

14 March 2025

GORDONBROCK WEEKLY

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another wonderful and eventful week at school and I'm excited to share some of the highlights with you.

We were delighted to welcome Year 5 back this week after their School Journey to Marchant Hill. The children returned with big smiles and wonderful stories of their adventures—an experience they will surely remember for years to come!

We've had an amazing time celebrating British Science Week, with assemblies led by Mr. Hall. The children gear up for an in-school competition to grow the best potato—who will win the Golden Spud Award?

Yesterday, our Reception children had an unforgettable experience as they embarked on their first-ever trip—to Battersea Zoo. A huge well done to all the children for being brilliant—the trip was a great success! Thank you to the staff and all those able to help.

Today, we marked World Book Day and what a celebration it was! The children (and staff) looked incredible in their

costumes, each outfit reflecting their love for reading. Thank you to everyone for embracing the day and promoting the importance of literature. A special thank you to Ms. Crosbie for leading some fantastic assemblies to inspire and encourage a lifelong love of books.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming Reception parents in on Thursday (8.20-8.45am), for a phonics workshop aimed at providing you with information about our approach to teaching reading and how you can support your child at home. We hope you can make it!

On Friday, both Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock choirs come together for a massed choir rehearsal of this year's ArtsFest. This year's event—The Coming of Kindness. It's Red Nose Day on Friday, too—don't forget to **wear something red!**

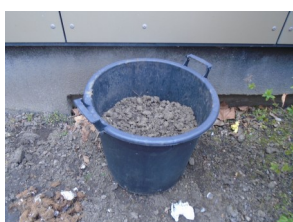
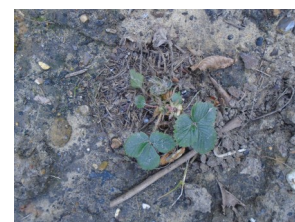
Finally, a good luck to both the girls' and boys' football teams this weekend.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend, all. We look forward to seeing you again on Monday.

Mrs Wright

From Seed to Success: Gardening Club Updates

"I like going to gardening club because we garden and I like gardening. Last week, I enjoyed putting the potatoes in the mud." Mehdi E3



"Last week, we grew potatoes and we took out our wormeries. I liked digging and I saw some strawberries grow." Janice E2

Mouthwatering Moments: Food Testing in Year 2

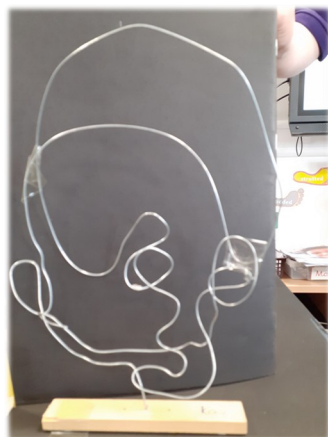
Year 2 has had another exciting week, combining Design Technology and Geography! The kitchen asked for our help in diversifying the school menu so we researched a variety of foods, spices and breads from India. After exploring these flavours, we selected a few to taste in class — and they were delicious! Next week, we'll be planning our own dishes to present to the Head Chef.



Art and training for the Bleep Test with Fitness Circuits and Inclusive Activities

Year 4 has been preparing for the bleep test with fitness circuits during outdoor PE, which included plenty of skipping. For those who are fasting, Mrs Barber organised some gentler games so everyone could participate and enjoy the session.

In art they engage their creativity using an expressive photo to create a wire portraits.



Y6 Enjoy an Interactive Transport for London Safety Session

On Friday, 28 February 2025, our year group had a fantastic experience! TFL (Transport for London) came in to talk about Zip cards, travelling on our own, journey planning, getting help on transport and loads more!

We watched different scenarios about what happens sometimes on public transport. William (from TFL) told us what happens if you get on a train or bus without using your Zip / Oyster card – you get a £100 fine!

Someone from our class got to be the bus driver – he's mad about buses. We also learnt that the TFL symbol is called the roundel. It was so much fun and every Year 6 should get an experience like this. Best workshop ever!

Kaamilah - A4- "The advice that William gave was really useful. I did not know that a ZIP card allows you to have free travel on buses and trams. I liked the videos about how to be safe on the roads and how many different ways there are to travel in London."

Anna - A4- "I loved the TFL workshop because I learnt lots from the 3D interactive session and the presenter William, who was very funny. I learnt about how to deal with different situations when travelling and how important it is to be safe, sensible and polite."

Lily- Mae - A4- "I enjoyed hearing about how just a "Good morning" and a "Thank you" can brighten someone's day but also how one little mistake can lead to a problem when travelling. It is important to be safe when travelling of buses and trains."

Mickey - A4- "The TFL workshop was very helpful and fun. The 3D city on the screen was cool because you touch different parts of it and go to another separate picture. The presenter was very funny and he gave us good advice: be kind to the bus drivers, always stay your height plus one step away from the road and if you need help, ask someone with a TFL uniform."



Jenaya A6- "I learnt that the shape of the TFL logo is called a "roundel" and there are 13 different types of transport that TFL run. I enjoyed getting my free wallet for my ZIP cards and inside it, there were tips on being safe."

Lali A6- "William gave us some useful advice, such as: sometimes, walking can be quicker than getting a bus, why it is important to tap your Oyster card to avoid a £100 fine and why it is important not to go between train carriages when they are moving."

Y6 Enjoy an Interactive Transport for London Safety Session

Sula – A5-“William said that to be safe you should try to stand your height and one step back from the edge of the pavement. “

Shailyn – A5-“I learned that if you behave poorly on buses, you could get your zip card taken away, or you could be fined.”

Aiden – A5-“I really enjoyed it because he made everything fun, and at some points, he made lots of us laugh. I learned that a kid’s zip card beeps seven times. “

Matthew – A5-“William told us who to ask if we need help in an emergency. I found out that bus drivers are actually really useful in a dangerous situation. I didn’t know that before.”

Lila – A5 “The hour of fun has given me knowledge and amazing info that will stay in my mind. William showed us how we can identify TFL staff and what a roundel is.”

Vicky – A5-“I found the TFL workshop intriguing and information-filled. It was interesting to find out more about zip-cards – like the fact that they can be removed from you.”

Isaac – A5-“The TFL staff member gave us some important tips about travelling, as we are all getting older. I have now applied for my ZIP card!”



FRIENDS OF CROFTON PARK LIBRARY
INVITE YOU TO A

FAIRYTALE MUSICAL MASH-UP

Saturday 15th March
2.00 – 2.45pm

A fun interactive show presented by local author Gareth P Jones




Suitable for children 5- 10
(must be accompanied by an adult)

Suggested donation of £5 per child or £8.00 for 2 or more children.

Please book on Eventbrite by scanning the QR code





Events
HOLIDAY CAMPS
AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

Week 1 Monday 7th - Friday 11th April
Week 2 Monday 14th - Thursday 17th April

LONDON YOUTH EVENTS ACTIVITY CAMP

Prendergast Hilly Fields College, Adelaide Ave. SE4 1LE
(ENTRANCE BY THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS)

For children aged 5-13 years old, we provide you with professionally coached indoor and outdoor activities such as football, cricket, drama and creative arts

For more information please contact our events team at: **07506870983**
londonyouthevents@icloud.com



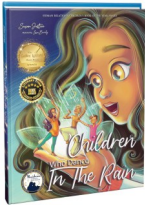
To Book a Space visit www.londonyouthevents.com

We accept payments through BACS, childcare vouchers, cash and our onsite card machine.

Mrs Wright's Recommended Reads



Children Who Dance in the Rain by Sussan Justice



Age 4-8

Meet the children who learned to dance in the rain. Sophie gets bored quickly and won't even eat her food without looking at her tablet. She's thrilled to hear of her family's upcoming trip to a magical place called India, a land she's only heard of in stories. Once there, she quickly realises that the underprivileged children living in the mud colony possess a joy and contentment she can't explain. Sophie sets out on a journey of discovery, but what she finds may change her world forever. This tale about the true meaning of happiness and the power of gratitude is based on true events.

The Secret Zoo

By Bryan Chick

Noah, his sister Megan, and their best friends, Richie and Ella, live next door to the zoo. Megan is the first to notice the puzzling behavior of some of the animals. One day Megan disappears, and her brother and their friends realize it's up to them to find her. Their only choice is to follow a series of clues and sneak into the zoo. But once inside, they discover there's much more to the Clarksville City Zoo than they could ever have guessed...



Age 7-10

Making a Difference: An Inspirational Boo About Kids Changing the World! Written by Stacy C. Bauer



Age 6-11

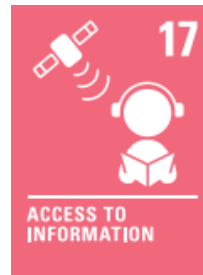
Making a Difference is the first book in the inspirational non-fiction children's book series *Young Change Makers*. It is filled with stories of kids who are making the world a better place by following their hearts and chasing their dreams. Whether planting a billion trees, bringing joy to others through music, fundraising for sick children or starting an inclusive dance team, these determined youth are using their talents to do amazing things!

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 focussing different articles of the convention in each newsletter so that our families can explore the rights and meanings together.



This week, we celebrated World Book Day! This links to three important articles from the CRC: 17, 29 and 31. Article 17 states that every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Article 29 says that education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures and the environment. Finally, Article 31 reminds us that every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

Reading is such an important skill which can help us in so many ways including helping us learn new things about the world, allowing us to use our imaginations and finding out about how other people view the world. It can also make us feel so many things including excitement, fear, joy, sadness and calm.

At Gordonbrock, we prioritise reading across the curriculum, but other children around the world are not so lucky. This World Book Day, as you enjoy sharing stories with your family, maybe take a moment to consider how we can continue working towards a world where every child can learn how to read.



The rights of a child, as outlined by UNICEF, are fundamental principles designed to ensure every child can grow, develop and thrive in a safe, healthy and supportive environment. These rights, enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), focus on protecting children from harm, promoting their well-being and empowering them to participate in decisions that affect their lives. Key rights include the right to education, healthcare, protection from exploitation and the right to express their opinions. UNICEF works globally to ensure that these rights are upheld for all children, regardless of their background or circumstance.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

AGE RESTRICTION PEGI 7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- ONLINE PLAY RISKS**: Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for malicious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dating and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.
- ANONYMOUS PLAYERS**: The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can converse with each other via personal messages or friend requests, which is very difficult to trace as it's behind a user's profile in this vast online world.
- MATURE CONTENT**: Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but it's common for mature games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.
- RISK OF ADDICTION**: Roblox games can feature rewarding or addictive mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay longer on the platform. In most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game vehicles and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.
- IN-GAME SPENDING**: The majority of games within Roblox have extensive microtransaction options, which range from season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range from a few free games up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others offer only tiny bits for real-world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.
- SCAMS**: Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, such as avatars. These avatars, with digital art worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- MONITOR THE CONTENT**: While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.
- PLAY TOGETHER**: Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to use these recreational tools. Games within which the home cooks lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, then sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.
- TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS**: Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Having the powers within these tools will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ratings for who's allowed to contact you, block public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.
- TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS**: Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators or other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert
 Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Microsoft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 19 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAM@college.

The National College

Wake Up Wednesday

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This free guide highlights the potential risks of Roblox, including online encounters, inappropriate content, scams, and in-game purchases, and offers expert advice on how to mitigate these risks.

Online multiplayer games like Roblox are enjoyed by millions across the world and can be a great way for friends to socialise; however, they can also expose young people to a variety of potential harms. Roblox is a multi-platform game that enables people to play anonymously, which can often be something that attracts people to misuse the game and put younger players at risk of harm.

In addition to interacting with random strangers across the world, it's important to be aware of other risk factors, such as in-game purchases and potential scams that can put young people at risk financially. We've created this week's free guide – also available in podcast format – offering parents and educators expert advice about what can be done to ensure that young people have a safe and enjoyable experience with Roblox.

GB ATTENDANCE WEEKLY CHALLENGE FROM THE 3-7 MARCH 2025

Being in school every day that it is open is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing and their wider development.

Here's what the data shows:

- Pupils with higher attainment at KS2 and KS4 had lower levels of absence over the key stage compared to those with lower attainment.
- Generally, the higher the percentage of sessions missed across the key stage at KS2 and KS4, the lower the level of attainment at the end of the key stage.
- Among pupils with no missed sessions over KS2, 83.9% achieved the expected standard compared to 40.2% of pupils who were persistently absent.

T3	100%	S1	93.79%	E1	97.41%	A1	100%
T4	99%	S2	96.55%	E2	98.28%	A2	99.63%
T5	94.67%	S3	98%	E3	93.7%	A3	97.93%
		S4	95.33%	E4	98.52%	A4	94.14%
		S5	99%	E5	95.67%	A5	98.33%
		S6	97.93%	E6	96.33%	A6	97.24%

Whole School 96.99%

Congratulations to: Topaz 3 and Aquamarine 1 for their 100% attendance! Keep it up!

IMPORTANT DATES

17/3/2025	Neurodiversity Week Buddy Week
20/03/2025	Reception – Phonics Parent Event (8.20-8.45am)
21/3/2025	Red Nose Day
25/03/2025	Climate Change Network Meeting
28/03/2025	Y3 Parent Event Y5/6 Big Sing (2:30pm)
01/04/2024	Y1/2 Big Sing (9:15am) Y3/4 Big Sing (2:30pm)
03/04/2025	Y2 London Zoo Trip <u>Last Day of Term</u>
04/04/2025	INSET DAY
22/04/2025	Children start back (Start of summer term)
1/05/2025	Y5 Parent Event
07/05/2025	Reception Hearing & Vision Checks
12-16/05/2025	KS2 SATs Week



HOCKEYCAMP
 Friday May 30th 2025
 9am till 2pm
[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 and medals.

To book, confirm on email:
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, my passion is developing youth teams.

Polite Reminder for Parents/Carers

We would like to kindly remind you that our school office always does its best to reach out when delivering important messages. If we are unable to speak with you directly, we try to leave a voicemail.

If you see a missed call from the school, we encourage you to **please check your voicemail**, as it may contain important information.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

GB Office Team

Afterschool club

Just a note to remind you that the letter with the details to register your interest for the summer term after-school Clubs was sent on the Wednesday, 12 March.