

**Headteacher:** Jason Taylor

**Assistant Head (Curriculum):** Amanda Black

**Assistant Head (Inclusion):** Hannah Cuesta



*Be the best you can be!*

## THANK YOU FROM MR TAYLOR

As I sat down to write the final newsletter of the year I thought I would look back at the newsletters from the end of 2019 for a little inspiration! However, instead of inspiring me, it made me feel really sad. This time last year we were celebrating the children's amazing Christmas performances - two nativity plays, a pantomime of Cinderella and a Carol Service at St Luke's Church. We reported on the community carol singing we did at Passey Place and Eltham train station, the theatre group that entertained us, Year 5's fantastic residential visit to Sayers Croft, the class Christmas parties and Christmas discos! It was a very busy but exciting time. We also had a diary full of fun events to look forward to in the Spring term.

But then, as I reflected on the things we've missed out on, I realised that these performances, trips, events and celebrations are part of what we are as a school and whilst we've had to forego them this term, they are not lost forever. This strange situation will change, things will get better and we will return to the what is important to us. What is more, we will be stronger as a community because of this shared experience.

I hope that as a school we have played a part in supporting all our families during this incredibly difficult time. In turn, you have provided huge support for us. Your kind words and expressions of gratitude throughout the term have really lifted our spirits. We appreciate everything you do to help us and we hope you all have a relaxing and restful break. We wish you a joyful Christmas and a healthy, happy and successful 2021!

## FRIENDS OF THE GORDON WINTER WALK

If you are looking for a little festive cheer, please take part in our **Winter Wonderland Walk**. Gordon families have been busy preparing creative displays that can be seen in front of their houses throughout December.



Please go to the FoG website for a map and details of how to make a donation (if you are able to do so). The address is: <https://friendsofthegordon.wixsite.com/schoolpta> Thank you for your support.



Enormous thanks go to our amazing PTA – the **Friends of the Gordon!** The committee members and the many parents who have volunteered their help this term have been absolutely brilliant!

## MULTI-USE GAMES AREA

Work on the multi-use games area in the key stage 2 playground is almost finished and we expect to be able to use it when we return to school in January.



As most of you will recall, our previous games area was called the cage. We are now looking for a name for the new games area. All children across the school are invited to email suggestions to Mr Taylor who will then choose a winner. The winning child's class will be the first to use the games area!

## FLU VACCINATIONS

If you declined the nasal flu vaccination for your child due to the porcine gelatine content, there is now an alternative injectable vaccine available to you which does not contain it.

If you are interested and would like more information or would like to book an appointment, please call the immunisation team on: 0208 320 5741/42/21.

Clinics will be held on the following days:

- **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** at Lee Green Fire Station, SE12 8ES from 10:00am to 2:00pm
- **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December** at Waverley Scouts Hall, Plumstead, SE18 7QT from 10:00am to 2:00pm

## COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE



The Westmount Road Churches will be broadcasting a community Carol Service on the Eltham Park Baptist Church You Tube channel on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6:30pm. Several members of the community, including Mr Taylor, will be giving a reading and there will be the opportunity to join in with some traditional carol singing.

### WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 up to, and including, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, you will need to inform us. Please email Mr Taylor: [headteacher@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@gordon.greenwich.sch.uk) as soon as possible after receiving the test result and provide the following information:

- name of child
- class
- date when symptoms started
- date when the test was taken
- date when your child was last in school

Mr Taylor will then work with the Department for Education to establish the next steps and identify if any children and staff members have to self-isolate.

If your child tests positive after 23<sup>rd</sup> December you should still contact Mr Taylor. We will then be able to establish the correct return date for your child. Thank you.

### GO! CLUB – WRAPAROUND CARE

The GO! Club will continue to operate next term. However, please note that we will no longer be able to offer discounts for full time use or siblings. If you would like to book places at the GO! Club, please visit:

<https://gordonprimary.schoolsbuddy.net/CcaSignup#!/>



Please remember that the children return to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

## TERM DATES 2020 / 2021

### Spring Term 2021

**First half** ~ Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February

**Half-term holiday** ~ Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February

**Second half** ~ Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March

### Summer Term 2021

**First half** ~ Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May

**Half-term holiday** ~ Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June

**Second half** ~ Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

### BUILDING UPDATE

The refurbishment of Hut D has suffered a disappointing delay. The main school building is grade II listed and is subject to regulations which protect its historical and architectural significance. The hut is protected in a similar way because of its history and proximity to the school, and any alterations have to be agreed by *Historic England*.

Unfortunately, we have recently learned that *Historic England* want the contractors to change some of their refurbishment plans. Greenwich Council is funding this project and is concerned by the financial impact of the proposed changes. Discussions are currently taking place and we hope this issue will be resolved quickly so the refurbishment can begin in January.

On a separate note, the repairs to the nursery shelter roof are progressing well. We hope that by the middle of January this work will have been completed, the scaffolding will be removed and we will have full access to the shelter, the Reception playground and the key stage 1 outdoor toilets.

**Merry Christmas**  
**Stay safe!**

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