

GORDONBROCK WEEKLY

8 December 2023



Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 13 December 2023

No need to buy a new jumper. Why not decorate an old jumper or just wear a plain bright-coloured jumper instead?

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a busy but brilliant week at Gordonbrock. Reception's Christmas Performance on Monday was enjoyed by all—the children made us feel incredibly proud as they sang and danced their hearts out, and with such confidence, too. Well done to all involved!

A group of Year 5 children were invited to support Ladywell Fields User Group in planting tree saplings in the Tiny Forest this afternoon. Thank you to Mr Walker and Caroline for inviting us!

By the time you have chance to read this week's Weekly, you have hopefully enjoyed FOG's winter fair. A huge thank you in advance to FOG for their extraordinary efforts in raising money for the school.

A reminder to register your interest in clubs by 9am on Monday, 11 December. We aim to process this information as quickly as possible so that you know whether your child has a confirmed place or not.

We're looking forward to another week full of festivities next week. We've got Christmas performances from Year 1 (Friday) and Year 2 (Tuesday), and Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day (Wednesday). I, for one, cannot wait! Have wonderful weekends!

Mrs Wright

Planting Trees @ Tiny Forest, Ladywell Fields

We feel very lucky to have been invited to take part in a tree planting session at Tiny Forest in Ladywell Fields this afternoon. It was a great opportunity for our children to connect with nature, enhance their wellbeing, help mitigate the impacts of climate change and provide a nature-rich habitat to support urban wildlife. A group of Year 5 children represented the school in the best possible way by supporting Ladywell Fields User Group in their community planting event.



Year 3



We have had a busy week in Year 3! Last Friday, we were treated to a talk from Grace's Grandmother who was alive during the Second World War. She told us all about her life during that time and about her brother who was evacuated to the countryside. It was fascinating listening to her and we are very grateful to her for coming in!



We have also continued with our Art unit for this half term. We are looking at portraits and have been using Tamara de Lempicka as our focus artist. After studying her portraits, we have been exploring lines and shading on pictures of ourselves. We have also started colour-mixing as part of our preparations for our final piece. We can't wait to share the outcomes with you soon!

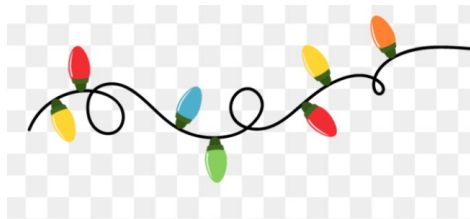
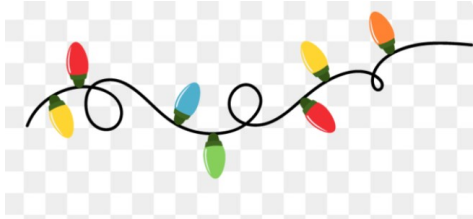


Year 3

Finally, we have been working hard to learn all of our songs for the upcoming Christmas performance.

Mr Prescott has been working with us and we are looking forward to showing you what we have been doing at our performance at the end of term!

Not long to wait, now!

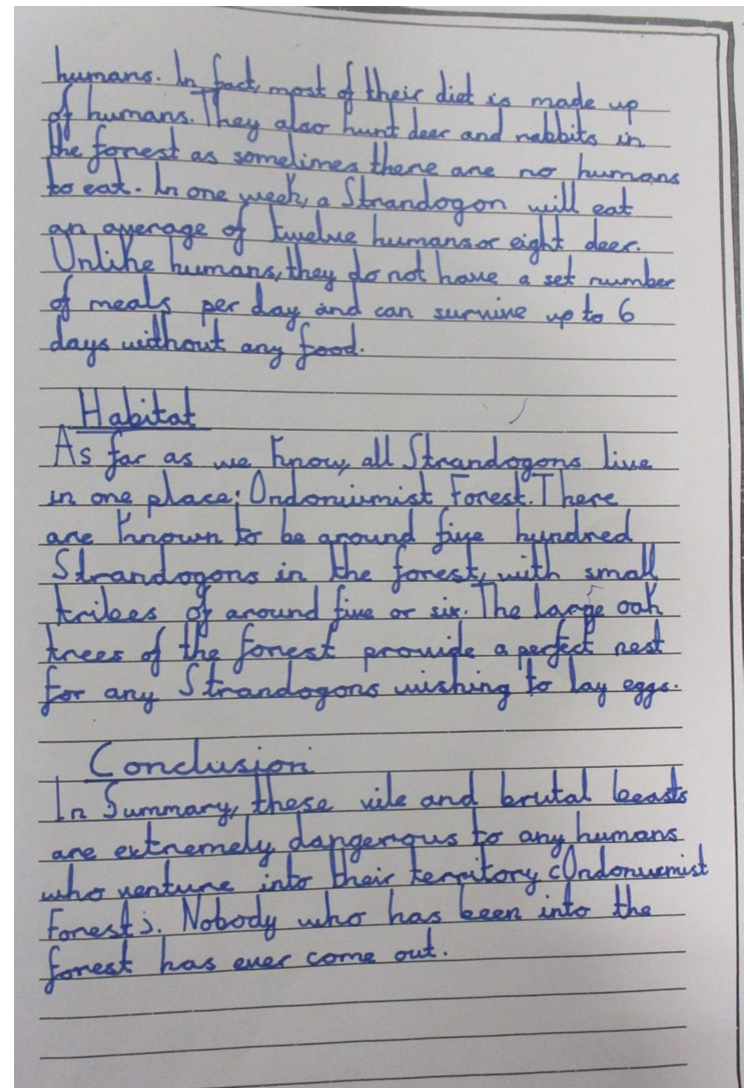
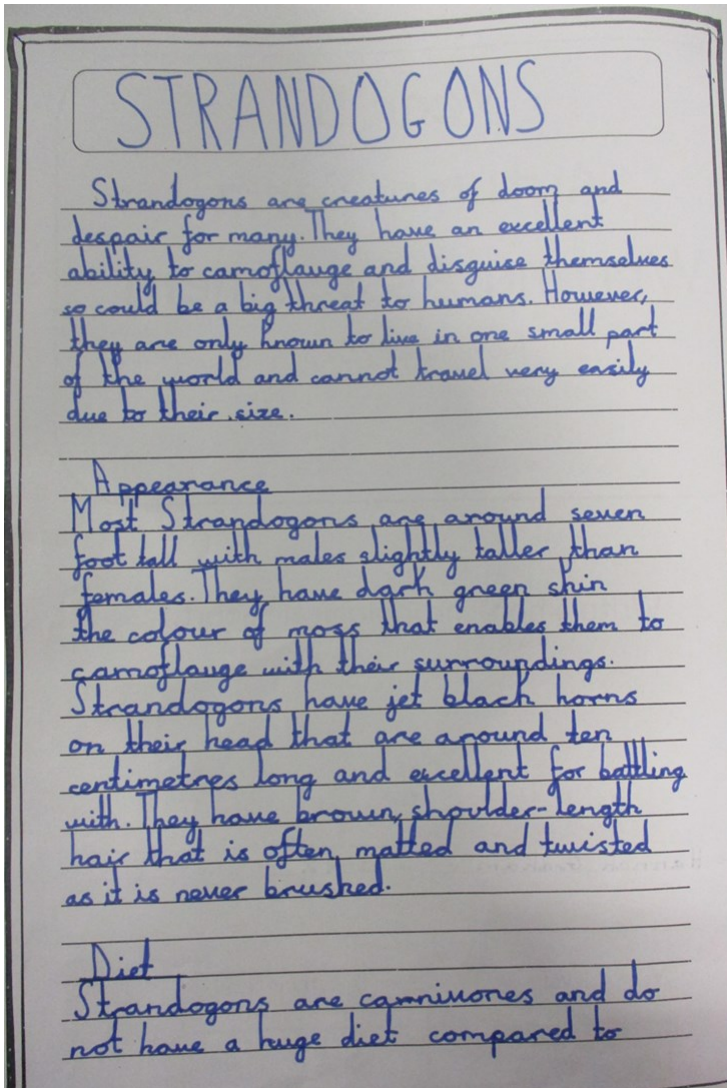


iations

Continuous line drawing



Hannah (A2)



Year 5 have been busy in English lessons, linking their History and writing. The focus was to gather facts about mythical beast from the Anglo-Saxon period to create and write about their own beast. They've really enjoyed this incredibly creative writing project!

Freehand writing

Cross-hatching

Line variations

Continuous line drawing





Indigo (A2)

Waterwolfs

Waterwolfs are unlike other wolves and as you might have just noticed they are spelt differently when it's plural as Waterwolf is Waterwolfs and wolf is wolves. The first ever born Waterwolf was, in the Anglo-Saxons period. That's how long they've been alive for they are extremely good at swimming which I think you probably wouldn't expect.

Appearance

Waterwolfs have very sharp claws that can make blood come out of someone in an instant. Their hideous teeth can bite a face right off with just one single bite. Surprisingly Waterwolfs have no hips so if someone asks you if Waterwolfs have hips, you'll know the answer and you'll say no they don't. Their legs are pretty long and they have tiny bugs on their teeth.

Diet

Waterwolfs diet include humans, sand from the sea, air, water from the ocean, and fish. The fish that Waterwolfs eat the most are goldfishes but one of

their favorite fish to eat is Jellyfish. The biggest food they eat is humans around 6ft tall. You may be wondering how they get air, well they just suck it in and they drink water.

Habitat

Waterwolfs have always lived in the ocean and the ocean you'll find them most in is the Pacific ocean where there is around 300 of them. If one of them sees an extremely dangerous animal, they will just find a hiding spot to hide in. They live at the bottom of the ocean where they can eat loads of sand.

If you see a Waterwolf remember this extremely important tip, run swim as fast as you can but make sure it doesn't blink or you will immediately die. That's how easy it is for them to kill someone and that is all about Waterwolfs.


Feeling inspired by Year 5's writing? Why not create your own mythical or fantasy creature and write about it? Be the expert and write an introduction and then a section for appearance, diet, habitat and behavior. Your teachers would love to see your work!





REMINDER: CLASS BIRTHDAY TREATS

Whilst it is a very kind gesture, please note we do not accept any treats to share with the class in celebration of birthdays.



REMINDER: FRUIT SNACKS IN CLASS

EYFS and KS1 children are provided with a mid-morning fruit snack everyday.

KS2 children are welcome to bring in an apple, pear, banana or orange as their mid-morning snack everyday.

PE Kit REMINDER:

Parents/Carers please remember to send your child(ren) to school wearing their PE kit on the day they have PE.

Please could you also ensure that they are wearing the correct PE kit.

- Plain black/navy tracksuit bottoms
- Plain black/navy shorts for indoor PE (these can be worn under plain black/navy tracksuit bottoms in colder weather)
- Plain white round neck t-shirt



Lateness

Arriving late into school can affect your child's attendance.

So far this term **85 hours and 16 minutes** learning time has been lost due to lateness with children arriving late on **197 occasions**.

Lateness = lost learning (Figures below are calculated over a school year)	
5 mins late each day	3 days lost!
10 mins late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 mins late each day	10 days lost!
20 mins late each day	13 days lost!
30 mins late each day	19 days lost!

Don't let your child miss out!

Get your child to school on time. If they are late they have a bad start to the day. If your child arrives late for class:

- They miss out on important learning.
- They don't have the social time to settle into class.
- It can be embarrassing for them.
- It may disrupt the learning of the rest of the class.

What you can do:

- Have a regular routine for the start of each day.
- Help your child get their clothes and bag ready before they go to bed.
- Set a reasonable bed time to make sure they get enough sleep.



Article of the Week

UN Convention on the Right of the Child

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.

Article 29: Children's education should help them fully develop their personalities, talents and abilities. It should teach them to understand their own rights, and to respect other people's rights, cultures and differences. It should help them to live peacefully and protect the environment. Check out this UNICEF video for more information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6F7le1Z07aM>



PUPIL PREMIUM (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

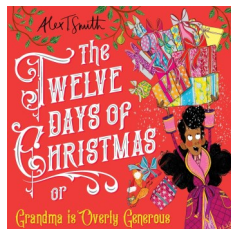
<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/student-pupil-support/free-school-meals-and-extra-support-for-your-child>



Mrs Wright's Recommended Reads

On the first day of Christmas my Grandma sent to me . . .

Grandma's presents may start off sensible – a partridge is easy enough to take care of – but her generosity soon gets wildly out of hand . . .



Age 5 -9

The Twelve Days of Christmas: Or Grandma is Overly Generous is a witty new take on the festive classic The Twelve Days of Christmas.



Age 6-7

Sara and her family are getting ready for Chanukah - which means delicious foods, including cookies! But then she notices one man who doesn't seem to eat much at all, let alone Chanukah treats. Sara decides to try and help.

Lexia Superstars: Well done to all of the children who have been on the Lexia programme over the past week. Special congratulations to the following children who completed a level during the past two weeks!





Free Christmas Events in London: Things to do with the children

Throughout December 2023

See the Christmas Lights at the following places

- Oxford Street, including Selfridges Window displays
- St. Christopher's Place
- Covent Garden
- Carnaby Street
- Regent Street
- Glasshouse Street, Swallow Street and Quadrant Arcade—new Christmas installations
- Belgravia
- Marylebone

Go walking with the Snowman in Fleet Street: <https://wildinart.co.uk/events/walking-with-the-snowman-at-fleet-street-quarter/>

09.12.23

Christmas Early Explorer Morning (ASC friendly): <https://www.ltmuseum.co.uk/whats-on/family-events/christmas-early-explorer-morning>

09.12.23

SouthBank Centre—Youth Voices: <https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/family-young-people/southbank-centre-youth-voices-winter-song>

09.12.23

Time Travel Club: Festive Fun om Richmond: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/time-travel-club-festive-fun-day-tickets-737143976477>

09.12.23

Family Day at Westminster Abbey: <https://www.westminster-abbey.org/abbey-events/family/2023/december/family-day-christmas-at-the-abbey-1>

10.12.23

Christmas Cracker making at Old Royal Naval College: <https://ornc.org/whats-on/family-sundays/>

10.12.23

SouthBank Centre—Warriors: <https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/gigs/tomorrows-warriors-extraordinary-winter-showcase?eventId=969572>

See Museum Mum for more ideas: <https://museummum.com/2023/11/14/free-christmas-london/>

21.12.23

Christmas Special Musuem Late at the Bank of England: <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/museum/whats-on/2023/christmas-special>





New technologies inspire children to be creative, communicate and learn. However, while the internet is a great resource, it is important that children and young people are protected from the risks they may encounter.

WEEK 2

It's week 2 of Find the Fake as part of the a three part series to developing children's awareness of fake news. Click on the link below to take part in this family quiz for under 11s.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/fake-news-and-misinformation-advice-hub/find-the-fake/choose-quiz/>



Has someone done something online that has made you or a child or young person you know, feel worried or unsafe? Make a report to one of CEOP's experienced Child Protection Advisors by clicking on the 'Click CEOP button'.



Pupils and parents can access over 1000 levelled e-books at home with the Big Cat e-book 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/ss0/login?service=https%3A//ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/wr/index.html&eulogin=true>

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 who will be able to send a reminder home.

We endeavour to be a NUT AND SESAME-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.



**IMPORTANT DATES**

01/12/23—31/12/23	Disability History Month
12/12/23	KS1 Christmas Performance (Year 2 Parents) 2:15pm
13/12/23	Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas Jumper Day
15/12/23	KS1 Christmas Performance (Year 1 Parents) 2:15pm
18/12/23	Year 5 & 6 Indoor Performance 2:15pm
19/12/23	Year 3 & 4 Indoor Performance 2:15pm
20/12/23	Last Day of Autumn Term 2
21/12/23—05/01/24	Christmas Holidays
08/01/24	First Day of Spring Term 1
05/02/24—11/02/23	Children's Mental Health Week
07/02/23	Opening Morning
08/02/23	Parents' Evening
09/02/23	Cake and Fruit Day
12/02/24 - 16/02/24	Half-Term
19/02/24	First Day of Spring Term 2
29/03/24 - 12/04/23	Easter Holidays
15/04/24	First Day of Summer Term 1
06/05/24	Bank Holiday (school closed to pupils)
27/05/2024 - 31/05/24	Half - Term
03/06/24	First Day of Summer Term 2 — INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)
25/07/24	Last Day of Term - INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)

