

24 May 2024

# GORDONBROCK WEEKLY

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've had a great week at Gordonbrock, finishing off the half-term with London History Day today. Miss Barber led on key-stage assemblies to teach the children about this important event in the GB calendar and the children had the opportunity to show off their outfits. It was a fantastic effort on the dressing up—well done children (and parents!).

Thank you to all those parents and family members who were able to make it to Reception's assembly on Wednesday. It was a great turnout and the children performed brilliantly. We were very proud of all them!

Key dates for musical performances for the summer term were shared in a letter sent to you earlier this week. Please make a note of these in your diary—we hope you can attend!

A HUGE thank you to FOG and all the volunteers for another fantastic Cake and Fruit Day today. As you can imagine, there's been a real buzz of activity in the Music Room today!

**A reminder that the children return to school on Tuesday, 4 June, after the half-term break.**

I hope you have a wonderful break. I can't quite believe we will be returning for our final half-term before the summer holidays. How time flies!

*Mrs Wright*



## Congratulations to Yun Qi



Amazing news alert! Yun Qi participate in London Taekwondo Poomsae Championships 2024 on Sunday, 12 May 2024, held at Haberdashers' Knight Academy in Bromley. Yun Qi participate in two categories: Individual—achieving Bronze—and Team—achieving Gold. A huge well done to Yun Qi—we're all very proud of you!



## Champions Cup – Boys team and Girls Semi-final

Due to the team's success in finishing first in their league, the boys' team qualified to take part in this year's Champions Cup. This competition was a one-day event whereby the teams that finished in the top four in the two leagues faced off against each other, with the top two from both groups facing off in the semi-final. As this was some of the best teams in the leagues, all the games were going to be tough and all were very motivated to win.

The boys faced off against Fairlawn in an early kick-off, showing a lot of confidence. This confidence carried them to a comfortable 4-1 win, with goals coming from Evie and a hat-trick from Dolly. They were now into the final! The likely date for the finals is 8<sup>th</sup> June (to be confirmed). POTM was Dolly for her amazing goal-scoring abilities.

The rest of the games were only the boys' fixtures. Hoping to replicate the girls' achievements, the boys first fixture was against Dalmain. The team had to battle the entire game and ground out a 1-0 win courtesy of a fine finish by Jeremy after a great switching of the play.

The second group game was against Good Shepherd. Unfortunately, the boys were unable to secure this result. An uncharacteristically stodgy performance was rescued by a late goal from Sam that enabled the team to cling to a 1-1 draw.

As we had dropped some vital points, we now needed to win against our final opponents, Rathfern, to qualify for the semi-final. The team turned up the skill and determination in this game and sealed an impressive 3-0 win, courtesy of two goals from Shaun and one from Shalomon.

We qualified from the group and played Stillness in the semi-final straight away. This has been a common fixture over the last few years, as Stillness and Gordonbrock often meet in the finals, and it is always a tough game. The quality was on show but unfortunately for us, Stillness just had a bit more about them and their teamwork shone through in a very tough game which we lost 1-0. Player of the Tournament for the boys was **Sean** for his heroics in goal, without him several of the results would have gone against us.

We had our season awards presentation with the winners of the Player's Player of The Year going to Cassius and the Manager's Player of The Year going to Alfie.



A big thank you to Jason for coaching and the parents and carers for attending and supporting the team. And a special thank you to Iris and Michelle for stepping in at the last minute!

## Reception

This week, we enjoyed the sunshine in our outside learning area and had so much fun building water runs. We have also been learning about fruits and vegetables through the stories *Oliver's Vegetables* and *Oliver's Fruit Salad*. We found out the difference between fruits and vegetables and had a go at sorting some food items into healthy and unhealthy. We then used our reading skills and vocabulary word mats to choose the food we wanted to write on our shopping lists for our fruit salads. We all made our own fruit salads and ate it with gusto!

We hope you all enjoyed our Reception assembly. The children sang so beautifully and learnt a lot about gardening in the process of practising. Thank you to all those able to attend!



## Y5 Gurdwara in Gravesend

On Tuesday, Year 5 visited a Gurdwara in Gravesend. The children learned about Sikh traditions, how Sikhism is similar and different to other faiths and what a Gurdwara is used for. They then got to have a taste of the delicious food that is offered there. The children really enjoyed their day, and had an opportunity to ask lots of interesting questions and find out new information.

"I liked all of the patterns on the ceiling." Saarupana

"I learned that the Kesh isn't the turban, but their hair. I would definitely recommend visiting the langar!" Alice

"I liked how everyone had to take their shoes off. I learned that Guru Granth Sahib is treated as a person not a book. I would recommend visiting." Sylvie



## GB Eco Team

On Wednesday morning, the Eco Team members from Year 5 attended the Summer Pupil Climate Network meeting at St Mary's C of E Primary School. They really enjoyed meeting other school eco-councilors. We also had the opportunity to participate in a Forest School session.



"I particularly enjoyed going to the Forest School where we had to do an obstacle course. It was very slippery so we had to use our balance. It was nice learning about the rules of Forest School, which were written on wooden spoons." Margot

"We listened to a talk from the eco councilors of St Mary's School and they talked about how they made their school eco friendly, for example planting flowers, composting and food recycling."



Kendall



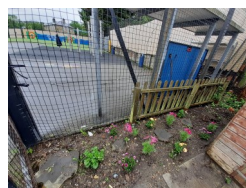
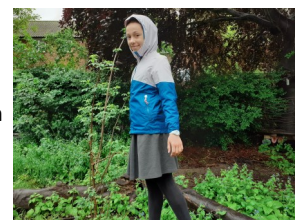
"On the tour of the school they showed us all the things that they showed us during the talk such as the spiritual garden, the composting and all the vegetables they have been planting." Albie

"I liked getting to know the eco councilors of St Mary's and learning where they are in their eco journey." Hila



"I got inspired by some of their ideas and it helped me think about how we could improve Gordonbrock's eco friendliness. For example, they are having an eco fair to raise money for their initiatives." Isaac

"We helped them to paint some recycled tin cans for their eco fair and it motivated me to reuse pots or tins that I don't use and make something new with them." Riley



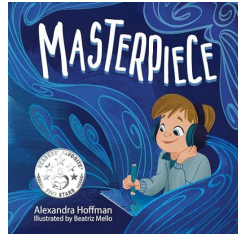
# Mrs Wright's Recommended Reads



## Masterpiece

Written by **Alexandra Hoffman**

Masterpiece is an inclusive story featuring Samuel, a boy on the autism spectrum who sees the world differently than his peers. When Samuel's teacher asks his class to create a piece of art, it quickly becomes apparent a true masterpiece! Throughout the story, the other students in his class learn lessons of empathy, understanding and acceptance.

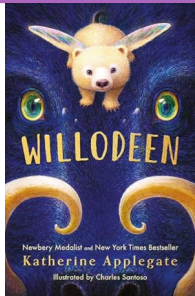


Age 0-12

## Willodeen

Written by **Katherine Applegate**

Eleven-year-old Willodeen adores creatures of all kinds, but her favourites are the most unlovable beasts in the land: strange beasts known as 'screchers'. The villagers of Perchance call them pests, even monsters, but Willodeen believes the animals serve a vital role in the complicated web of nature.



Age 9-15

When a handmade birthday gift brings unexpected magic to Willodeen and her new friend, Connor, she's determined to speak up for the animals she loves, and perhaps even uncover the answer to the mystery of the missing hummingbirds.

## Sandwich Swap

Written by **Kelly DiPucchio**

Lily and Salma are best friends. They like doing all the same things, and they always eat lunch together. Lily eats peanut butter and Salma eats hummus-but what's that between friends? It turns out, a lot. Before they know it, a food fight breaks out. Can Lily and Salma put aside their differences? Or will a sandwich come between them? The smallest things can pull us apart-until we learn that friendship is far more powerful than difference. In a glorious three-page gatefold at the end of the book, Salma, Lily, and all their classmates come together in the true spirit of tolerance and acceptance.



Age 3-7

## UN Convention on the Right of the Child

# Article of the Week

We are very proud to be a Unicef Rights Respecting School, having achieved the Unicef UK Silver - Rights Aware Award.

To help children carry on the discussion at home, we will be focusing different articles of the convention in each newsletter so that our families can explore the rights and meanings together.

At GB, two of our core values are Creativity and Self-expression. Article No13 talks about the freedom and right to do this. We are always looking for new ways to encourage the children to embrace their creativity. Choose your favorite, singing, designing on web, dancing or with photography are a very effective way of providing young people opportunities to share their voice and expand their minds.

Children have the right to share freely with others what they learn, think and feel, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms other people

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SHARING THOUGHTS FREELY

### 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

- GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**  
Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure and knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.
- LEAD BY EXAMPLE**  
The children and young people in our lives see how we behave; the children and young people we made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships looks like and how to recognise them.
- HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES**  
Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For overall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.
- MONITOR SCREEN TIME**  
Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing in general, but it can specifically impact friendships if it results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face-to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive friendships online, but they will require support to do this safely.
- TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING**  
Healthy friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an opportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be helpful to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them come up with ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.
- EMPOWER THE CHILD**  
When we give children and young people the confidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around them, we empower them to take control of the friendships they have. When young people feel in control of these things, they're more likely to make positive choices and remain aware of the signs of a negative relationship.
- TEACH EMPATHY**  
Healthy friendships' doesn't always mean 'perfect'. Sometimes, disagreements can arise. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on. This can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.
- BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS**  
Talking to young people about their friendships, who they spend time with and who they interact with can open the door to questions if they have concerns. Initially, these queries may be straightforward, but if we are receptive to discussion from the outset, young people are more likely to come to us for help when they are older as well.
- UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES**  
One of the keys to a healthy friendship is honouring boundaries. This can include anything from respecting personal space and belongings to acceptable language and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stop asking if people people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them. They're more likely to call someone out if they go too far.
- SPOT THE SIGNS**  
We can't always supervise young people; sometimes, we need to step back and give them the space to work out their own relationships. Any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships, or they're becoming increasingly withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.

Meet Our Expert  
Rocky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.

Wake Up Wednesday  
The National College

# SWIM SCHOOL SHORT COURSES

GLASS MILL LEISURE CENTRE

27th May - 31st May 2024  
9:00am 9:30am, 10:00am, 10:30am  
Foundation  
11:30am Development  
FOR 25% OFF USE - SWIMHAPPY

Visit [better.org.uk/swimming-lessons](https://better.org.uk/swimming-lessons) for more information



BETTER



## PANTHERS HOCKEY CAMP

May 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> 2024  
11am - 4 pm

[St Dunstan's College Jubilee Ground](#)  
Canadian Avenue, Catford, SE6 4SW

Cost: £50 per day (sibling discount of 15%)

- Years 3-10 (complete beginners welcome)
- Skills and games, led by enthusiastic coaches who love the game
- Shin pads, gum shields and packed lunch required

World Cup tournament at the end of each day with prizes

To book, email:  
[samisports@gmail.com](mailto:samisports@gmail.com)  
07888723544

Sam Djavit  
Head Coach  
LEVEL 3 ENGLAND HOCKEY COACH  
27 years' experience of coaching the stars of tomorrow and growing the game. I've coached many of the current GB squad.



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- ✓ Outdoor Sports!
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### Dates

TUESDAY 28th May 2024 -  
FRIDAY 31st May 2024



### Short Day

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM **£18**

### Long Day

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM **£30**

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Click on 'Parents Zone!'



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Join Lewisham Local Area Partnership for Children & Young People to



# HAVE YOUR SAY!

Lewisham SEND Strategy 2024-2027

We would like to ensure parents/carers and young people with SEND have their voices heard in the development of this strategy and are involved in decision making about both their individual support and local provision.

For Parents/ Carers/ Parent/ Carer Representative Groups



## How to get involved?

Join us on 13 June 2024 6pm-8pm at Civic Suite, Catford Road, London SE6 9SE (or attend virtually).

Please scan the QR code to express an interest in taking part or contact: Benson Dibiah | [benson.dibiah@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:benson.dibiah@lewisham.gov.uk)





## IMPORTANT DATES

03/06/24	First Day of Summer Term 2— INSET DAY ( <i>school closed to pupils</i> )
20/05/24	Year 1: Reading Morning
21/05/24	Year 5: Gurdwara Trip
21/05/24	Reception: Reading Morning
22/05/24	Reception: Assembly (9.15am)
22/05/24	Eco Team: Trip to Pupil Climate Network
24/05/24	London History Day
27/05/2024 - 31/05/24	Half - Term
03/06/24	INSET Day ( <i>school closed to pupils</i> )
04/06/24	Year 6: Knife Crime Workshop
04/06/24	Reception: Reading Morning
05/06/24—06/06/24	Class Photos
07/06/24	Year 6: Urban Synergy Workshop
07/06/24	Year 3: Trip to Kew Gardens
17/06/2024	Reception: Hearing & Vision Check
18/06/24	Reception: Reading Morning
24/06/2024	London Maths Week/Buddy Week
26/06/2024	Y6 Lion King @ Lyceum Theatre
28/06/2024	Sports Day
2/07/2024	Mass Choir Event, Royal Opera House

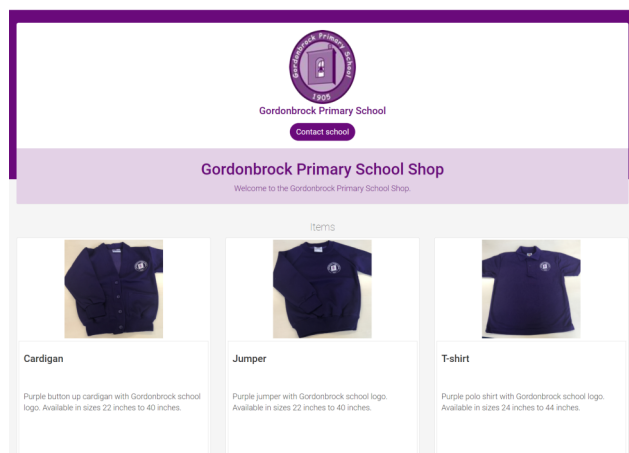
## ORDERING SCHOOL UNIFORM

Reminder that all items of branded school uniform can be purchased from our new online school uniform shop via the following link:

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=11397>

All orders will be picked and sent home with your child via the class on Thursdays.

If you need need support ordering items? Watch this video.



Pupils and parents can access over 1000 levelled ebooks at home with the Big Cat ebook library. perfect for children to practise reading books at the right level at home. To login in to the Collins Big Cat library use the link below and enter your child's username and password <https://ops.collinsopenpage.com/sso/login?service=https%3A//ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/wr/index.html&eulogin=true>

