

Gordon Primary School News

Headteacher: Jason Taylor

Assistant Head (Curriculum): Amanda Black

Assistant Head (Inclusion): Hannah Cuesta



Be the best you can be.

THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

This week did not get off to the best of starts as we had to close **Lionfish Class** and **Stingray Class** on Monday morning due to a number of children testing positive for COVID-19. We look forward to re-opening the classes and welcoming back the children on Tuesday 13th July. Unfortunately, since then we have also had to close **Seahorse Class** and the children will be self-isolating until they return on Friday 16th July.

The children in school have really enjoyed **Sports Week** despite some dismal weather! Sadly, our dance performance on Tuesday was cut short by a sudden downpour of torrential rain but other events such as cricket, tennis, football and skateboarding went ahead. Huge thanks go to Mrs King and Ms Whiting for organising such a great week.

On Thursday we hosted our second round of **Welcome Meetings** for the families of the children joining Reception in September. In light of the COVID-19 restrictions we had to change our usual format and hold several small meetings, but we felt that this enabled us to spend more time chatting to individual parents. Finally, **Mussel Class** visited Woodlands Farm today, as part of their learning about plants. They had a great time.

PROCEDURES FOR CLOSING BUBBLES

As mentioned above we have had to close some bubbles this week. We are aware that this can cause frustration and disappointment as we all want the children to be in school and for it to be a healthy environment. There are clear procedures set out by the government which we have to follow before a bubble can close.

Some parents have expressed their concerns that bubbles have not closed as soon as a lateral flow test has shown a positive reading. This is due to the fact that whilst lateral flow tests are a good indicator of a person's COVID-19 status, a PCR test has to be taken to confirm positive cases. Only a positive PCR test gives us the authority to close a bubble.

As soon as we are informed that a case has been confirmed by a PCR test we contact the families affected. The self-isolation comes into force from that moment. This means that we are often unable to give you much notice, which we understand can be very inconvenient and we apologise for. Unfortunately, this is beyond our control.

Once a bubble has closed all children have to stay at home. There is no provision in the government's guidance for children who have a negative lateral flow test to return to school before the self-isolation period has ended.

As well as the three main symptoms: a new continuous cough, high temperature and loss or change in sense of taste or smell, research is suggesting that headaches, a sore throat and a runny nose are also common symptoms now being seen.

We strongly recommend that if your child demonstrates any of the above symptoms, you keep them at home and seek a test. We appreciate that COVID-19 symptoms are typical of summer colds and hay fever, but we need to take all the steps possible to stop the virus spreading and prevent more bubble closures. Thank you for your support.

HOLIDAY FOOD & FUN 2021

This summer, the Royal Borough of Greenwich are funding free holiday club spaces for children aged between 4 and 16 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

To register a place for your child, browse the interactive map on the Royal Borough of Greenwich website: <https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/holidayfoodandfun> You can see what's on offer and use the contact details provided to book your child's place!

FRIENDS OF THE GORDON NEWS

Many thanks go to everyone who took part in last Friday's **Pizza Evening**. We hope you enjoyed making and eating your pizzas. We sold 231 pizza kits which brought in £462. A few families donated money too so in total FoG made a profit of £510. Well done, everyone!

SWIMMING LESSONS

In the past, Years 3 and 4 had weekly swimming lessons. Unfortunately, they have not taken place since March 2020 but we are expecting to re-introduce swimming in the Autumn term. To make up for the swimming sessions that our current Year 3 and Year 4 children have missed we will be making a change. From September, the new Year 4 and Year 5 children will go swimming. The new Year 3 will not have swimming lessons.

HOUSEPOINTS



EASYFUNDRAISING

Thank you to everyone for raising donations for our school through **easyfundraising!** If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 5,800 shops and sites will donate to us when you use **easyfundraising** to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation makes a difference to us so please sign up and share today: <https://bit.ly/3xqugso>

UNIFORM FOR SEPTEMBER

School uniform is compulsory for all children from the Nursery up to Year 6. We have a gender-neutral approach to school uniform and all children can choose from the items listed below:

Uniform list (Nursery):

- black, navy or dark grey jogging bottoms/leggings
- white or navy polo-shirt
- navy school sweatshirt / jumper / cardigan
- black, navy or dark grey skirt / pinafore dress
- black shoes / trainers - no laces please
- blue check dresses (during warmer weather)
- navy or dark grey school shorts (during warmer weather)
- black boots can be worn in the winter

Uniform list (Reception to Year 6):

- black or dark grey trousers
- white shirt or polo-shirt
- navy school sweatshirt / jumper / cardigan
- black, dark grey or navy skirt / pinafore dress
- black shoes - no trainers or shoes with coloured soles
- blue check dresses (during warmer weather)
- navy or grey school shorts (during warmer weather)
- brown, navy or black sandals (during warmer weather), but they must cover the children's toes and be firmly attached at the heel
- black boots can be worn in the winter

PE kit:

- plain white t-shirt
- navy blue shorts
- trainers or plimsolls
- a tracksuit may be worn in winter

Swimming kit: (Years 4 & 5 only)

- close fitting trunks (no beach shorts)
- one-piece costume (no bikinis)
- a swimming hat
- a towel

Bags Only book bags and drawstring PE bags can come into school. No back packs or ruck sacks please as there isn't enough room on our coat trolleys for them.

We respect the religion and culture of all our children. If you have any religious or cultural requests about uniform, please contact Mr Taylor.

It is very important to mark your child's clothing clearly either by sewn-in / ironed-on labels or with an indelible pen. A great deal of parents' time is wasted trying to find unlabelled items.

Uniform items with the school logo, book bags and drawstring PE bags can be obtained from:

JK Clothing, Well Hall Road

You can also buy non-logo items from other stores.

There will be opportunities for you to purchase pre-loved uniform items soon. Please look out for more information.

We can offer some free school uniform items to children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. Please contact the office.

SCHOOL WEBSITE REVIEW

We are currently reviewing our school website and would like to hear your thoughts. Please click on this link: <https://bit.ly/3yzMAPN> to access our school website survey. The deadline for submitting your feedback is Friday 16th July 2021. Thank you.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you receive certain benefits such as:

- **Income Support**
- **Working Tax Credits**
- **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 Royal Borough of Greenwich website: www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk. If you need help with the application form, please speak to a member of the office staff.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR YEAR TWO: 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. **PLEASE DO THIS NOW.** You will be charged for any meals that your child has next term if the Local Authority has not confirmed your eligibility.

DIARY DATES

July

Wednesday 14 th	Freshwater Theatre visiting Year 2
Thursday 15 th	Annual reports will be distributed
Friday 16 th	New classes for 21/22 announced
Monday 19 th	Year 6 Performance – 6:00pm
Tuesday 20 th	Year 6 Performance – 9:45am
Thursday 22 nd	Year 6 Leavers' Party – outdoor event
Friday 23 rd	Last Day – school closes at 2pm

September

Friday 3rd Autumn Term begins

EMMIE'S BOOKS

Emmie, the sister of one of our pupils, was diagnosed with a malignant rhabdoid tumour in September 2019. This is an extremely rare and aggressive form of cancer, which is difficult to treat. Emmie was given a poor prognosis and underwent a range of challenging treatments. Thankfully, she is now in remission.

Emmie's parents are raising money to buy books for the children on Elephant, Lion and Giraffe wards at Great Ormond Street Hospital and we are pleased to support them.

To find out more, including ways that you can donate to this brilliant cause, please go to: <https://linktr.ee/Emmiesbooks>
Your support will be appreciated enormously.

WELL DONE

Clownfish (N): Obinna for always having a great attitude to all areas of learning – especially sports

Conch (R): Emilia for sharing great ideas at circle time

Coral (R): Daisy for becoming more confident at answering questions in class

Dolphin (1): Lloyd for his fantastic performance in the whole school dance show

Jellyfish (1): Christopher-Lee and Ocean for their enthusiasm during our dance sessions

Lionfish (2): Leo for super answers in our online maths workout

Lobster (2): Jeremy for great progress in his writing

Mussel (3): Ruby for being kind when someone was feeling left out

Octopus (3): Adrian for his perseverance, patience and teamwork during skateboarding

Oyster (4): Isla for her enthusiasm and energy during Sports Week

Penguin (4): Eliza for a lovely set of instructions on how to be the perfect sister

Seahorse (5): Ruby-May for super team work during Sports Week.

Stingray (5): Harry for his excellent poem inspired by 'The Lion and the Unicorn'

Turtle (6): Marcus for great work applying his knowledge of algebra to solving coordinate problems

Whale (6): Alex for fantastic work solving coordinate problems using his algebraic knowledge

SCHOOL DINNER PAYMENTS

Please make sure that any outstanding dinner money payments are made before the end of the term. Thank you.

Telephone: 020 8850 5486
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Friends of the Gordon (PTA)
Facebook: Friends of Gordon Primary
Website: <https://bit.ly/2T9uK7x>