

GORDONBROCK WEEKLY

Friday 10th February 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers.

I can't believe it is Spring Half-Term break already, and what a fantastic half term it has been so far - lots for us to be very proud of! It was great to see so many of you this week for Open Morning and Parents' Evening. I'm sure you'll agree your children have been very busy this half term learning lots of new things and as always, have overcome some learning challenges, too. But in true Gordonbrock style, we have persevered and worked through things that we didn't understand at first. Well done to you all!

Next half term, we start the week focussing on LGBT+ History Month. Ms Barber (our Curriculum Team leader) will lead and deliver assemblies to KS1 and KS2, talking about families of many forms and the history of LGBT+. The spotlight on this month is part of our continued strong commitment to further diversifying our curriculum.

Gordonbrock will also mark Safer Internet Day 2023 on Tuesday 21 February, with learning based around the theme, 'Together for a better internet.' Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively.

Wishing you a safe and happy half term break. Reading a book together is a great way to relax and please do try to get some fresh air and exercise. Most importantly look after yourself and one another. See you all back in school on Monday 20 February.

Mrs Wright



The sun was shining on Gordonbrock this Monday as we kicked off 'Children's Mental Health Week'. This year's theme was 'Let's Connect'.



Let's Connect is about making meaningful connections for all, during Children's Mental Health Week - and beyond. When we have healthy connections - to family, friends and others - this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing.

The children have spent the week connecting with others, thinking about what they can do to look after their mental health and have identified who they can reach out to if they need support.

Following a 'Children's Mental Health Week' assembly on Monday, the children in Years 1-6 came together to take part in a 'Wake and Shake'.

Over the week, they have also met with their buddy classes and have completed a range of different activities centred around wellbeing.

Carly Aylward, PSHCE Coordinator



SAVE THE DATE

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**



At Gordonbrock we will be celebrating World Book Day on

Thursday 31st March 2023

Children are welcome to come to school dressed as their favourite book character on this day.

Make WBD 2023 Sustainable: You don't have to spend lots of money on a World Book Day costume - if you have a look online there are lots of ideas for sustainable homemade costumes.

Reception

Over the last two weeks, Reception have looked at the story of The Man On The Moon, as well as The Smeds And The Smoos. We have been cleaning our planet Earth, just like Bob was cleaning the Moon. That has taught us about recycling. We used lots of recycling materials to create our own inventions.

In PE, we have been training to becoming astronauts, learning to jump over the bench, balance, forward roll and do a pin roll and a round roll.

For the story of The Smeds and The Smoos, we have been learning about the importance of friendship. We created our own Smeds and Smoos and practised rhyming.



Year 5

Year 5 enjoyed spending some time with parents and carers this week during Open Morning. We used our knowledge of sentence types and sentence structures to analyse pictures and infer what the people/objects in them have experienced. We wrote statements, questions, exclamations and commands based on this and used these sentences to form a piece of poetry to perform.

We have also been celebrating Children's Mental Health week, completing a week of tasks set by Alex Horne, of Taskmaster fame. We have made rainbows, invented new games and came up with new dance routines.



Music: *Each week we will be travelling around the world through genres and time to look at inspirational musicians that have shaped the music we hear today.*



This week we connected all of our voices together to sing songs in connection with Children's Mental Health Week.

Key Stage One have started learning their Don't Worry medley combining together Bob Marley's Three Little Birds and Bobby McFerrin's Don't Worry Be happy. Connecting our voices and British Sign language you will not want to miss our performance of this later on this term!

Key Stage Two finished singing their Spice Girls medley in two-part harmony! Connecting together the start Wannabe and Spice Up Your Life our young singers were outstanding and this will be a song that will definitely get you moving in our performance later on this term!

Can you practice our songs over half term? They are all on your google classroom account.

Make sure to always:

- *Have a no.9 posture*
- *Have a big banana mouth with clear crispy words*
- *ENJOY it!*

Congratulations to all of our young musicians for an amazing half term of music-making!

Year 4

This week during open morning we invited our family members to join us as we made a diorama of our ogres.

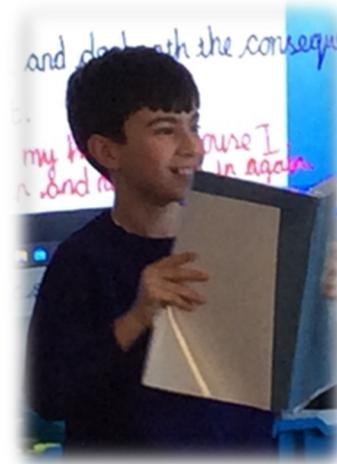


We also enjoy our text mapping session in our English lesson and we continued reading a class text during a whole class reading session



Year 6

In Year 6, in English, we have been experimenting with 'Flash Fiction', which has led to some wonderful results. The children have written imaginative pieces invoking emotions ranging from tension and fear, to wonder and awe. We have been working on percentages, coordinates, translation, reflection and algebra in Maths. In Science, we have been connecting components and learning about the difference between series and parallel circuits. As part of Children's Mental Health Week, we have spent time completing Taskmaster tasks, one of which was to design a game. This year we have linked Children's Mental Health Week with Buddy Week as the theme is 'Let's Connect', and that's exactly what we did when we met up to sing or to enjoy sharing some books in our lovely school library.



When it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations. Times Table Rock Stars is a fun and challenging programme designed to help students master the times tables!

The children should go to <https://play.trockstars.com/auth/school/student/3584> and login using their login details.

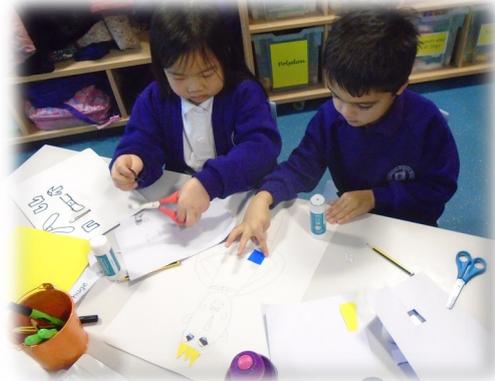
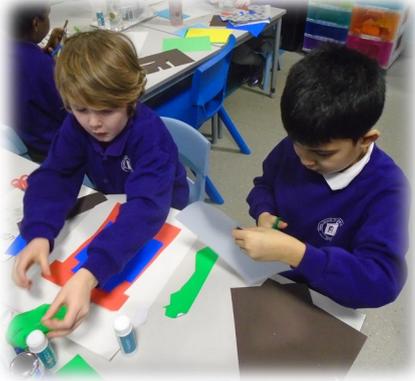
Little and Often: In order to get the best out of Times Tables Rock Stars children should regularly play for short bursts so we would ask you to allow your child to play for 5-10 minutes at a time.

If your child cannot remember their login details please contact the school office you will be able to send a reminder home.

Year 2

It's been all about the baddies this week in Year 2! We have been reading the story of "Imelda and the Goblin King", where a mean bully brings havoc to The Enchanted Wood.

We worked with our partners to create some amazing Goblin King collages.



Numbots is an online platform for boosting addition and subtraction skills. By playing little and often will significantly improve your child's recall and understanding of number bonds and addition and subtraction facts. These are critical foundations in maths so we are excited by the impact Numbots will have.

The children should go to <https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login/3584> and login using their login details.

Little and Often: In order to get the best out of Numbots children should regularly play for short bursts so we would ask you to allow your child to play for 5-10 minutes at a time. **Important:** As children play, they answer questions. Numbots personalises the questions for each child and tracks their progress therefore please don't allow siblings, friends or family to answer questions for your child as for them but do support your child if they're stuck.

If your child cannot remember their login details please contact the school office you will be able to send a reminder home.

Free School Meals

If any of the following applies to you, you can apply for free school meals for your child.

- ⇒ Universal credit with an earnings threshold that does not exceed £7400
- ⇒ Income support
- ⇒ Income based job seekers allowance
- ⇒ Income related employment and support allowance
- ⇒ Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to working tax credit and have an annual income, as assessed by HMRC that does not exceed £16,190

Apply online at <https://schools.lewisham.gov.uk/SynergyWeb/Parents/default.aspx>

Year 3

This week, we have been investigating perimeter. We started by measuring lots of objects around our classroom using different units of measurement including metres, centimetres and millimetres.



We have also been continuing to work on our Egyptian dances in P.E. We have particularly enjoyed trying to make hieroglyphics using different body shapes.

Can you guess which letters we represent?



UNIFORM

School uniform can be ordered on ParentPay.

Orders placed between Thurs 8.30am & Tues 8.30am will be delivered to class on Tuesday.

Orders placed between Tues 8.30am & Thurs 8.30am will be delivered to class on Thursday.

All orders will be sent to class for your child to take home.

CONTACTING US

The school office can be contacted via telephone number on **02086900704** or via email to the email addresses below:

info@gordonbrock.lewisham.sch.uk - for all general enquires.

pickup@gordonbrock.lewisham.sch.uk - for changes to pick-up arrangements for the day no later than 2.00pm. After 2pm please call the office and speak to a member of staff. If the lines are busy please can we ask you to call back and not leave a message on the answerphone.

Year 1

This week we met up with our buddy class and did some finger painting! We created our own trees using different colours. The Years 5's helped us!



Last week, Year 1 had fun making Chinese lanterns to celebrate Lunar New Year! We worked in teams, cut and collaged lots of paper to create our lanterns! We learned about how Lunar New Year is celebrated across the world.



Collins Big Cat ebooks: From early phonics development to fluency, Collins Big Cat is a whole-school programme that provides complete support for primary reading.

Pupils and parents can access over 1000 levelled ebooks at home with the Big Cat ebook library. The library is easy to access and is 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/ssp/login?service=https%3A%2F%2Fbooks.collinsopenpage.com/wr/index.html&eulogin=true>

If your child cannot remember their login details please contact the school office you will be able to send a reminder home.





ONLINE SAFETY

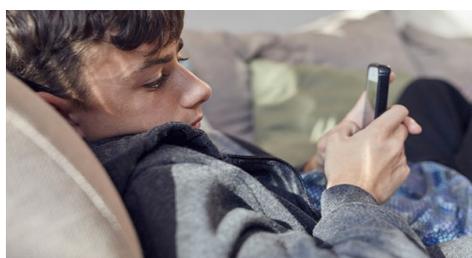
TIP OF THE WEEK



ONLINE SAFETY GUIDES FOR PARENTS: The online world changes so quickly it's hard to keep up. The NSPCC Online Safety Guides help you navigate online risks - whether your kids are gaming, chatting, posting or streaming.

Online Games: Advice for parent to understand the risks and help your child play online games safely.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>



Social Media: Find out about different social media platforms and how to help children stay safe when using them.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/>



Internet Connected Devices: Get advice about what internet connected devices or toys are and how to keep your child safe.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/internet-connected-devices/>



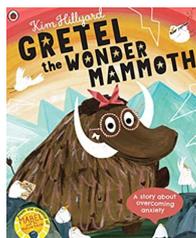
Important Dates

01/02/23 - 28/02/23	The LGBT+ History Month
13/02/23 - 17/02/23	Spring Half Term
21/02/23	Safer Internet Day
22/02/23	S6 Science Trip to Ladywell Fields
27/02/23 - 03/03/23	Y5 School Journey
27/02/23	S4 & S5 Science Trip to Ladywell Fields
06/03/23 - 10/03/23	British Science Week
10/03/23	Science Fair
08/03/23	International Women's Day
10/03/23	World Mental Health Day
17/03/23	Red Nose Day
31/03/23	World Book Day
03/04/23 - 14/04/23	Easter Holidays
21/04/23	Earth Day
01/05/23	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
08/05/23	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
09/05/23 - 12/05/23	KS2 SATs Week
26/05/23	London History Day
29/05/23 - 02/06/23	Summer Half Term
05/06/23	INSET Day (School Closed)
23/06/23	Sports Day
26/06/2023 - 30/06/23	Buddy Week
03/07/23	Reports Sent Home
05/07/23	Open Morning
06/07/23	Parents Evening
14/07/23	Dance-a-Thon
21/07/23	INSET Day (School Closed)





MRS WRIGHT'S READS OF THE WEEK



Age
4-5

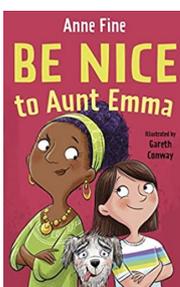
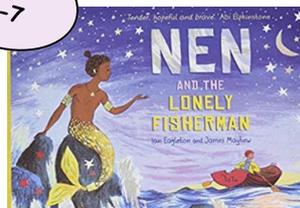
Gretel The Wonder Mammoth written & illustrated by Kim Hillyard

One peaceful Tuesday morning, a loud CRACK could be heard as the last mammoth on earth broke free from her icy shell - here comes Gretel the Wonder Mammoth! Everyone is so excited to meet her but as she settles into her new life, Gretel starts to feel a little overwhelmed and even a bit lonely...

Nen and The Lonley Fisherman written by Ian Eagleton and illustrated by Mayhew

Age
6-7

Far out to sea and deep below the whispering waves lives a merman called Nen. Nen spends his days exploring his underwater kingdom, but something is missing: his heart is empty. So, Nen ventures to the forbidden world above and it is here that he meets Ernest, a lonely fisherman. But can two people from different worlds be together and what will happen when a terrifying storm gathers? A lyrical, beautiful celebration of love, acceptance and faith, with a gentle message about how we treat our oceans, and each other.



Age
8-9

Be Nice To Aunt Emma written by Anne Fine and illustrated by Gareth Conway

There are many reasons why Tansy dreads Aunt Emma coming to visit. She's rude, she's boring, and Tansy has to give up her room so Aunt Emma can sleep there. And every year Dad makes Tansy promise to be nice – even when Aunt Emma is awful. But this year, when Tansy is left alone with Aunt Emma, she decides she's going to be the nicest she's ever been – so sickly sweet that it'll drive Aunt Emma crazy! Let the games begin ...

The Secret Sunshine Project written by Benjamin Dean

Bea's family are happy. Like, really happy. Like, kind of gross but also cute happy. So when they visit London Pride together and have the ultimate day out, Bea doesn't think her family could possibly get any happier. But a year later, a grey cloud is following Bea's family around. Dad has passed away, and without him around they have no choice but to pack their bags and move to the countryside to live with Gran.

With Bea's big sister, Riley, taking the news hard, Bea will do anything to cheer her up. So with the help of new friends, The Secret Sunshine Project is formed – Bea's plan to bring Pride to the countryside and a smile back to Riley's face. There's just one teeny tiny problem – the village mayor. A grumpy old woman who's on a mission to rain on Bea's parade ...



Age
10-11

Lexia provides targeted practice and instruction students need to develop their reading skills.

Lexia Superstars: Well done to all of the children who have been on the Lexia programme this week.

Special congratulations to the following children who completed a level this week!

Elias (S4)

Max (E3)

Ansiga (E3)

Ayaan (E1)

