all our new children and families - we are delighted to have you as part of our school community.

In our assemblies this week, we have been exploring our school values: **resilience, empathy, ambition, curiosity** and **honesty**. These values underpin so much of what we do and help us to think about how we can *Be the Best We Can Be*. Today, we also took the opportunity to learn about **Rosh Hashanah**, the Jewish New Year.

SPONSORED RUN - BIG HALF MARATHON

Huge congratulations go to our amazing Gordon runners - both staff and parents - who took part in **The Big Half Marathon** last Sunday. They ran brilliantly, and we are incredibly proud of them!



Together, they have raised nearly £2,000 for **Friends of the Gordon**, with every penny going towards supporting our pupils and enriching their experiences in school. What a fantastic achievement!

It's not too late to donate if you would like to show your support. We are still collecting sponsorship, so if you'd like to make a contribution, please click [here](#).

Thank you so much for your generosity and support - and a huge well done to all our runners!

A REMINDER ABOUT COATS

We value play and try to give children the opportunity to be outside every day, wherever possible. Being outdoors gives children valuable opportunities to be active, develop independence, build friendships and enjoy some fresh air.

This means that children will go outside to play when it is raining (unless it is particularly heavy), so please make sure your child comes to school with a suitable waterproof coat every day.

Thank you for helping us make sure the children can enjoy time outside, whatever the weather!

UPCOMING PARENT MEETINGS

We have two important parent meetings coming up over the next few weeks.

- **Year 6 Parent Meeting - Monday 14th September at 6pm.** This meeting will include important information about **SATS**, the **Year 6 curriculum** and **secondary school transfer**, as well as an opportunity to find out more about the year ahead and ask any questions you may have.
- **Reception Parent Meeting - Wednesday 23rd September at 2:30pm.** This meeting will provide an opportunity for Reception parents and carers to find out more about the Early Years, routines, learning and expectations for the year ahead.

We look forward to seeing you at these meetings and working together to support your children throughout the school year.



Each week, we ask you to discuss a topic at home with your child and support them in practising the sentence starters provided. The children will then have the opportunity to discuss the topic in school. This helps them to develop their confidence in speaking, listening and expressing their ideas clearly.

BALANCE BIKES



Do you have a balance bike tucked away at home that your child has outgrown? If so, we'd love to give it a new lease of life!

We're looking for donations of good-quality balance bikes to support our younger children as they develop their confidence, balance and coordination. If you have one that is no longer needed and would be happy to donate it to the school, we'd be very grateful.

If you can help, please take your bike along to the school office or speak to a member of staff. Thank you for your support!

FRIENDS OF THE GORDON (PTA)

The **Annual General Meeting** will take place on **Tuesday 29th September** at **6:30pm** in the **Lower Hall**. We will be electing a committee for the coming year, discussing future projects and planning a programme of social and fund-raising events. Everyone is welcome!

Being a member of the committee is a fantastic way to be involved with the school. If you are interested in standing for one of the posts, please see the information below:

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHAIRPERSON

1. To chair the *FoG* meetings on a regular basis.
2. To work within the model constitution.
3. To encourage all members of the school community to support the *FoG*.
4. To assist with the planning of fundraising events.
5. To work in conjunction with school staff.
6. To hold meetings with committee members to forward plan on behalf of the *FoG*.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TREASURER

1. To keep financial accounts on behalf of the *FoG*.
2. To give a financial report at each meeting.
3. To bank monies as and when required.
4. To work within the model constitution.
5. To encourage all members of the school community to support the *FoG*.
6. To assist with planning fundraising events.
7. To work in conjunction with school staff.
8. To attend meetings with committee members to forward plan on behalf of the *FoG*.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY

1. To liaise with the Chair to arrange the *FoG* meetings.
2. To finalise an agenda for each *FoG* meeting with the Chair.
3. To take minutes at *FoG* meetings and distribute them.
4. To work within the model constitution.
5. To encourage all members of the school community to support the *FoG*.
6. To assist with planning fundraising events.
7. To work in conjunction with school staff.
8. To attend meetings with committee members to forward plan on behalf of the *FoG*.

If you would like to support *FoG* but do not feel you can commit to one of the committee roles, we would still love to see you at the meeting. There are lots of ways you can be involved and make a difference to our pupils!

HOUSE POINTS & ATTENDANCE

Congratulations go to all our pupils for their hard work and great attitudes this week. House points have been awarded for showing kindness and respect, working hard and making positive contributions to school life.

Grangehill 161	Rochester 106	Dunvegan 152	Nesbit 133
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Good school attendance is vital for academic success - it helps children keep up with their learning, make progress and enjoy all the opportunities school has to offer.

Each week, we award **Attendance Stars** to the classes with the highest attendance. A huge well done to this week's winners:

★ Jabberwock ★ Bigfoot ★ Chimera

At the end of the term, the class with the most Attendance Stars receives a special treat!

DIARY DATES

September

Monday 14 th	Secondary Transfer meeting for Year 6 ~ 6pm / Sports Hall
Tuesday 23 rd	Welcome meeting for Reception ~ 2:30pm / Lower Hall
Thursday 24 th	Flu vaccinations: Reception to Year 6 . (Year 4 & 5 will be on a later date)
Tuesday 29 th	FoG Annual General Meeting ~ 6:30pm / Lower Hall

October

Tuesday 6 th	Reverend Juliet visiting Reception - Harvest
Friday 9 th	Year 4 visit to St Luke's Church
Tuesday 13 th	Harvest Festival assembly Years 1 to 3 ~ 2:30pm
Wednesday 14 th	Harvest Festival assembly Years 1 to 3 ~ 9:15am
Thursday 15 th	Phonics / early reading workshop for Reception parents & carers - 9am
Friday 16 th	School photographer visit - individual and sibling photos
Monday 19 th	Open Evening 1 ~ 3:30pm to 7pm
Wednesday 21 st	Open Evening 2 ~ 3:30pm to 6pm Chartwells taster session (after school)
Thursday 22 nd	Year 1 visit to St Luke's Church
Friday 23 rd	Inset Day - school closed
26 th to 30 th	Half Term holiday - school closed

Please check back each week for updates.

To see this year's term dates, please [click here](#).

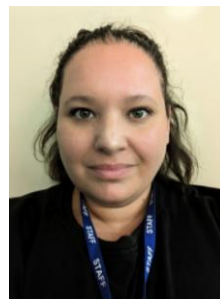
GORDON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN TEAM

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 the police on 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

LOST PROPERTY

Please remember to label your child's clothing and belongings with their name and class. This makes it much easier for lost items to be returned to their owner.

We have a growing collection of items in the **Lost Property shed** (in the Key Stage 2 playground, opposite the Sports Hall) so please check that your child's belongings are clearly labelled and encourage them to look after their things. Thank you for helping us keep lost property to a minimum!

NAME LABELS

If you're thinking of investing in some name labels, we can recommend two companies:

- **Easy2Name** name labels, FoG earn 20% commission from **easy2name.com** if you use the code FR-GORDON_20, and you will receive free delivery.
- **Stikins** name labels, FoG earn 30% commission from **stikins.co.uk** if you use our fundraising number: 23134

YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

Would you like to find out more about what your child will be learning this term? Our website has lots of useful information about the curriculum, the knowledge and skills your child will be developing.

Please visit www.gordon.greenwich.sch.uk and go to the **Curriculum** section to find out more.

Congratulations!

Mermaid (N) - George for being kind and helpful

Baku & Otsu (R) - The whole year group for a fabulous attitude and their enthusiasm for the new school year

Kelpie & Firebird (1) - The whole year group for settling in incredibly well to new routines and learning in Year 1

Jabberwock (2) - Bethan for her wonderful list sentences in English this week

Pegasus (2) - Saffy for a beautiful, detailed painting of a tree

Cerberus (3) - Sebby for showing resilience in transitioning into Year 3 so wonderfully and being a fantastic role model for his class

Nessie (3) - Tahlia for her imaginative adjectives describing different settings

Bigfoot (4) - Flo for giving a fantastic mathematical reasoning when discussing place value for column addition

Griffin (4) - Alice for her brilliant use of similes when describing the *Iron Man*

Dragon (5) - Sophie for her great effort and participation in all lessons this week

Werewolf (5) - Adriana for her interesting contributions in all class discussions

Chimera (6) - Hunter for writing a superb descriptive warning to the citizens of Lycia about the threat of the Chimera

Medusa (6) - Chloe for beautiful charcoal depiction of Medusa's lair

OUR VISION FOR MATHS

We believe every child is a mathematician. Through a **mastery approach**, we build deep understanding, confidence and a love of learning. Our lively, collaborative classrooms encourage pupils to explain their thinking, use rich mathematical language, explore ideas and embrace challenges. As a **Rights Respecting** school, we ensure every child feels valued, supported and empowered to succeed. We nurture curious, resilient learners who see maths as a powerful tool for understanding the world. Please check **Diary Dates** throughout the year for more opportunities to find out how you can support your child with maths at home.

Contact us: 020 8850 5486

office@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk

Find us online: www.gordonprimary.co.uk

Instagram: @gordonprimaryschool

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 (and black trainers 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 uniform on PE days. This includes navy shorts, plain white or navy t-shirt and black trainers. Navy/black track suits can be worn during the winter. No football shirts / strips please.	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.
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.
Staff email addresses are available on our website. Please note that staff are very busy and will respond as soon as they can, but we cannot guarantee it will be the same day.	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 , including electronic devices should stay at home. Children get very upset if their belongings are lost or damaged.	Children must not ride bicycles or scooters in the playground. Playground equipment should not be used at the start or end of the day.
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