

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 another busy and exciting week in school, with a strong focus on reading, books and the joy of sharing stories.

Our assemblies this week have been heavily book themed. On Monday, we celebrated **Roald Dahl Day**, exploring some of his most popular and much-loved children's books and celebrating the wonderful characters, stories and imagination that make his work so memorable.

On Friday, children shared some of the fantastic work they have been completing as part of our **whole-school book project**, based on *Together a Forest*. This beautifully illustrated book celebrates the idea that a forest is much more than a collection of individual trees - it is a community where everything is connected and each living thing has an important part to play. The project has given children across the school the opportunity to explore ideas around nature, community, connection and belonging through reading, creativity and art.

It has been wonderful to see our children so engaged with books and to see their enthusiasm for sharing their learning with one another.

YEAR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to our **Year 6 Secondary Transfer Meeting** on Monday evening. We hope you found the information useful and that it helped clarify the secondary school application process.

If you are planning to visit secondary schools, please let us know. We will authorise your child's absence for these visits, as we believe it is important that families can make an informed choice.

If you are considering an academy that uses a banding system to allocate places, please check the individual school's website carefully, as you will need to register your child to take part in an assessment.

Please also remember that church schools may have additional forms to complete alongside the main application, so check their websites for details and deadlines.

If you are considering a grammar school, please check the relevant school or local authority website for information about entrance tests, including registration arrangements and key dates. These tests often take place before the secondary school application deadline.

The deadline for secondary school applications is **31st October 2026**.

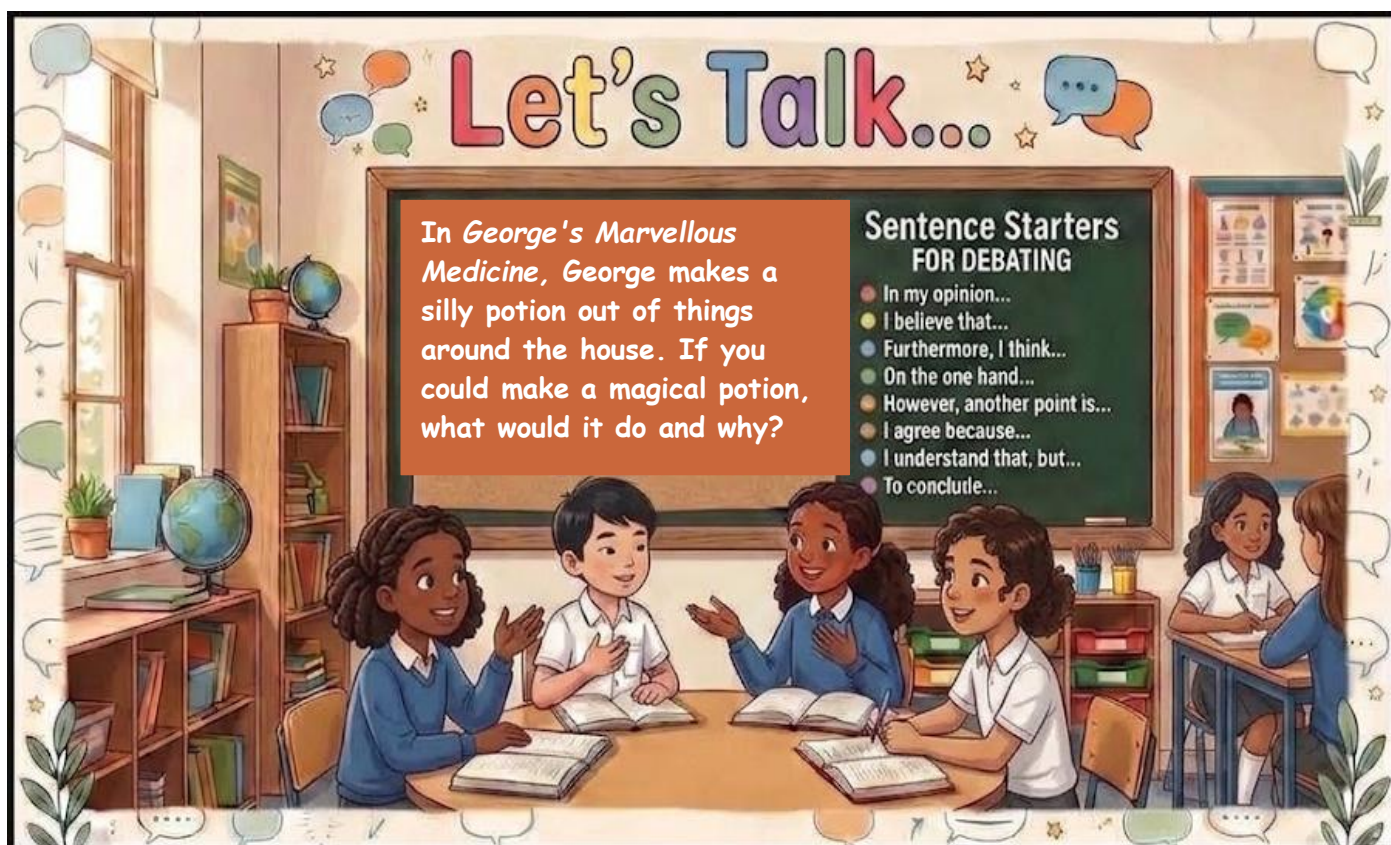
If you have any questions or need support with the application process, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are very happy to help.

RECEPTION PARENTS / CARERS MEETINGS

We would like to remind our **Reception** parents and carers of next week's Welcome Meeting that will be taking place on **Wednesday 23rd September at 2:30pm.**

The meeting will be an opportunity to find out more about life in Reception, including routines, learning and expectations for the year ahead. It will also be a chance to hear more about how we work together to support your children as they settle into school.

We look forward to welcoming you and working in partnership with you throughout the year to support your children's learning and development.



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 discuss the topic in school. This helps them to develop their confidence in speaking, listening and expressing their ideas clearly. This week our Let's Talk task is linked to **Road Dahl Day** and the book *George's Marvellous Medicine*.

SCHOOL FUND DONATIONS

We have now set up the 2026/27 School Fund donations in the School Shop on Arbor.

The School Fund is a voluntary contribution from families that helps us provide additional experiences, resources and opportunities that enhance children's learning and wider school life beyond what can be covered by our school budget.

Parents and carers can donate in £5 instalments making it easy to contribute throughout the year.

Every contribution, however large or small, is greatly appreciated and helps us provide the best possible experiences and opportunities for our children.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Thank you

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 308	Rochester 278	Dunvegan 305	Nesbit 295
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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.

A huge well done goes to this week's **Attendance Stars** winners:

★ Griffin ★ Firebird ★ Werewolf

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

DIARY DATES

September

Tuesday 23rd Welcome meeting for **Reception** ~ 2:30pm / Lower Hall
 Thursday 24th Flu vaccinations: **Reception and Years 1, 2, 3 & 6**
Year 5 trip to O2 Arena - Laver Cup tennis tournament
 Friday 25th National Teaching Assistants Day
 Tuesday 29th FoG Annual General Meeting ~ 6:30pm / Lower Hall

October

Tuesday 6th Reverend Juliet visiting **Nursery & Reception** - Harvest
 Thursday 8th **Year 6** visit to Imperial War Museum
 Friday 9th **Year 4** visit to St Luke's Church
 Monday 12th **Year 5** visit to Eltham Library
 Tuesday 13th Harvest Festival assembly **Years 1 to 3** ~ 2:30pm
 Wednesday 14th Harvest Festival assembly **Years 1 to 3** ~ 9:15am
Year 5 workshop - Bayeux Tapestry
 Thursday 15th Phonics / early reading workshop for **Reception** parents & carers - 9am
 Friday 16th School photographer visit - individual and sibling photos
 Monday 19th **Reception trip** - Autumn Walk
 Open Evening 1 ~ 3:30pm to 7pm
 Wednesday 21st Open Evening 2 ~ 3:30pm to 6pm
 Chartwells taster session (after school)
 Thursday 22nd **Year 1** visit to St Luke's Church
 Friday 23rd Inset Day - school closed
 26th to 30th Half Term holiday - school closed

November

10th and 11th Road safety talks
 Thursday 12th Mr Taylor's Coffee Morning - 9:15am - everyone welcome
 Friday 13th FoG Quiz Night
 Friday 20th **Dragon** Class Assembly - 9:10am / 2:45pm - Middle Hall
 Friday 27th Flu vaccinations: **Years 4 & 5**
 Monday 30th **Years 3 & 4** Pantomime - afternoon

December

Tuesday 1st **Years 3 & 4** Pantomime - morning
 Thursday 3rd **EYFS** Christmas Sing-along (afternoon)
 Friday 4th **EYFS** Christmas Singalong (morning)
 FoG Christmas discos (after school)
 Thursday 10th **Years 1 & 2** Nativity - afternoon
 Friday 11th Christmas lunch / Christmas Jumper Day
Years 1 & 2 Nativity - morning
 Thursday 17th Last day of Autumn term - school closes at 1:30pm

January

Monday 5th First day of the Spring Term - children return to school

Please remember to check the newsletter each week for the latest updates. As dates and arrangements may occasionally change and new events are often added, we encourage you to check regularly to ensure you have the most up-to-date information. Thank you.

RECEPTION 2027 SCHOOL TOURS

We are now offering school tours for families interested in a Reception place for next year.

If your child will be 4 years old by 31st August 2027, they are eligible for a Reception place for September 2027.

Our school tours include a visit to the whole school and provide an opportunity to find out about our approach to learning, our Early Years provision and what we can offer your child.

We keep our tour groups small so that we can offer families a more personalised experience and have plenty of time to talk with you in depth about the Gordon offer. Our tours are booking up quickly, but we still have some availability on the following dates:

- Tuesday 20th October
- Tuesday 3rd November
- Tuesday 10th November
- Tuesday 17th November
- Tuesday 24th November
- Thursday 3rd December
- Tuesday 8th December
- Thursday 10th December
- Tuesday 15th December
- Tuesday 5th January
- Tuesday 12th January

Booking details can be found in the **Admissions** section of our website.

If you have friends or family with a child not currently in our **Nursery**, who will be starting Reception next September, please do share this information with them.

We look forward to welcoming prospective families to Gordon and showing you around our school!

Congratulations!

Mermaid (N) - Isla for super storytelling to the class

Baku (R) - Delyth for showing kindness and empathy this week

Otsu (R) - Rea for being so helpful, especially when it is time to tidy up

Firebird (1) - Archie for a great improvement in forming his letters correctly

Kelpie (1) - Aiden for his fantastic effort with his listening in class and for his beautiful singing in music

Jabberwock (2) - Zaidan for his wonderful drawing of a Jabberwock

Pegasus (2) - Keanu for careful addition and subtraction of multiples of ten

Cerberus (3) - Miriam for her fantastic artistic skills when sketching and using oil pastels to draw a landscape of a forest

Nessie (3) - Kyriakos for his enthusiastic use of mathematical vocabulary

Bigfoot (4) - Poppy for being curious and asking fantastic thought-provoking questions in lessons all week

Griffin (4) - Leon for being a good class role model and his brilliant mathematical reasoning

Dragon (5) - Finlay for his great use of vocabulary to create atmosphere in his writing this week

Werewolf (5) - Erin D for her excellent description of the Heorot in *Beowulf*

Chimera (6) - Alma for her focus and enthusiasm for learning as well as offering insightful contributions in class discussion

Medusa (6) - Johnny for an emotive diary entry based on inferences from our text

Tours for admission to our **Nursery** take place every Friday and are led by Mrs Cullum, our Nursery Teacher and Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Leader. To book your place on an upcoming tour, please contact the school office.

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