

Gordon School News

Issue 198 17th July 2020

Headteacher: Jason Taylor

Assistant Head (Curriculum): Amanda Black

Assistant Head (Inclusion): Hannah Cuesta



Be the best you can be!

THANK YOU!

We would like to express our gratitude for your support this year. It has been a year like no other and one that we shall certainly not forget! Thinking back across the year, we would like to thank everyone who helped out in the classrooms, accompanied us on trips, attended FoG events, took on the requests we put in the newsletters, supported charity fund-raising and came along to concerts, productions, meetings, assemblies, workshops, Open Evenings, etc. We do not know what next year will bring, but whatever happens, we will face it together and continue to support each other in the way that we always have! Take care and have a great summer!

FULL RE-OPENING FROM 4TH SEPTEMBER

Yesterday, we sent out details of our new procedures for the start and end of the school day which will come into effect in September. To facilitate staggered start and end times, the children in **Reception to Year 6** will be divided into three groups:

Group A – families with a surname beginning between A and F.

Group B – families with a surname beginning between G and N.

Group C – families with a surname beginning between O and Z.

If your children have different surnames, please use the surname that comes first alphabetically to allocate your children to a group. Childminders who look after children from more than one family will join Group A.

Here is a reminder of our start and end times:

	Start	End
Group A	9:00am	3:00pm
Group B	9:10am	3:10pm
Group C	9:20am	3:20pm
Nursery	8:45am	11:45am
	12:30pm	3:30pm

We will send more information and further reminders over the summer holiday. Please look out for these updates.

WORRIED ABOUT YOUR CHILD RETURNING?

If you are concerned about your child returning to school in September and think they may need a little extra support, please email Mrs Cuesta: hcuesta@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk. We have Inset Days on Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd September and will be happy to hold some short drop-in sessions for children who are feeling particularly anxious. These will involve a visit to the new classroom and a chat with the teacher. Let us know if you think this will help your child.

WELFARE PACKS

Thank you to everyone who has kindly donated food and toiletries. We have made up some more welfare packs and plan to continue delivering them to families who need them over the summer holiday. If you would like a pack, please email Mrs Cuesta: hcuesta@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk

SPORTS DAY

We had a fantastic response to our virtual Sports Day. Very well done, everyone! Here are the results:

1. **Dunvegan – 22,297 points**
2. **Grangehill – 20,488 points**
3. **Rochester – 19,407 points**
4. **Nesbit – 13,942 points**

Congratulations Dunvegan House!

ELTHAM LIBRARY

We are delighted to let you know that Eltham library has re-opened. You can visit between 10am and 2pm, Monday to Saturday. If you can, try to make regular visits to the library part of your summer holiday routine.

RECOVERY CURRICULUM

We have adapted our curriculum to incorporate strategies for enabling children to catch up from their lost schooling. We have identified topics and themes that were not taught in the Summer term and we will be incorporating these into our teaching next term. We will be identifying gaps early on so we can address them either through whole class teaching or intervention groups. We also plan to have sessions during our staggered starts when we have smaller numbers of children at any one time for intense revision of times table facts, phonics, grammar and reading. We will keep you informed of your child's progress and how you can support at home.

TERM DATES FOR 20/21

Autumn Term 2020

First half ~ Friday 4th September to Friday 23rd October

Half-term holiday ~ Monday 26th to Friday 30th October

Second half ~ Monday 2nd November to Thursday 17th December

Inset Day - Friday 9th October (school closed)

Spring Term 2021

First half ~ Tuesday 5th January to Friday 12th February

Half-term holiday ~ Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February

Second half ~ Monday 22nd February to Wednesday 31st March

Summer Term 2021

First half ~ Monday 19th April to Friday 28th May

Bank Holiday ~ Monday 3rd May (school closed)

Half-term holiday ~ Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Second half ~ Tuesday 8th June to Thursday 22nd July

SCHOOL MEAL PRICE INCREASE

The catering company who provide our lunches have increased their prices. From September, meals will cost £2.75 per day. The cost per week will be £13.75.

If your circumstances have changed recently and you think you might be eligible for free school meals, please see the information below about how to submit an application.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you receive certain benefits such as:

- **Income Support**
- **Working Tax Credit**
- **Job Seekers Allowance**
- **Employment Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part 6 of the Immigration Asylum Act 1999**
- **Pensions credit**
- **Child Tax Credit**

your family may be able to receive free school meals, school clothing grants or School Journey grants. More information can be found on the Council's website: www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR YEAR 2: Please remember that your automatic entitlement to free school meals will end at the end of this term. If you receive the benefits listed above you will need to apply for free school meals – they will not continue unless you complete and submit the form.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We relaxed our uniform policy during the lockdown but when we return in September, we will expect all children to be wearing a uniform. Full details can be found on our website.

Please remember that children should wear plain black school shoes – not trainers. If your child cannot yet tie laces, please let them wear shoes with velcro or slip-ons. Staff will be required to maintain social distancing and should not be tying laces for the children. Thank you for your support.

HOLIDAY CHALLENGES

We have set six summer holiday home learning challenges for the children. Each week a new challenge will be uploaded to the Google classrooms and each one includes a variety of activities that the children might like to do. The challenges are optional, but if you run out of ideas for keeping your children occupied, please give them a go! Thank you.

OVERSEAS HOLIDAYS

One of our duties is to monitor children who are missing education due to holidays. If you are planning a trip overseas during the summer, please bear in mind there is the possibility of a second wave of the Covid-19 virus, which could result in local lockdowns and disrupted travel.

It would be helpful if you could let us know your intentions by emailing office@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk and, where possible, provide us with travel dates, copies of travel documents, an address for where you will be staying and an expected return date. Thank you for your co-operation.

GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to the **Year 6** children who are moving on to their new schools. They have been an amazing year group and we have thoroughly enjoyed teaching them. We wish them every success and happiness for the future and hope to see them in the Autumn term for a Year 6 reunion to replace the Leavers' Disco that we were unable to hold.

We are also very sad to be saying goodbye to some staff members. We thank them for their hard work and wish them luck for the future: Mrs Calcott, Mrs Counsell, Mrs King, Ms Cheung and Mr Thomson.

School office: 020 8850 5486

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

Facebook:

Friends of Gordon
Primary School

Website:

www.gordonprimary.co.uk