

Gordon School News

Headteacher: Jason Taylor

Assistant Head (Curriculum): Amanda Black

Assistant Head (Inclusion): Hannah Cuesta



Be the best you can be!

CURRICULUM WEEK

It's Curriculum Week next week! This year we are focusing on reading. The week includes a Curriculum Evening on **Wednesday 13th November** when the staff will provide lots of fun things for the children to do whilst offering advice on how you can support your child's reading at home. The Curriculum Evening will run from 5pm until 6:30pm in the **Lower Hall**. Please note that this is a change of venue.



To start our Curriculum week we will be having a **Bedtime Story / Pyjama Day** on Monday. The children can come to school in their night clothes, including dressing gowns, and bring their slippers to change into.

We have lots of very exciting things happening:

- Monday Bedtime Story / Pyjama Day
Nursery & Reception – *Alice in Wonderland* story hunt (Freshwater Theatre)
- Tuesday **Year 1** – The Gruffalo story hunt (Freshwater Theatre)
Years 3 & 4 – Tee Dobinson – author visit and workshops
- Wednesday **Year 3** – “Early Man” workshop (Freshwater Theatre)
Curriculum Evening
- Thursday **Year 2** – *Shakespeare - A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Freshwater Theatre)
- Friday **Year 5** – Play in a Day (led by Sue Yarrow)
Year 6 – Alexis Deacon – author visit and workshops

During the week, some classes will also be visiting Eltham library. Please don't forget that we are running an **Extreme Reading** competition. We have extended the closing date to Monday 11th November, so if you have a photograph of your child reading somewhere very unusual, please email it to ksanders@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk

Finally, the Book Fair has now arrived and will be with us until Wednesday evening. This is a great way to increase your child's personal library at home as well as helping us get lots of free books in school as we receive commission on every sale made. Thank you for your support!

EVENTS IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

We held two parent workshops this week and both were very well attended! Many thanks go to all of the **Reception** and **Year 6** parents and carers who came along! We hope you found the sessions useful.

This week ended with a great assembly from **Griffin Class** who shared their fantastic work based on the book: *Mouse Bird Snake Wolf* by David Almond with us.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Next week is national Anti-Bullying Week. As well as exploring issues around bullying, we will be holding an **Odd Socks Day** on **Thursday 14th November**. This is an opportunity to celebrate differences and to understand that acceptance should not be based on us all being the same! Please encourage your child to wear odd socks on Thursday!



YEAR 5 SCHOOL JOURNEY

Please remember that the deadline for paying for the **Year 5** School Journey to Sayers Croft is Monday 25th November. We will be holding a meeting for parents and carers on at 6pm on this day. If your child is taking part in the School Journey it is very important that you attend this meeting. We look forward to seeing you.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The deadline for purchasing your child's school photograph is Tuesday 12th November. Please make sure you have returned your order form by then. Thank you.

RELATIONSHIPS & SEX EDUCATION (RSE)

You may be aware that the Department for Education (DfE) has recently published statutory guidance on the compulsory teaching of RSE in primary schools. As a school which has consistently placed huge value on children learning how to manage their personal development and social lives in a positive way, we have always been committed to teaching RSE and we welcome this change in legislation.

We appreciate that RSE can cause concern for some parents. Please be assured that our lessons are age-appropriate. We have worked closely with the local authority advisor for RSE and we consulted with parents when we reviewed our policy last year.

This term's RSE lessons (for **Years 1 to 6**) will be taught during the week beginning 25th November. Prior to this – on Tuesday 19th November – you will have the opportunity to view our resources and ask questions about the objectives we will be covering. If you are interested, please pop along to the Middle Hall from 3:30pm.

YEAR 3 TATE ART EXHIBITION

A major art exhibition by the award-winning artist and film-maker Steve McQueen has gone on display at the Tate Britain and on billboards across London. The exhibition features class photographs of over 76,000 Year 3 pupils taken earlier in the year and we are included! The Gordon pupils involved in this project are now in Year 4 – keep your eyes open, you may spot them on a billboard somewhere in London!

CHRISTMAS CARDS



The children have been creating beautiful designs for Christmas cards this week. We have sent these designs off to the printers to be scanned and you will soon receive details of how you can purchase cards and other Christmas items. The commission we earn from the sales of the cards goes to FoG.

FOUNDATION STAGE UNIFORM REQUEST

We are very short of spare items of school uniform – especially tights – in the Foundation Stage. If you have any spare items at home that no longer fit your child, we would be delighted to take them off your hands! They come in very useful if children have accidents and need to change in school. Thank you!

ATTENDANCE

Well done to this week's Attendance Award Winners: **Pegasus**, **Hydra** and **Genie** classes.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

We will be marking Remembrance Day on Monday with a minute's silence. Mr Thomson, our music TA, will play *the Last Post* for us.



Unicorn (N): Violet for her independent work making a firework bracelet

Sphinx (R): Brandon for his enthusiasm during our phonics workshop

Sprite (R): Lilly Eve for wonderful work in English

Pegasus (1): Molly for excellent work during the tennis session

Phoenix (1): Samantha for always showing kindness to others

Kelpie (2): Floyd for fantastic map work on continents and oceans

Kraken (2): Morgan for great focus and effort during the tennis lesson

Hippogriff (3): Harper for super effort in swimming lessons

Hydra (3): Ella for writing a fantastic stone-age acrostic poem

Genie (4): Harry for an excellent attitude towards his learning

Griffin (4): The whole class for working so hard on their assembly

Damysus (5): Emily for her strong interest in our introduction to Sikhism lesson

Dragon (5): Giulia for excellent writing in role as a character

Centaur (6): Saffy for great newspaper report writing

Cyclops (6): Aleena for fantastic effort when comparing and ordering fractions

If you have concerns regarding a child's well-being, care or safety, including bullying, please contact a member of our **Child Protection Team**: Mr Taylor, Mrs Cuesta, Mrs Black or Mrs Newlove. Alternatively, call the NSPCC on 0800 800 5000.

School office: 020 8850 5486

e-mail: office@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk

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www.gordonprimary.co.uk