



19 January 2024

GORDONBROCK WEEKLY

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful first couple of weeks back we've had! Even with the cold snap, the children have quickly settled back into their school routines and shown great interest in their new learning for this term. Each class has started or is just about to start their new Context for Learning—our history or geography-focussed theme for term. As well as the overarching enquiry question, the children will have the opportunity to share their own current knowledge about the topic and ask questions. Pupil voice is so important to us at Gordonbrock and these contributions are incorporated into teacher's planning: the learning journey is very much guided by the pupils. We can't wait to see their outcomes!

A reminder that all clubs and music tuition has started now.

Please check your child's book bag for their Achievement Ladder for Spring Term. The Ladder helps inform you how your child is getting on so far this year, and includes some activities for you to support your child with at home.

Wishing you a great weekend and we look forward to seeing you all next week .

Mrs Wright

CLUBS

Thank you for the many positive comments we have received about the new approach to club sign-up.

We really appreciate your feedback and hope that the new approach continues to provide opportunities for all going forwards.

We hope that the children have enjoyed their first week of clubs.

Year 3

We have had a great start to 2024 in Year 3!

We have been enjoying our new topics in P.E. In Outdoor P.E., we have been learning dodgeball, which is a new sport for us this half term. In Indoor P.E., we have started our latest dance topic based on Ancient Egypt. We had good fun this week trying to make shapes that looked like hieroglyphics!



In R.E., we have started learning about Islam. We began this by gaining an overview of the main beliefs, which included looking at different objects associated with the religion. We then considered what makes a good leader and thought about the characteristics of people that we believe make good leaders.

In English, we have started a new book called, 'Frog Belly Rat Bone.' We have been immersing ourselves in the story and particularly enjoyed making our own sock monsters!



Nursery

This term, the Nursery children have been learning about 'People Who Help Us'.

We have been reading stories and non-fiction books about firefighters, builders, police officers, doctors, dentists, and doing role play in the doctors' surgery and on the construction site outside. This has stimulated lots of interesting conversations and encouraged the children to write about the jobs they wish to do in the future!

It has been exciting to see the children so involved and doing so much mark-making and writing using their phonic knowledge.

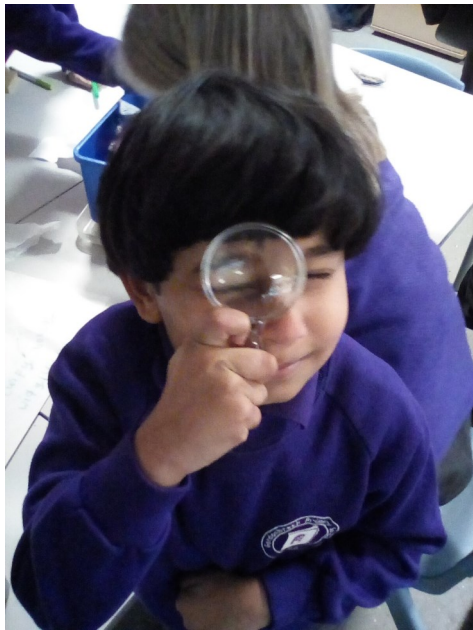
We have also been investigating the properties of ice and water and been experimenting with snow-play and creating winter pictures.



Year 1

We've had a brilliant start to the Spring Term in Year 1, with practical learning aplenty.

In Science, we've starting our new topic exploring properties of materials. To start with, we identified and named a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock. We will be learning to describe the simple physical properties of these materials, and comparing and grouping them based on their properties.

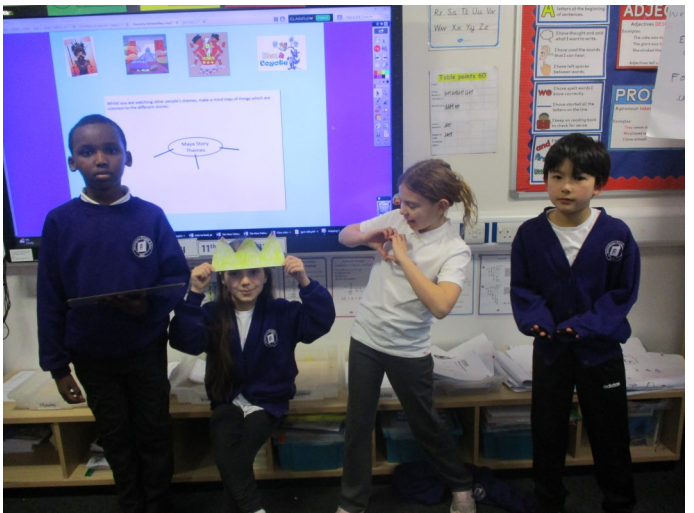
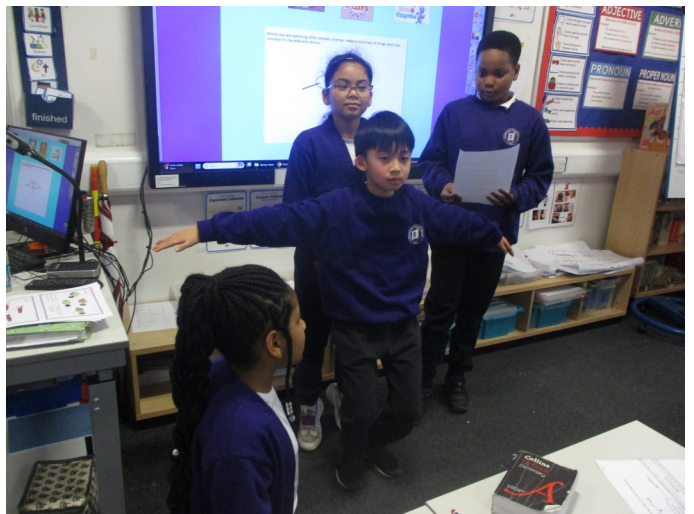
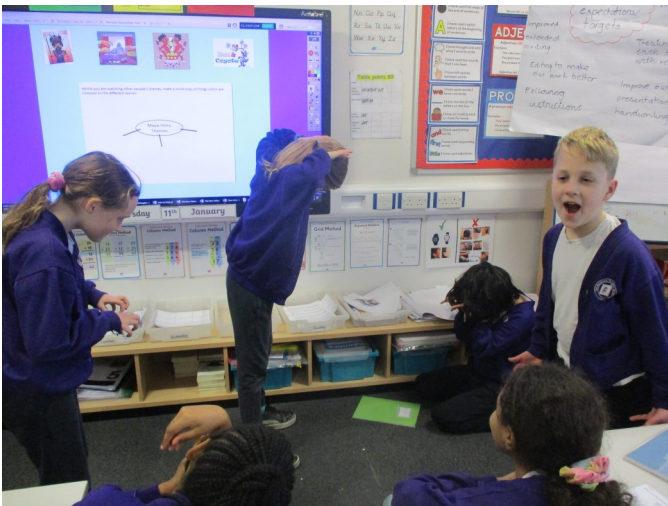
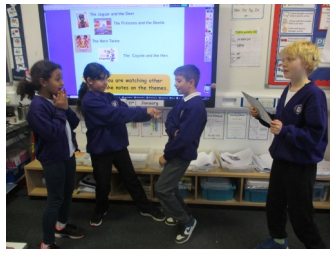


In Computing, we programmed BeeBots. These simple programmable rovers provide our pupils with a great introduction to algorithms and algorithmic thinking. By watching and feeding back on each other's efforts, they undertake simple debugging.



Year 5

We worked in groups to read a range of Maya creation stories. We summarised each story, making sure we included the main parts, in five sentences. We then used drama to retell the story. From our dramatization, we were able to identify different themes and similarities which we recorded on a mind-map.



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 13:

Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.



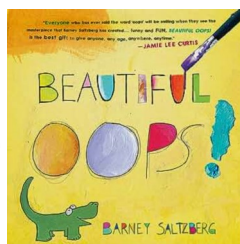
PUPIL PREMIUM (Free School Meals)

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

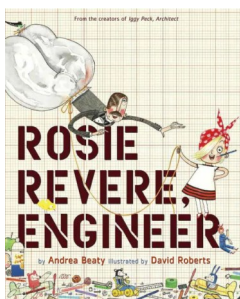
<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myserVICES/education/student-pupil-support/free-school-meals-and-extra-support-for-your-child>

Mrs Wright's Recommend Reads



Every mistake can lead to a beautiful new adventure: That's the lovely life lesson behind this inspiring board book full of pop-ups, pull-the-flaps, and pretty amazing not to mention surprising feats of paper engineering.

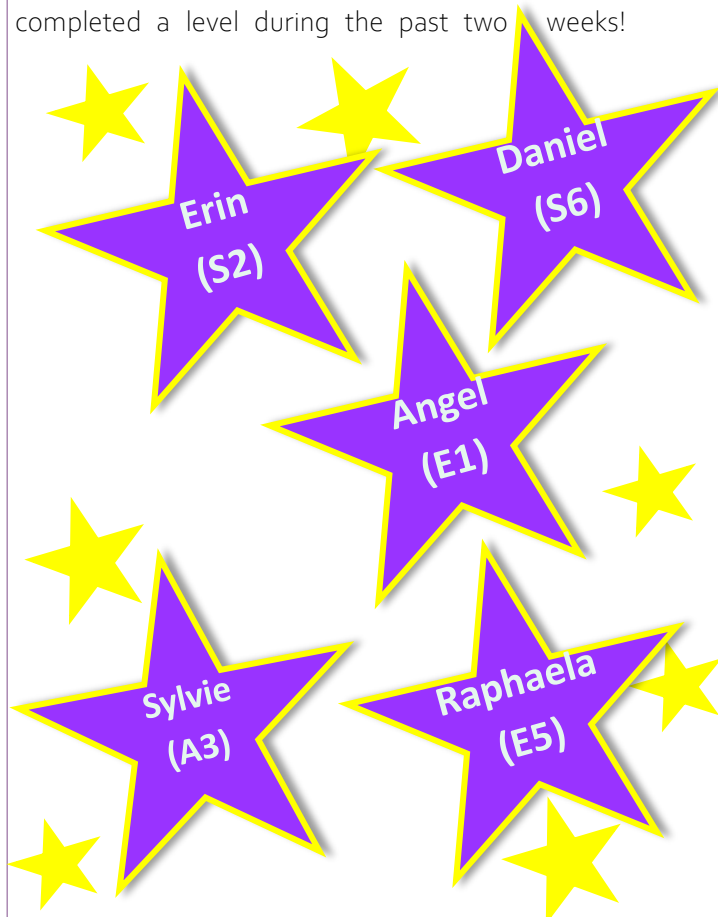
Age 4-8



Age 8-10

Rosie may seem quiet during the day, but at night she's a brilliant inventor of gizmos and gadgets who dreams of becoming a great engineer. Rosie attempts a test flight—but after a moment, the machine crashes to the ground. Discouraged, Rosie deems the invention a failure, but Aunt Rose insists that on the contrary, it was a raging success. You can only truly fail, she explains, if you quit.

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!



UNIFORM

School uniform can be ordered on ParentPay.

Orders placed between Thursday 8.30am and Tuesday 8.30am will be delivered to class on Tuesday.

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

BIRTHDAY TREATS

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



Lateness

Arriving late into school can affect your child's attendance. Since September there have been 115 hours and 47 minutes lost to lateness.

| 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.



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/ssq/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.





Explorers for Young Mums

If you are aged 16 to 25
come and join us at our
new stay & play session
for babies and children
aged 0-5 years.



starts on 10th November

Fridays

1.00pm - 2.00pm

Bellingham Children & Family Centre

109 Randlesdown Road,
SE6 3HB



To book your place go to
www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/booking-form/
or call **Bellingham CFC** 07513 727793



www.lewishamcfc.org.uk

@lewishamchildrencentres @lewishamcfc

Oral Health

The Oral Health Team will be joining us with 'Top Tips' for parents with children under 5 years at our Explorers Plus session.



Getting started
Brushing techniques
Caring for your child's teeth
**Make a referral to the
Specialist Dentistry Team**



Explorers Plus
Tuesday
23rd January 2024
10:00am - 11:30am
**Bellingham Children &
Family Centre**
**109 Randlesdown Road,
SE6 3HB**

Explorers Plus runs every Tuesday, in partnership with Portage, for parents and carers who are concerned that their child is not meeting their milestones and would like support with their child's development.

To book your place
Text or leave a message 07513 727793
or visit lewishamcfc.org.uk/booking-form

IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 22/01/24 | School Journey Information Meeting for Y5 Parents (5.30pm, Main Hall) |
| 26/01/24 | Year 5 Trip to Horniman |
| 26/01/24 | Year 6 Talk Consent Workshops |
| wb 29/01/24 | Year 5 Bikeability |
| wb 29/01/24 | Buddy Week |
| February | LGBT+ History Month |
| wb. 05/02/24 | Children's Mental Health Week |
| 07/02/24 | Open Morning |
| 08/02/24 | Parents' Evening |
| 09/02/24 | Cake and Fruit Day |
| 12/02/24 - 16/02/24 | Half-Term |
| 19/02/24 | First Day of Spring Term 2 |
| wb. 26/02/24 | Year 5 School Journey (Residential Trip) |
| 05/03/24 | Year 4 Assembly |
| 07/03/24 | World Book Day |
| 22/03/24 | FOG Spring Disco |
| 29/03/24 - 12/04/24 | 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) |