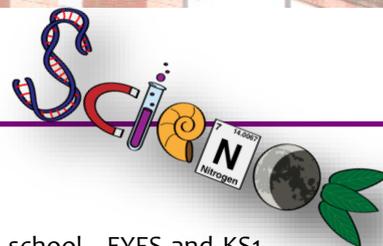


GORDONBROCK WEEKLY

Friday 10th March 2023



Dear Parents/Carers.

What another busy but great week it has been at Gordonbrock, with so much going on!

We have all been scientists this week as we have celebrated British Science Week across the school. EYFS and KS1 children have enjoyed a Science Fair, hosted by Year 6, on Friday. Children in Y3-5 have been busy creating science-linked art.

We will share all of the British Science Week news with you in a special-edition Weekly very soon. Also, keep a look out for our Science exhibition in a couple of weeks —this will showcase the children’s art work as well as photos from our Science Fair event. We can’t wait to welcome you to see it after school on Friday 24 March.

We also enjoyed celebrating International Women's Day this week. Throughout the week we held different assemblies focussing on International Women's Day. I talked to the KS1 children on Monday about some of our amazing female scientists. A child in Year 1 commented in the assembly to say, *‘It is important we celebrate the day as all women need to know they can be whatever they want to be!’*

I am pleased to be able to inform you of a few dates for the diary. The photographers will be in school on Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March 2023 to take individual and sibling photos. We have also finalised the date for the final INSET day which will be held on **Friday 26th May 2023**. Please also check for another email from us today with information regarding industrial action planned for next week.

Mrs Wright

Have a fabulous weekend everyone and see you all on Monday!



This year, on Friday 17th March, Gordonbrock will be supporting Red Nose Day and also raising money for the UNICEF Turkey and Syria Earthquake appeal.

Gordonbrock has always been a supporter of Red Nose Day and the good work which they do around the world, and the GB children always very much enjoy the day.

FRIDAY 17 MARCH Children are invited to dress in red, or wear an item of red clothing with their school uniform. If your child has PE on a Friday, please could you ensure they wear clothing they can move freely in.

This year, as a UNICEF Rights Respecting school, we would also like to donate money to their earthquake appeal for Turkey and Syria and we hope to build on this fundraising later in the year. If you are able to donate cash on the day, this will be given to the UNICEF appeal.



In support of our fundraising efforts, please donate £1 via ParentPay (for Comic Relief) or in cash on the day (for UNICEF).

To donate to Comic Relief, donations can be made via ParentPay, use the following link: <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=11298>

Look out for members of the School Council who will be available in the playground at drop off and pick up with the collection buckets for the UNICEF appeal.

We very much look forward to fundraising together, as a community, on the day.

Any amount of money that you are able to donate will be greatly appreciated.

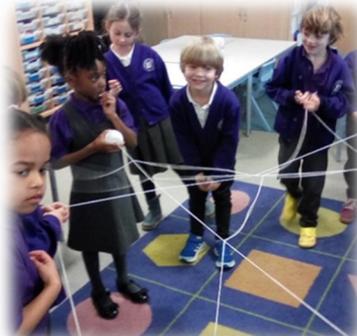


At the end of last half term, the children of Gordonbrock celebrated Children's Mental Health Week. As a school, we thought about how connecting with others can support our mental health and wellbeing.

To start the week, Miss Long and Mrs Aylward did an assembly based on this year's theme 'Let's Connect'. The children were encouraged to think about all of the people in their lives that they connect with and how spending time with others, and doing things that we love can make them feel happy.

During the week, the children had the opportunity to explore the theme further in class and also with their Buddy Classes.

On Friday afternoon, the children participated in a 'Let's Connect Hour' where they engaged in whole class activities to further develop their connections with their peers. As always, the children showed great enthusiasm whilst developing their understanding of how to look after their own and other people's mental health.



Year 2

The children in Year 2 have been amazing team players this week.

In Maths, we started off by measuring a range of objects using centimetres. We then used these accurate measuring skills to create paper robots by calculating, measuring and problem solving in our teams.



Which animal has a purple tongue?

Some of the children in Year 2 know the answer as we have been reading non-fiction texts and recording information about animals in English. In fact, we are now animal experts! Each table was responsible for researching a different animal, looking at their diet, habitat and other interesting facts.
(Answer: a giraffe!)

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!

3 days lost

5 minutes late

6.5 days lost

10 minutes late

10 days lost

15 minutes late

13 days lost

20 minutes late

19 days lost

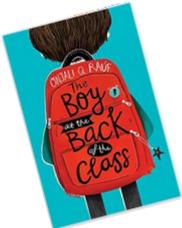
30 minutes late

Year 4

This week we used a dictionary and a thesaurus to edit, improve and publish our Myth and Legend stories.



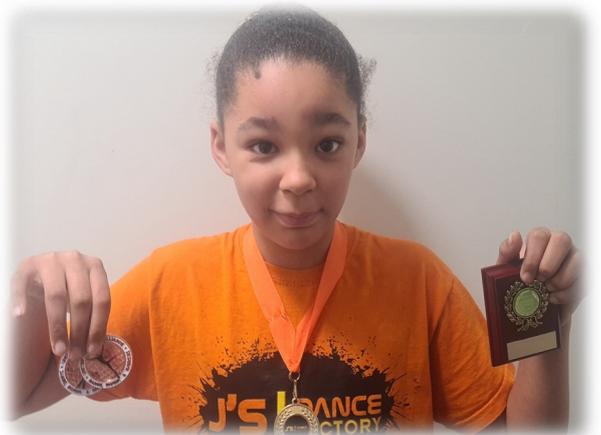
We also continued reading our whole class book, *The Boy At The Back Of The Class* by Onjali Q Rauf.



Well Done Renae

Congratulations to Renae who completed three dance examinations recently. She received highly commended in all three dances and the following awards:

- Tap - Bronze Award
- Ballet - Bronze Award
- Street Dance - Amateur Award



Year 3

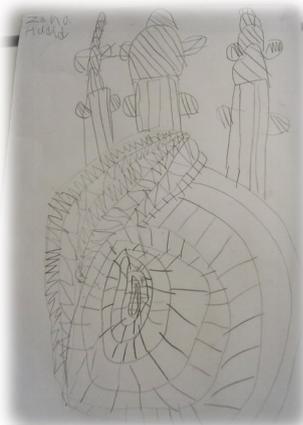
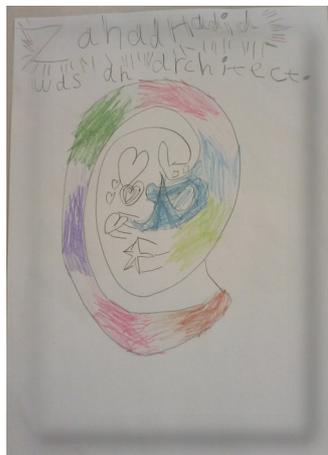
We have been revising and applying our knowledge of the formal methods for addition, subtraction and multiplication. We have worked together and used Rally Coach to support our shoulder partners with understanding the methods.



We have also enjoyed celebrating International Women's Day! We learned about lots of different influential women through our assemblies and researched other influential women such as Emmeline Pankhurst in class.

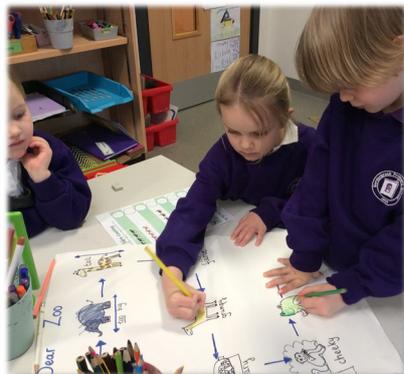
Year 1

On International Women's Day, Year 1 learnt about Zaha Hadid. Zaha Hadid grew up in Baghdad and from an early age had been interested in architecture. She studied maths in Beirut before studying architecture in London. She went on to design some of the most outstanding buildings in the world- including the London 2012 Olympic Aquatic centre. We then designed our own curved structures – just like Zaha's!



Reception

Reception children are very much enjoying our Animal topic. We have been exploring lots of concepts through playing with them: being vets and groomers; mathematicians who use different means to measure animals; scientists discovering dinosaurs and their young, hatching from some strange eggs; zoologists looking after their zoo animals; artists- creating our own animals masks made out of paper plates!



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 who will be able to send a reminder home.



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!

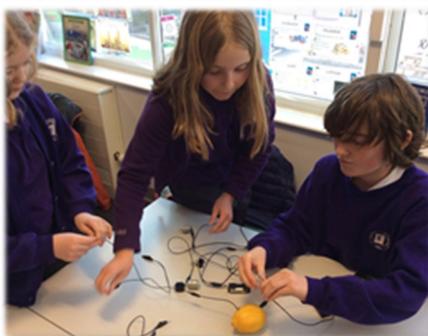
The children should go to <https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/3584> and login using their login details.

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 who will be able to send a reminder home.

Year 6

We have had another very busy week in Year 6. The children have risen to the challenge of writing a persuasive argument (in the form of a letter) to someone who has the power to make change. They have realised how skilled they need to be in arguing their case without alienating the recipient of the message. In Maths, the children have continued learning about expressions, formulae and equations in algebra, and have been putting their skills and knowledge to use when tackling word problems across a range of maths topics. The children have developed their detective skills in History, piecing together the available evidence about ancient artefacts, as well as the contents of a rubbish bin, in order to suggest what the objects are, who they think they may have belonged to and what their function is/ was. In Science, the Year 6 children have been busy preparing for a mini Science fair which they will be leading for the younger children in school. Mrs Gibbons came and talked to us about the activities and then we had a go. All three classes are working hard on their samba compositions, and they are shaping up nicely.



Well Done Jess

Little Princess Trust

Huge congratulations go to Jess who has been awarded a Blue Peter silver badge for her amazing act of kindness. In the latter part of 2022, Jess generously donated inches of her hair to the Little Princess Trust – a charity that provides free real hair wigs to children and young people, up to 24 years, who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions. She received a Blue Peter silver badge this week. We are very proud of you Jess!





Music with Mr Prescott



"What a wonderful world!"

Congratulations to both our junior and senior choirs performing What a Wonderful World in our singing assembly this week. Every singer was outstanding in their crispy voices, dynamic range from piano to fort  and their expressive sign language!



Wednesday 8th March was International Woman's day and during our music assembly we focused in on four trailblazers who were resilient and defiant in creating better gender equality in the music industry. One stat we focused in on was from a report in 2022 only 2.1% women are credited as music producers. Ariana Grande wants to change this.

Ariana Grande is a musical trailblazer who inspires woman around the world with not only her four-octave vocal range but her incredible music production skills. Ariana started her career at aged 15 in the 2008 Broadway musical 13. From there she started covering songs on YouTube and looping layered harmonies in the music studio. In 2023 Ariana is now one of the biggest female artists in the world having had six no.1 hits and winning two Grammy awards.

If you would like to make music like Ariana visit one of these D.A.W's (Digital Audio Workstations) that she would use too:

- *KS2: BandLab a free music software to create your own track - <https://www.bandlab.com/>*
- *KS1: Chrome music lab - <https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com>*



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





ONLINE SAFETY
TIP OF THE WEEK



ONLINE WELLBEING - going online should be a positive experience for all children. But the internet can be a difficult place for them to navigate. It can be hard to know the real from the fake, how to avoid seeing negative content, or what to do if a mistake is made.

The NSPCC have six top tips to help your child feel good about how they use the internet.

- Screen-time savvy:** Spending less time on screens is a great way to improve wellbeing both online and offline. Try setting some limits and boundaries surrounding screens and make use of the wellbeing settings on apps such as Instagram and TikTok, or on your devices.
- Navigate the negative:** Children can see things online that make them feel upset, angry, or cause low self-esteem. If this happens, encourage them to mute or block accounts that do this. They can also use settings that block words, phrases, or posts they don't want to see. Encourage them to make their online space a positive one!
- Seeing isn't believing:** Remind your child that not everything they see or hear online is true. Encourage them to regularly question what they're viewing. This includes content that might be making them feel bad about themselves, or like they're missing out. If this does happen, you could talk to your child about filters, edited images or the fact that people usually post about the best bits of their lives rather than the boring, everyday bits.
- Mistakes happen:** If your child makes a mistake online, such as getting into an argument or sharing personal information, be understanding. You could use this mistake as a learning opportunity! This is a part of building digital resilience, which will help you all feel better about being online.
- Take the lead:** Your children look to you as an example. Make sure you're acting on your own online wellbeing advice - doing things like taking breaks and not engaging with negative content.
- Get chatting:** Have regular chats with your child about what they like doing online and how it makes them feel. Don't forget to talk about the positives of being online as much as the negatives, and really listen to what they're telling you. #

More Info: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-wellbeing/positively-online/>

Important Dates

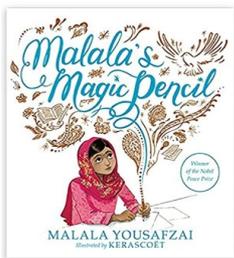
08/03/23	International Women's Day
10/03/23	World Mental Health Day
17/03/23	Red Nose Day
22/03/23	World Water Day
22/03/23	Year 5 Mayan Architecture Workshop
28/03/23 & 29/03/23	Individual and Sibling Photos
31/03/23	World Book Day
03/04/23 - 14/04/23	Easter Holidays
21/04/23	Earth Day
01/05/23	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
08/05/23	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
09/05/23 - 12/05/23	KS2 SATs Week
26/05/2023	INSET Day (School Closed)
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 FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Malala's Magic Pencil written by Malala Yousafzai and illustrated by Kerascoët

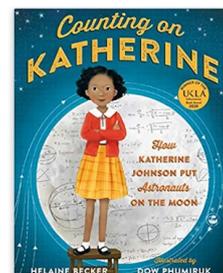
As a child in Pakistan, Malala made a wish for a magic pencil. She would use it to make everyone happy, to erase the smell of garbage from her city, to sleep an extra hour in the morning. But as she grew older, Malala saw that there were more important things to wish for. She saw a world that needed fixing. And even if she never found a magic pencil, Malala realized that she could still work hard every day to make her wishes come true.

Age
4-8

Age
5-9

Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Put Astronauts on the Moon written by Helen Becker and illustrated by Dow Phumiruk

As a child, Katherine loved to count. She counted the steps on the road, the number of dishes and spoons she washed in the kitchen sink, everything! Boundless, curious, and excited by calculations, young Katherine longed to know as much as she could about maths, about the universe . . .



Age
8-9



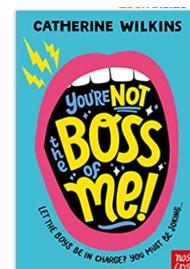
101 Awesome Women Who Changed Our World written by Julia Adams and illustrated by Louise Wright

This beautifully illustrated book is packed with bitesize biographies of activists, leaders, athletes, artists, explorers, and STEM innovators. From the celebrated to the overlooked, these women overcame odds, defied expectations and shattered stereotypes and their stories are sure to inspire young readers and encourage them to dream big.

You're Not the Boss of Me! written by Catherine Wilkins

Amy Miller is a very positive person and she is fully prepared to be the star of the school Comedy Show. But when Harry is put in charge, he stops her from performing or writing or doing anything fun. Amy can't understand what's happening until her sister tells her: Harry is being sexist, and Amy must take a stand. Armed only with killer one-liners, Amy goes into battle to fight for her right to make people laugh.

Age
9-12



All Together Now written by Eve Ainsworth



It's 1920, and the Dick, Kerr Girls football team have a new member training with them! Martha - little sister to Hettie and Freddie - has finally been given her chance to swap street kickabouts with the local lads for the chance to play alongside the world's best female footballers. But Martha has more to worry about than keeping up with the older girls. She's dealing with new and confusing feelings; things at home are hard; and the future of women's football in general is under threat.

Age
10+

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!



The Eco Team have been working on an idea to help reduce waste as well as encouraging your child to have a chance to read new things!

Gordonbrock School

Brought to you by the

BOOK

SWAP



The Gordonbrock School Eco Warriors are proud to present to you the first ever Gordonbrock School Book Swap!

This book swap will be open to years 1-6. If you bring 1 book you will be allowed to swap for another book.

So not only do you get to say goodbye to the books you no longer need / want you also get new books to read and enjoy. **BONUS ECO POINTS ALL ROUND!**



What we need you to do:
Please donate any books, that are in good condition and you no longer need to your class teacher. We will be accepting donations from Monday 13th March 2023 to Thursday 23rd March 2023.

Remember to keep one book aside for the day of the book swap.

Please note only age-appropriate books will be given to your child.