

# Gordon Primary School News

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**Be the best you can be.**



## THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

**Athens** Class went to Guildhall Roman Amphitheatre on Wednesday and had a wonderful time! Many thanks go to all the family members who accompanied the class. Everyone looked great in their maths themed outfits today. Thank you for supporting the NSPCC Number Day fundraiser by making donations. **New York** Class presented a super assembly today and shared the learning they have been doing this term. Well done, everyone!

## FREE SCHOOL MEAL GRANTS

The Royal Borough of Greenwich will continue to support low-income families by offering free-school meal grants during the February half-term holiday. They will be making a payment of £15 for each eligible child. These payments will be for families that qualify for benefits-related free school meals and who have submitted a claim form for free-school meals.

Payments will be made to families via mobile phone and/or email.

## ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you are eligible for free school meals you may also be entitled to a school clothing grant and a school journey (residential) grant. For more information please visit the Royal Borough of Greenwich website [here](#). The Pupil Benefits Team will work out what support you can get.

**Did  
you  
know?**

Schools receive additional funding for every child who receives benefit-related free school meals. This is known as the Pupil Premium grant. If you think you might be eligible, please check with the Pupil Benefits Team [here](#) so you receive the support with free school meals, uniform and school journey grants that you are entitled to, and the school receives the funding that is so desperately needed.

Additionally, as a school we offer further support to families who are entitled to benefits-related free school meals. This includes vouchers to spend at our book fairs, subsidies for school trips, some free places at some after-school clubs and subsidies for music lessons.

## GO HOLIDAY CLUB

We have a few spaces available at the GO! Holiday Club for the February half-term break. Please see the leaflet attached for details on how to make a booking.

## NURSERY APPLICATIONS

We will be holding tours of the nursery on 29<sup>th</sup> February and 7<sup>th</sup> March for families that are interested in applying for a place. The closing date for applications 9am on 11<sup>th</sup> March.

## E-SAFETY

Next Tuesday is **Safer Internet Day!** We are using this as an opportunity to implement our new internet safety contracts. We will be sending you a digital copy of the parents'/carers' contract via ParentMail. Please submit an electronic signature to confirm that you agree to the contract.



The older pupils will be signing a children's version in school. We are also giving the children an e-safety competition form. We would like the children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 to create a self-portrait emoji and the children in Key Stage 2 to create an "all about me" poster. The closing date for competition entries is Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

## DIARY DATES

### February

5 <sup>th</sup> to 11 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Cairo</b> visit to Guildhall Roman Amphitheatre
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Last swimming session for <b>Year 4</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup>	Half-term break
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Maths workshop for <b>Reception</b> parents and carers - 9:10am
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	First swimming session for <b>Year 3</b>
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Nursery</b> tour for new families - 3:30pm <b>new date</b>

### March

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Athens</b> Class Assembly - Middle Hall 9:10am / 2:45pm
	<b>Reception</b> visit to the National Gallery
	National Offer Day - secondary school places announced ( <b>Year 6</b> )
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Science workshops for <b>Reception to Year 6</b>
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Year 1</b> visit to National Maritime Museum and Queen's House, Greenwich
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day - dressing up day
	<b>Nursery</b> tour for new families - 3:30pm <b>new date</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup>	Book fair
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	International Women's Day
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closing date for <b>nursery</b> applications - 9am <b>new date</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Year 6</b> School Journey
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Vision checks for <b>Reception</b>
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Fuji</b> visit to Woodlands Farm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Crown Woods Dance Festival
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Memphis</b> visit to the Royal Observatory, Greenwich
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>New York</b> visit to Woodlands Farm
	<b>Year 4 &amp; 5</b> concert - performance to parents and carers (afternoon)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Year 4 &amp; 5</b> concert - performance to parents and carers (morning)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Year 6</b> School Journey assembly - Middle Hall 9:10am / 2:45pm
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Ouagadougou</b> visit to the Royal Observatory, Greenwich
	Open Evening 1
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Vicar to visit <b>Reception</b> (Easter story)
	Open Evening 2
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Spring Term - school closes at the usual time

### April

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Term begins - children return to school
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## MUSICAL INSTRUMENT LESSONS (FOR YEARS 3 - 6)

We offer children the chance to take up musical instrument lessons. These are in addition to class music sessions and the children come out of class in small groups for them. We currently offer lessons in trumpet, clarinet, flute, violin, guitar, drums, trombone and horn. **We will be introducing piano lessons in the summer term.**

After an initial introduction through the school, you enter into an agreement with the visiting instrumental teacher and pay them directly. Subsidies may be available for some pupils - particularly those entitled to benefits-related free school meals and other Pupil Premium funding.

If you would like to apply for lessons or just want some more information, please email Mrs Hagerty: [ahagerty@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:ahagerty@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk)

**Drum lessons** - we would like the families of our drummers to know that we have a new drum teacher joining us after the February half term holiday.

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES

The Royal Borough of Greenwich are currently developing their new SEND Strategy and want to hear from you to help them decide on the priorities for Greenwich for the next five years.



This is the link to an online survey.

Alternatively, you can go to the SEND "drop in" session where senior SEND officers in Greenwich and members of the Parent Forum will be available to support you in completing the survey:

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at the Eltham Centre, from 10:30am to 11:45am.

## EMOTIONAL COACHING

The Educational Psychology Service will be running some free workshops for parents and carers over the coming months at Storkway Children's Centre, SE3 9QX. These sessions are for **families that have children aged 0 to 2 years old.**

### Topic - Emotional Coaching

Emotion Coaching is a model of communication that enables parents to understand and talk to their children, from an early age, about their emotions in a way that promotes a child's emotional literacy, emotional regulation and overall wellbeing. Sessions will be run by Educational Psychologists and are intended to empower parents to understand how to manage when toddlers experience 'big' emotions and how to safely set limits in an attachment informed way.

### Dates and times of sessions

Sessions will take place Friday afternoons from 1:30pm to 3pm, on the following dates. Attendees should attend **both** sessions.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024
- 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024
- 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024
- 28<sup>th</sup> June & 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024
- 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Sign up using [this link](#)

Please note that attendees must be signed up with Storkway Children's Centre in order to attend sessions. Please click [here](#) to register: or you can visit the centre in person.

## HOUSE POINTS

Grangehill: 1145	Rochester: 1198
Dunvegan: 1166	Nesbit: 1178

## ATTENDANCE

We presented Attendance Stars to **Cairo**, **Fuji** and **New York** and **Copenhagen** classes this week. Well done to everyone in these classes!

## TERM DATES 2024-2025

We have set our term dates for the academic year 2024/2025:

### Autumn Term 2024

#### First half

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September - Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October

#### Half-term holiday

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November

#### Second half

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

### Spring Term 2025

#### First half

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

#### Half-term holiday

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

#### Second half

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

### Summer Term 2025

#### First half

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

#### Bank Holiday

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May (school closed)

#### Half-term holiday

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May

#### Second half

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July

These dates and the term dates for the current year can be found on our website.



**Manaus (N)** - Keanu for showing patience and resilience around the nursery

**Beijing (R)** - Lena for demonstrating empathy and kindness with her friends

**Copenhagen (R)** - Wren for leading one of the songs in our music lesson

**Krakow (1)** - Leon for his hard work and effort in English when writing a diary entry as the character *Nothing*

**Vienna (1)** - Alexandra for being thoughtful and hardworking in RE when exploring the creation of the world

**Adelaide (2)** - Dylan for great contributions to class discussions

**Sydney (2)** - Millie for excellent work on recognising coins in maths

**Fuji (3)** - Heath for using alliteration and quantifiers when writing a recipe for a marvellous medicine

**New York (3)** - Pariza for her hard work and effort when learning how to measure volume

**Athens (4)** - the whole class for their brilliant behaviour and engagement during our trip to the Guildhall

**Cairo (4)** - Mara for being resilient in maths and trying her best every day

**Memphis (5)** - Zara for her thoughtful predictions about the next part of our class book *The Last Wild*

**Ouagadougou (5)** - Kourtney for her super involvement in comparing amphibian life cycles in science

**Delhi (6)** - Chloe for her great effort in French describing the rooms and items you would find in a house

**Winnipeg (6)** - Yihan for his excellent work with algebraic expressions in maths

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