Issue 449 20th November 2026

Gordon Primary School News

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Be the best you can be.



THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

It has been another busy and inspiring week in school, packed with important messages, visitors, and fantastic pupil achievements.

We kicked off the week on Monday by celebrating **Odd Socks Day** as part of **Anti-Bullying Week**. During our morning assembly, we were thrilled to welcome back four former pupils - now in Year 7 at local secondary schools - who spoke to the children about Malala Yousafzai, the vital importance of girls' right to education, and standing up against discrimination. Their talk linked to this year's theme, *Break the Silence*, and led to further discussions across the school about different types of bullying, how to identify it, and how to tackle it. We will continue this important conversation in next week's assembly, where we will be learning more about the United Nations and their work raising awareness of the rights of disadvantaged groups around the world.

On Wednesday, our **Reception** and **Year 6** pupils took part in the routine NHS height and weight screening. Thank you to all the children for being so sensible and polite with our visiting nurses, and to parents and carers for your support in facilitating the checks.

We rounded off the week on a high note on Friday with a fantastic assembly from **Dragon** Class. The children worked so hard to showcase their learning and performed with great confidence and enthusiasm. Thank you to all the families who came along to support the children!

ATTENDANCE STARS

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

⭐ **Werewolf** ⭐ **Kelpie** ⭐ **Jabberwock**

CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

We love seeing the children in their festive jumpers and try to give them plenty of opportunities to wear them in school.

Your child is welcome to wear a Christmas jumper on the following days:

- **Christmas Lunch:** Friday 11th December
- **Their class party**
- **Last day of term:** Thursday 17th December
- **Christmas performances** *(for children in **Nursery**, **Reception**, **Year 5** and **Year 6** only)*

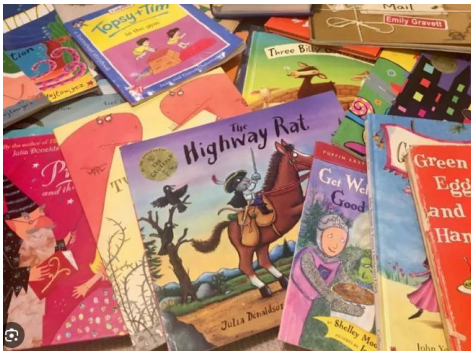
If your child does not have a Christmas jumper or does not want to wear one, they can still join in the fun by wearing any favourite jumper from home.

Let's Talk...

This week's **Let's Talk** activity is linked to Anti-Bullying Week and this year's theme ***break the silence***.

What are some ways to communicate with a trusted adult if speaking out loud feels too scary or overwhelming? Are some ways better than others?

THE GREAT GORDON BOOK SWAP



We are excited to share with you our Great Gordon Book Swap which will be taking place on Thursday 26th November.

We are seeking donations of all kinds of good quality books that you no longer need at home; fiction, non-fiction, picture books, chapter books, series of books, graphic novels, Christmas books etc! The books donated do not have to be immaculate. We would be grateful for as many donations as possible – please ask family and neighbours!

We are accepting donations until Monday 23rd November. Please send them along to your child's classroom. On the day of the book swap, we will invite all classes to come along and choose one book to take home for free. Any remaining books will be available for families to browse and take home with them at the end of the school day. We look forward to helping you find your next great read!

COULD YOU PURCHASE A BOOK FOR US?

If you would like to donate a book to the school that will go directly into class libraries, then you can do so via our **LoveReading4Kids** wish lists. On the day, you will be able to follow the link or use the QR codes to purchase a book from one of our year group or school wish lists. Thank you so much in advance for your support with this. Any books bought or donated via the site will earn a 10% discount and Gordon will receive 25% back off the cover price!

HOUSEPOINTS

Congratulations to all our pupils for their consistent hard work and great attitudes this week. Here are our House Points totals for this term so far:

Grangehill	Rochester	Dunvegan	Nesbit
699	668	677	650

CAKE SALE – FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER / 3:15 PM

- KS1 Playground *(weather dependent)*
- Cakes £1 each

Donations: Home-made or shop-bought cakes are very welcome! Drop them at the school office on Friday morning or bring them straight to the sale.

Helpers needed: Can you volunteer? If so, please email friendsofthegordon@gmail.com

⚠ *Allergy info: While we try to avoid nuts, cakes may contain traces of nuts and other allergens.*

WHITE RIBBON DAY

On **Wednesday 25th November**, our school community will mark **White Ribbon Day**, which coincides with the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

As a **silver award-winning Rights Respecting School**, we are dedicated to teaching our children about their rights, reminding them that these rights are **universal** (for all children, everywhere) and **unconditional**. Marking White Ribbon Day directly supports our pupils' understanding of:

- **Article 2:** the right to non-discrimination – ensuring every child is treated fairly and respectfully, regardless of who they are.
- **Article 19:** the right to protection from violence.

As part of our ongoing work around kindness, healthy relationships and personal safety, we will use this day to take a stand against harm in all its forms, while helping our children understand the importance of respect, equality and peace for everyone.

We know how sensitive these topics can be, and as a team, we are especially mindful of delivering messages in a way that feels safe, reassuring and uplifting for our pupils. Our focus will be on reinforcing that everyone deserves to feel safe, valued and respected both at school and in the wider world.

How we are marking the day:

- **Wear something white:** We encourage all children to come to school wearing an item of white clothing or a white ribbon to show our shared commitment to kindness, equality and peace.
- **Whole-school display:** Together, the children will create a bright whole-school artwork using handprints, where each child will write a message of solidarity, friendship or a personal pledge to treat others with respect.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about how we are exploring these rights and themes with the children, please feel free to reach out to us. Please email: office@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk

Thank you, as always, for your partnership in making our school community a safe and nurturing place for every child.



FREE CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE

If you or someone you know is affected by domestic abuse, coercion or violence against women, there is free and confidential support available 24/7 via the **National Domestic Abuse Helpline**: 0808 2000 247 / https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/

CLASS PARTIES

We will be holding our Class Parties on 14th, 15th and 16th December. Previously we have asked you to send some refreshments in for your child, but this year, due to changes in how we manage allergies in school, we will be asking you to make a small donation instead and we will be buying the refreshments. If you are able, please visit Arbor to make a donation. Thank you!

Monday 14th December	Tuesday 15th December	Wednesday 16th December
Year 5	Nursery & Reception	Year 6
	Years 1, 2, 3 & 4	

CALENDAR

November 2026

Wednesday 25th	**Year 4** visit to Natural History Museum
	White Ribbon Day
Friday 27th	Flu vaccinations: **Years 4 & 5**
Monday 30th	**Years 3 & 4** Pantomime - afternoon

December 2026

Tuesday 1st	**Years 3 & 4** Pantomime – morning
Thursday 3rd	**EYFS** Christmas Sing-along (afternoon)
Friday 4th	**EYFS** Christmas Sing-along (morning)
	FoG Christmas discos (times to be confirmed)
Tuesday 8th	Ballet performance of *Princess & the Pea* for pupils
Thursday 10th	**Years 1 & 2** Nativity – afternoon
Friday 11th	Christmas lunch / Christmas Jumper Day
	Years 1 & 2 Nativity – morning
Wednesday 16th	**Year 5 & 6** Carol Concert - Westmount Road Methodist Church -3:45pm
Thursday 17th	Last day of Autumn term – school closes at 1:30pm

January 2027

Monday 4th	First day of the Spring Term – children return to school
Wednesday 6th	Maths workshop for **Year 1** parents / carers – 9am
Friday 15th	Closing date for **Reception** (September 2027) applications
	Nessie Class Assembly – Middle Hall 9:10am / 2:45pm



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS DISCOS

To buy tickets, please click HERE. (Please note, our ticket site, Zeffy, offer FoG free services and ask ticket buyers for a tip to cover their costs. This is voluntary.)

Ticket sales close on 30th November. After this date, tickets will only be available on the door, on the day of the discos.

We need volunteers! If you can spare some time, please register HERE. Thank you!

Please note, after-school clubs won't run on 4th December, although Go! Club will be open as usual. Please see our *Disco Instructions* (sent out via Arbor) for more details.

Donate a ticket to help FoG offer free tickets to families that might appreciate a little help at this time of year. These are "pay what you can" to allow you to decide how much you can donate. Our tickets vary from £2:50 to £5. Any tickets donated will be recorded by FoG and allocated by the school office.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

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

WORKSHOP FOR RECEPTION PARENTS

We are pleased to invite all Reception parents and carers to an online Phonics workshop on **Tuesday 24th November at 5:15pm**.

This session is designed for families who were unable to attend our in-school workshop a few weeks ago, as well as anyone who would like a helpful refresher. Phonics is a vital foundation for your child's early reading and writing development, and we strongly encourage you to attend so we can share practical ways to support their learning at home. **The zoom link has been sent directly to parents via email today.**

We look forward to seeing you there!

FRIENDS OF THE GORDON NEWS

Huge thanks go to everyone who came along to last Friday's **Quiz Night**. It was a fantastic evening filled with tricky trivia, lively games, lots of laughter - and, of course, fundraising! We are delighted to report that we raised over £1,000 for FoG, and every penny will be spent on events, experiences and resources for the children.

Thank you to our Quiz Hosts, Mr Taylor and Mrs Fabian, the members of the FoG committee for their excellent organisation skills, and all the incredible quiz teams who helped us raise such a wonderful amount!



Mermaid (N) – James for fantastic engagement learning the Christmas songs

Baku (R) – Xander for demonstrating a fantastic attitude to learning and being a kind, caring member of the class

Otsu (R) – Poppy for working really hard when learning and practising our dance

Firebird (1) – Hali for showing her understanding that a whole number can be represented by a set or collection of items

Kelpie (1) – Derin for confidently and consistently contributing during class discussions

Jabberwock (2) – Natalie for her wonderful contributions to class discussion in PSHE

Pegasus (2) – Grace for her excellent effort learning her lines for the Nativity

Cerberus (3) – Gilda for showing great resilience in her writing

Nessie (3) – Llewelyn for his fantastic work in maths reading grams and kilograms on different scales

Bigfoot (4) – Alexandra for working so hard in our pantomime rehearsals

Griffin (4) – Alexandra for her fantastic contributions to class discussions

Dragon (5) – Aurora for her excellent use of vocabulary when explaining her reasoning in maths

Werewolf (5) – Millie W for her excellent use of manipulatives when solving multiplication problems

Chimera (6) – Domantas for his brilliant commitment to IXL, resulting in a tremendous boost to his overall progress in maths

Medusa (6) – Tara for her consistent hard work and perseverance in all areas of the curriculum