



GORDONBROCK WEEKLY

Friday 3rd March 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers.

It has been another great week at Gordonbrock, with fantastic learning opportunities in and out of the classroom. At the beginning of the week two year 2 classes visited Ladywell Fields for a science field trip, the other year 2 class went on their field trip last week.

On Monday we waved goodbye to Year 5 classes who have had a wonderful time at their 5 day residential trip to the PGL Marchants Hill Centre. Judging by the happy, but tired, faces on their return, everyone had a fabulous time and we hope to share more details with you next week.

We are looking forward to British Science Week next week. Mrs Gibbons has planned some fantastic activities that will be taking place throughout the week. Keep an eye out for a special edition weekly celebrating our work during British Science week.

We are also looking forward to World Book Day on 31st March! Start thinking about your costume now and remember: you don't have to spend a fortune. DIY costumes with materials you may already have at home are kinder on the environment. There are lots of great ideas here: <https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up-ideas/>.

Have a restful weekend and I look forward to seeing you back to school on Monday.

Mrs Wright

*Next week, we will be celebrating **British Science Week**.*

At Gordonbrock, the children are encouraged to continually wonder about the world and engage with Science practically as often as possible. British Science Week provides opportunities for us to do that on a larger scale, and we have got many exciting things planned!

The theme this year is 'Connections' and we will be exploring this in a variety of ways. Children in Year 6 will be connecting with children in Early Years and KS1 by leading a Science Fair involving lots of different experiments and activities.

Children in Years 3, 4 and 5 will be making connections between Art and Science and creating pieces of artwork in their own classes.

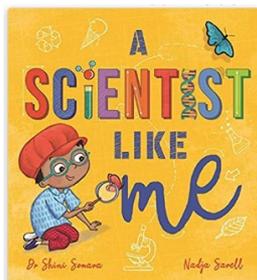
There will also be other activities taking place throughout the week, including a poster competition based on this year's theme. We look forward to sharing what we have been doing with you in the coming weeks!

In preparation for British Science Week why not access the resources outlined below to refresh your scientific skills:

EYFS

Read 'A Scientist Like Me' written by Nadja Sarell.

Electrifying illustrations and an empowering story combine to introduce young readers to the world of science, observation and problem-solving.



KS1 & KS2

BITESIZE

Have a look at the learner guides from BBC Bitesize that outline how to work scientifically, looking at topics like: what is science?, why do scientists ask question? & how do scientists use their findings?

Link for KS1: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z8q9pbk/year/zjppqp3>

Link for KS2: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqkk7ty>

Mrs Gibbons, Science Leader





Established in 2007, by Leila Thomas, a former Gordonbrock parent, Urban Synergy is an award winning, early intervention mentoring charity that helps young people, between 10-18 years of age, reach their full potential through outcome-focused mentoring programmes and inspirational seminars.

E-seminar with Y6

Urban Synergy utilise individuals from a variety of professions who voluntarily offer young people (mentees) support, guidance and encouragement to achieve their best. The charity believes that high profile role models from all walks of life can make a positive difference to a young person's life and in a relatively short amount of time, Urban Synergy has become a dynamic force for positive change.

On the day of the seminar, the children met inspirational individuals from a variety of professions and industries. Our visitors talked with Year 6 about their own career journeys from primary school to their present occupations. The children had the opportunity to take part in a 'question and answer' session.

"Last week we were visited by a panel of mentors for an e-seminar. You may be wondering, if you don't already know, what on earth an e-seminar is – it is a Zoom meeting where they told us about their jobs and then at the end we asked them questions. Some of them had interesting stories to tell, and some of them had to work hard to get to where they are now, like Nitin, Siobhan and Jordan. Overall, I enjoyed the experience and found it all very interesting." **Jude**

"Urban Synergy was amazing!!! Never in my life have I learned so much about people's careers. Siobhan Elliot, paramedic, inspired me the most. She talked about determination and to never give up and these words are to be forever kept in my memory." **Ava-Rae**

"On Friday 24th February Urban Synergy hosted an e-seminar. We met five people who told us about their jobs and told us some great advice. It was an amazing experience and I learned a lot from it." **Lola**

"Inspiring! Unforgettable! Those are just two of the many words I would use to describe our excellent e-seminar last week. Last Friday, we were lucky enough to have a panel of five mentors answering our questions and explaining the ups and downs of their careers. Personally, Jordan Williams from the London Fire Brigade was very inspiring because he had lots of useful advice to share. He said: 'Be respectful, don't be afraid of change and stay focused.'" **Izzy**

"It was great to learn about 5 people's careers. Siobhan, Simon, Nicole, Nitin and Jordan told us about their lives and what they do. The "top tip" that I have taken from Nicole was "never give up". I learned so much on that day and I really enjoyed it and I will like to have another if it's possible." **Faustino**

"Last Friday 5 inspirational people came for an e-seminar to give us (Year 6) top tips and advice for reaching our dream job. Siobhan inspired me the most because she can be dispatched throughout the day or night and will probably see 5 patients a day (which I find amazing). She has been a paramedic for 5 years and started working at King's College in London." **Jess**

The person that I was most inspired by was Simon Raper, a data scientist who followed his dream since he was a little boy. It took him 10 years to get his full qualifications and even longer to found his company, Coppelia Machine Learning and Analytics. **Ché**

We spoke to 5 panelists. My favourite was Jordan, the firefighter. I enjoyed everybody else but what he said was just what seemed to be the most important and he gave some great tips such as: go to bed early, keep trying, believe in what you are doing and enjoy what you're doing! **Lily**

"I found Jordan particularly inspiring in the way that he saves people's lives on a daily basis, even though he knows it could be dangerous. It made me feel very hopeful about my future and my dream career when Nitin said not to let anybody put you off doing what you want to do, and when Jordan said, 'Don't be afraid of change – it pushes us forward.'" **Scarlett**

"I found it very enjoyable, because there were so many inspirational people. My favourite was Simon Raper, because he was interesting and inspiring. He started his own company, which was a very big risk, because if you don't have any clients, you will not be able to make any money. I was also very impressed by Siobhan Elliott. She was a paramedic and love the fact that every day in her job was different and exciting. Now she is always ready for a call, whenever it comes. One of the other panelists, Nitin Parmar (who works at the London Stock Exchange) told us about the value of kindness in work. He said that people will like you if you're kind and then are more likely to hire you. Finally, I would just like to thank you on behalf of the whole of Aquamarine 4." **Dylan**





E-seminar with Y6

"On Friday the 24th of February we had a Urban Synergy e-Seminar and we talked to 5 people about their jobs. I will never forget this day because these 5 people inspired me to never give up and follow my dreams, even if they sound impossible.

The most inspiring person for me was Jordan Williams. He is a firefighter and he is so kind he said "Never give up and just keep on trying until you do it."

Finally, my top tip is try and try again until you succeed." **Joe**

"These 5 people I can describe as being wonderful, amazing and inspirational. Simon, who is a computer scientist, said enjoy what you do." **Rosa**

"I think that Nitin , who works at the London Stock Exchange, was very inspiring and showed a lot of perseverance throughout his school life because he failed his GCSEs twice but kept going and eventually achieved his goal." **Poppy**

"When I heard robots, I was buzzing with ideas." **Francis**

"I enjoyed learning about everyone's different careers, especially the paramedic, Siobhan Elliot. She was inspirational. She saves 5-6 lives everyday she has to be brave because if she is scared she might unsettle patients. She just has to be ready to go and that shows dedication. I think anyone who can save a life is an inspiration.

"To be honest, I really liked it and I'm ready for secondary school." **Salma**

I found it very useful to start planning a career or future or hearing about them everyone on The panel were inspirational." **Lucia**

Well Done Myrtle

Well done to Myrtle in Reception who had a big haircut this week, she has kindly donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust.



After



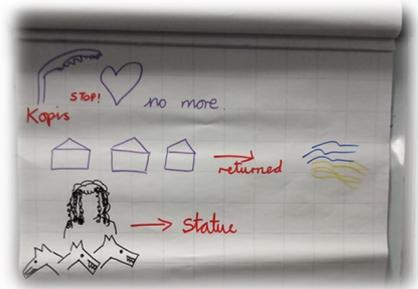
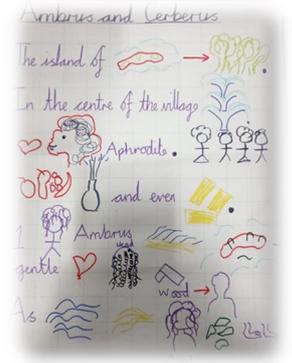
Before

"I cut my hair and it didn't stay at the hairdressers. It's gone to the Little Princess Trust and they will use it for children that don't have hair because they are sick."

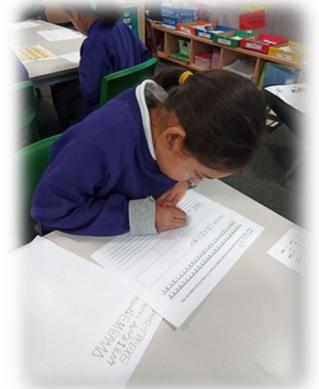
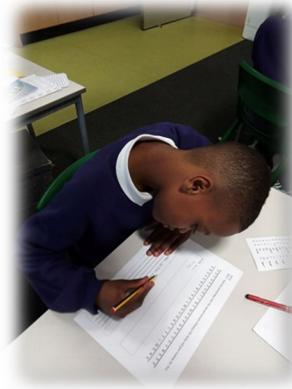
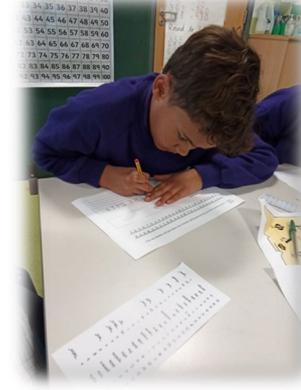
What a great reason for a big chop Myrtle. We are all very proud of you!

Year 4

This week we retold our model text by Text mapping. We created actions and images!



In History we used the Greek Alphabet to write secret messages!



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.ttrockstars.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.



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 5: School Journey

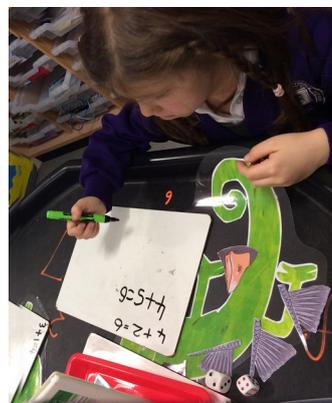
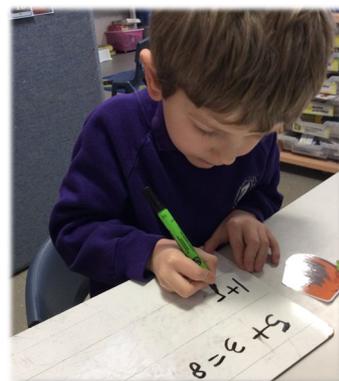
Year 5 have enjoyed a wonderful residential trip to the PGL centre in Marchants Hill: they were able to take part in lots of fun activities.



Lots more pictures to follow next week.

Reception

In reception we have immersed ourselves in the story of 'the mixed-up chameleon' written by Eric Carle. We have applied our addition knowledge and added body parts to create our very own mixed up chameleons just like in the book. We enjoyed guessing different animal paw prints and have discussed where in the world certain animals live.



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:

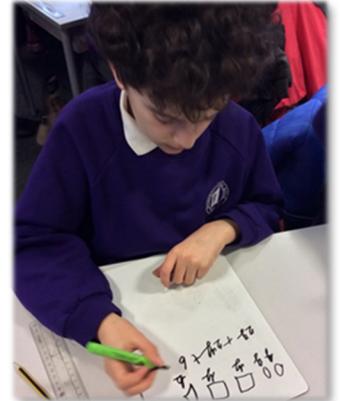
<https://ops.collinsopenpage.com/sso/login?service=https%3A//ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/wr/index.html&eulogin=true>

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



Year 6

Year 6 have continued planning and writing a formal, persuasive argument in the form of a letter. We have been working on a range of topics in Maths, including percentages, coordinates, translation, reflection, algebra and angles. During Science lessons, with the help of the Mr Men and Little Miss characters, we have started to learn how inherited characteristics are passed from parents to their offspring. We have been learning about how archaeologists use what they find to make inferences about the past by going through the contents of a bin and seeing what we can learn about the owner. In P.E., Jason has been putting us through our paces by testing our fitness levels and stamina through circuit training.



LATENESS

Learning starts at 9:00 am

This means the children need to be here by 8:55am, when the bell goes, to ensure they are in class and ready to start learning at 9:00am.

If the children arrive late on a regular basis they are missing

LOST MINUTES =
LOST LEARNING!



Year 3

This week in Year 3, we have been creating our own creatures to write non-chronological reports about. We designed a meal for our creatures and used technical vocabulary to describe it. We created a habitat for our creatures where we considered what the surrounding environment might be like, where they might sleep and who they might live with.



We also explored the tomb of two men from Ancient Egypt and found out details about their lives using clues. We were able to crack the hieroglyphic codes to learn about them and then put all of the facts together in a historical non-chronological report.



	Indoor	Outdoor
S1	Thur	Fri
S2	Thur	Tue
S3	Mon	Tue
S4	Fri	Mon
S5	Tue	Thur
S6	Mon	Wed
E1	Fri	Tue
E2	Fri	Tue
E3	Tue	Thur
E4	Tue	Fri
E5	Thur	Fri
E6	Fri	Thur
A1	Mon	Tue
A2	Thur	Tue
A3	Mon	Wed
A4	Wed	Mon
A5	Mon	Wed
A6	Wed	Mon

PE Time Table & PE Kit

This term's PE Times for each class are outlined in the table on the left.

Your child should wear their PE kit to school on their PE day. PE kit expectations are outlined in the table below.

PE Kit	
Indoor PE	Outdoor PE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plain white, round neck short-sleeved t-shirt • plain navy/black shorts. (Plain navy/black tracksuit bottoms or joggers & Gordonbrock school sweatshirt may be worn on top and then taken off before the lesson.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plain white, round neck short-sleeved t-shirt • plain navy/black tracksuit bottoms / joggers or shorts (depending on the weather) & Gordonbrock school sweatshirt • trainers



ONLINE SAFETY
TIP OF THE WEEK



FAKE NEWS - 4 QUICK CHECKS: Not everything we see online is truthful, but it can be hard to tell the difference between fact and fiction.

Here are a few quick tips for young people to help them distinguish between the two when reading articles online:

Who posted it?: Who is the author? It should be easy to find who/what organisation is behind an article - is it a reliable organisation?

Can you trust them? Have you heard of them before? What else have they published? Check out the 'About Us' section on their website, if they haven't got one you may question why. Can you find them on other sites?

You can also check if other mainstream news outlets or websites are reporting the same story - if they aren't, it doesn't necessarily mean it's not true, but it may mean that you should look into it further. Generally, the more news websites that publish a story, the more likely it is to be true.

When was it posted?: Sometimes old news stories are shared on social media, either accidentally or to make it seem that something has happened recently. It's always worth checking the date the article was published. If there is no date then you could try checking other news websites to see if the same story has been shared.

You can also search for the image caption or headline with Google to check if it has appeared before.

Why was it created?: Think about why the article has been created and how the creators might want you to think or behave. There are a number of reasons why a fake article might be published. Sometimes it could be to change your beliefs about something, or to prompt an extreme reaction. Sometimes the aim might be to make money through getting lots of people to click on the link - these types of articles are often referred to as click bait. Other times it could be because the people who publish an article, bloggers, journalists etc. haven't checked the facts as thoroughly as they should. Don't worry it's not always clear why something has been published. If you are still unsure then talk to a trusted adult about what you have read online.

What is it saying?: It is easy to create a story that looks realistic, but isn't actually true. Check what the article is saying - has this been reported elsewhere? Are the facts accurate? Are the images used actually from that story? Could the images have been edited or cropped to change what you can see? Fact-checking sites like www.politifact.com or www.snopes.com enable you to check facts or fake news, while you can use Google Reverse Image Search to check an image.

This useful [CBBC article about spotting fake news](#) explains further about how to identify the different types of articles that may not be true.

Important Dates

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
22/03/23	World Water Day
22/03/23	Year 5 Mayan Architecture Workshop
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
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)

We endeavour to be a **NUT-FREE SCHOOL**
Please help us to achieve this aim by not sending any nuts or nut containing products into school. This extends to sesame seeds, too.
Thank you for your support in this matter.

BIRTHDAY TREATS: Please note we are not currently accepting any treats to share with the class in celebration of birthdays.

MRS WRIGHT'S READS OF THE WEEK



Age 4-5

Don't Ask the Dragon written by Lemn Sissay and illustrated by Greg Stobbs

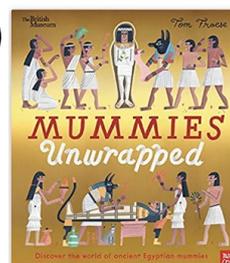
This is the story of a little boy called Alem who goes on an adventure.

It's his birthday, but who knows where he can go to celebrate it? Maybe the bear, the fox, the treefrog or the bulldog know? But don't ask the dragon . . . or he will EAT you!

Mummies Unwrapped written by Tom Froese

Age 6-7

What is a mummy? How exactly were they made? And is there really such a thing as a mummy's curse? Find out the answers to these questions and many more, in this gruesome guide to the mummification process. Filled with grisly detail, you'll uncover secrets of the embalmers, tales of the tomb robbers and even what happened when pets were mummified! Meet some famous mummies from around the world, from Tutankhamun to the 'unlucky mummy', and find out what happened when archaeologists discovered mummies thousands of years after they were buried . . .



Age 8-9

Sleepover Takeover written by Simon James Green and illustrated by Aleksei Bitskoff

For Otis, this was a sleepover to remember - if only he could!



When dorky, unpopular 11-yr-old Otis wakes up in the morning at a sleepover birthday party, he's in for a shock. At the marquee where the sleepover took place, it's a scene of carnage and mayhem: there's a donkey drinking at the chocolate fountain, a huge inflatable helium sausage looms above, doves everywhere, one of the kids has a tattoo, and there's a suitcase of bratwurst on the floor! But what's weirdest of all, neither Otis nor the other kids can remember what happened!

The party was in the back garden of popular kid Rocco Rococo's huge house, and Otis was only there because his mum forced an invitation. Otis realizes that makes him Prime Suspect for causing the mess, and he needs to clear his name.

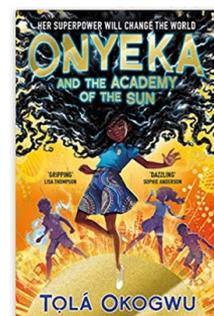
Meanwhile, Rocco just needs to keep his parents from finding out! So while everyone else makes a befuddled exit, Otis and Rocco reluctantly team up to hide the evidence. They decide to retrace their steps in the hope of solving the mystery...

Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun written by Tola Okogwu

Age 10-11

Onyeka has a lot of hair – the kind that makes strangers stop in the street. She's always felt insecure about her vibrant curls, until she makes an important discovery: she can control her hair with her mind!

Her mother quickly whisks her off to the Academy of the Sun, a school in Nigeria where Solari – children with superpowers – are trained. But Onyeka and her new friends at the Academy soon have to put their powers to the test as they find themselves caught up in an epic battle . . . one that puts the future of all Solari at risk.



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.

<https://www.madeformums.com/toddler-and-preschool/last-minute-easy-world-book-day-costumes/>

SAVE THE DATE

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

Gordonbrock School

Breakfast Club



Gordonbrock School Breakfast Club runs daily from 7:45am to the start of the school day for children in Reception to Year 6.

Children are offered a healthy breakfast which consists of:

- a selection of cereals (Rice Crispies, Cheerios, Porridge, Weetabix or Shreddies)
- a selection of fruit when available
- toast with a variety of toppings (butter, honey, jam, or Marmite)
- fruit squash or milk to drink

The cost of the club is £5.00 per session.

We currently have the following spaces available:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
14	0	0	14	23

For more information or to request a place please email:

breakfastclub@gordonbrock.lewisham.sch.uk