

15 March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another brilliant week at Gordonbrock! We have explored many scientific concepts this week—keep reading on to find out what you children have been up to on the next page!

A short update on clubs - Clubs offers for Chess, Choir, Coding, Design Club, Taekwondo and Yoga have been made today. Please check your email (for Chess and Taekwondo) and ParentPay (for Choir, Coding, Design and Yoga). If you have not received a message, your child have not been successful in the first ballot, but we will run a second ballot in the event of clubs place being available after the payment deadline. Offers for all Teachsport clubs and Philosophy Club will be made early next week.

Finally, we came together to celebrate Red Nose Day. It was great to see everyone in lots of items of red. We are currently counting all the donations but we want to thank you in advance for your generosity! We hope you have a relaxing weekend and we will see you next week.

Mrs Wright







*This week at Gordonbrock, we celebrated British Science Week! Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 began the week with a Doctor Who-themed assembly linked to this year's theme: Time. The children were asked to travel through time in their own imaginary T.A.R.D.I.S.'s and find out about some of the amazing discoveries of scientists from the past. The children began their learning this week and some year groups will be continuing to explore their scientists further during the rest of this half term.*

#### Nursery and Reception

*Children in the early years have been learning about Science all half term through their topic on animals. This all culminated in a very well-timed trip to Battersea Zoo during British Science Week itself.*

#### Year 1

*Children in Year 1 learned about George James Symons who invented a rain gauge that we still use today. Across the year group, they completed some art work linked to this and created a dance to a song all about the seasons. They had a dress rehearsal and performed it beautifully for the whole class!*

#### Year 2

*Year 2 learned about marine biologist, Rachel Carson. As well as being famous for writing books about ocean life, she helped advance understanding of conservation in the oceans. The children will be creating posters to showcase all of their wonderful learning.*

#### Year 3

*In Year 3, the children learned about Marie Curie with a particular focus on the work she did with x-rays. The children created timelines about Marie Curie's life and used the skills they are gaining from their printing unit in Art to create their own 'x-rays.'*

#### Year 4

*The scientist visited by Year 4 was Washington Sheffield, the inventor of modern toothpaste. This linked really well to the unit of work being completed in Year 4 this term, which is all about the food chains and the human body. The children created fact files and will be making models of teeth out of plasticine.*

#### Year 5

*Children in Year 5 looked at the work completed by Dr Angela Self and Steve Brooks with The National History Museum. They focused on how butterflies are adapting their appearance in response to climate change. They used what they learned from their visit to the Horniman Museum butterfly house and their Living Things and Their Habitats Science unit to create butterflies that camouflage into the classroom environment.*

#### Year 6

*Children in Year 6 have been learning about scientists across time. They also spent some time focusing on Rosalind Franklin and discussed her impact on our understanding of DNA. They also explored how being a woman has impacted on the recognition she has received for her work.*

*Remember that EVERYONE at Gordonbrock is a scientist and that the most important thing to do in Science is WONDER.*

*Mrs Gibbons - Science Leader*





## Reception

The Reception children had a fantastic first school trip experience to Battersea Zoo! The children thoroughly enjoyed the Gruffalo story and looking for the mouse within the animal enclosures. We saw reptiles (including a chameleon!), ponies, emus, meerkats, otters and many more. It was great for the children to experience these animals in real life. The playground was also a big hit and all the children enjoyed playing on the fire engine, helicopter and various climbing frames! They also got to explore the sand pit and water trays and enjoyed making puddles! I think it is fair to say they were all very happy and tired on the journey home! Thank you to all the volunteers for making it such a safe and successful event!





## Year 6

In Year 6, we were lucky to have an interactive learning session, presented by James and Mike from Transport for London, who came to visit us at school. They taught us about safe and responsible travel on public transport, which included journey planning tips and the benefits of active travel.



Ezra A4 "I felt the workshop was really helpful and I learnt that you shouldn't walk through the door between carriage on a train when it is moving, as it can be dangerous. I heard lots of useful things and I am grateful for the information."



Arthur A4 "I liked the way the presentation was done with the 3D city simulation. We learned that a Zip card can save you a lot of money! We also learned not to stand too close to the road as a double decker bus weighs 12 tonnes."



Aaliyah A4 "I really like the presentation by TLF. I learn a lot about being safe on public transport. For example, when you are standing waiting for a bus or train, you should stand a distance of your height plus one step back, away from the pavement or platform edge. You should also make sure you have an Oyster card and tap it correctly on the yellow pad, to make sure you are recording your travel."



## Year 6



Shaun A5 "If you're on public transport and someone is doing something bad, move away and tell someone ASAP."

Ivaylo A5 "Show respect to the staff and members of the public. It's your choice to make someone's day. You can use the TFL Go App to plan your journey, but don't forget to have a backup plan."

Simra A5 "I would like to thank James from Transport for London (TFL) and Mike a police community support officer (PCSO) for visiting Year 6 to prepare us for transitioning to secondary school. Once more, thanks for giving us the safety rules."

Nasirah A5 "Did you know that backdraft (the air that a train makes when it is moving) can knock you off your feet. This is why you should stand your height and a big step behind the yellow line on the platform."

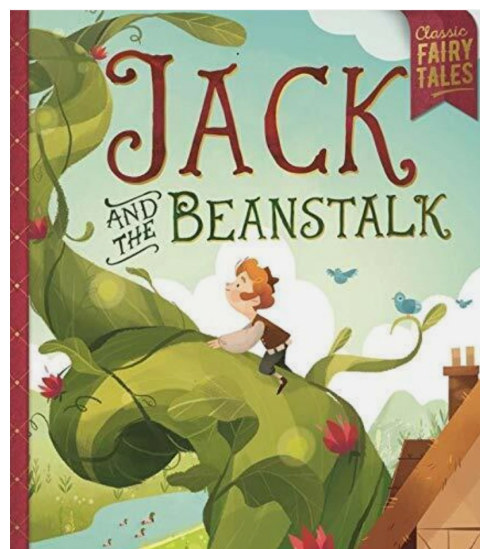
Shumesh A6 "I like the presentation itself and how it changed from day to night and night to day. It gave me tips to feel safe."

Jimmy A6 "It is amazing that a £15 Zip card can save so much money; thousands of pounds over five years!"

Nouh A6 "It was to find out tips on staying safe while travelling – it means I am much less able to get in trouble because I know the right things to do."

Has your child already got a Zip card? If not, order here: <https://tfl.gov.uk/fares/free-and-discounted-travel/11-15-zip-oyster-photocard>

The children in Sapphire 3 have been writing their own versions of the story *Jack and the Beanstalk*.



Once upon a time  
there was a ~~little~~ smart  
boy called Oliver and  
his mum who live in  
a old house. They in  
had no money. One day  
mum told Oliver to  
sell a cow so Oliver  
Went to the market  
. He met an old man  
that who gave 7  
sweets. Mum was fure  
she frue them out  
of the window. That  
night, a giant tree  
grew! unfortunately  
he head booming footsteps  
and saw a shark  
who count his cards.





Once a ~~pon~~ upon a time there was a  
 girl called Lusy and her mum. They  
 lived in a rusty old house. ~~the~~ They had  
 no money. One day Lusy's Mum told Lusy to  
 see ~~see~~ the cows so Lusy went to the market.  
 She saw a old man. The old man gave to Lusy  
 five magic seeds. Lusy's Mum was furious  
 and she ~~threw~~ threw them out of the window.  
 That night dark night a ~~beafy~~ magic  
 bean stalk grew. Unfortunately he heard  
 huge foot steps and saw a giant. He was  
 counting his golden eggs. FE FI FO FUM! I  
 smell the blood of a ~~ing~~ English ~~man~~ man. Lusy  
 hid under the ~~table~~ table. Luckily the  
 giant fell asleep. In a flash Lusy went  
 down the bean stalk. Lusy chopped the  
 bean stalk. Lusy and her mum ~~lived~~  
 happily ever after. Unfortunately she  
 heard giant foot steps and saw a giant  
 counting his ~~egg~~ golden eggs. FE FI  
 FO FUM I smell the blood of a English  
 man. Lusy hid under the table.  
 Luckily the giant fell asleep. In a flash  
 Lusy went down the bean stalk.  
 The giant ~~chast~~ Lusy. Lusy ~~chopped~~  
 the bean stalk. Lusy and her  
 Mum lived happily ever after.



## Sporting News - Swimming Gala 8/03/2024

Once again, Gordonbrock attended the annual Lewisham Primary Swimming Gala competition run by Saxon Crown. For those unfamiliar with the event, more than a dozen schools, including Gordonbrock, were invited to attend a swimming competition at Glassmill Leisure Centre. At the event, the schools took part in several swimming disciplines such as backstroke, freestyle (front crawl), breaststroke and butterfly. There were also two relay events, one is freestyle the other is a medley of different strokes.

We have a good record at the gala and this year we took a strong group of swimmers and were confident of doing well once again. Our team was made up of 14 children from year 5 and 6, they are listed below. Some swimmers were given more events than others, depending on their own preferences and strengths. These were decided before the event started by myself and Jason. On the day of the event we decided who should take part in the relay races, this was based on how they performed in their individual events and their energy levels. This event is very long and can be very tiring for those taking part, especially if you are in more than one event. But all involved gave 100% effort at all times and performed excellently.

The team was fantastic, and were able to bring back several medals for themselves and Gordonbrock. A massive congratulations to the whole team, due to their hard work, Gordonbrock finished the event second overall! Only narrowly losing out to St. Dunstan's. Special mentions for Ellen Trofimczuk who earned Best Year 5 Girl overall, Toby Nutt who came second place in Best Year 5 Boy overall and Evie Lewis who came second in Best Year 6 Girl overall. The whole team made myself and Jason proud and were exceptional in representing Gordonbrock.

Well done to: Ellen Trofimczuk, Alice Phillips, Isabel Greeves, Ben Kirton, Toby Nutt, Justin Arnold, Evie Lewis, Anoushka Kotecha, Gracie Coombes, Penelope Patwa, Leo Bird, Gus Griffiths, Orion Coney and Zachary Hughes.

A big thank you to Jason for coaching and to the parents and carers for attending and supporting the team.

Mr. Costello



## Sporting News - Football

Our final league weekend arrived on a lovely sunny day. This was due to be the weekend when both teams would be playing for the title, as it turned out a school in the girls' league pulled out and so they were awarded the league title without having to play their final game. Congratulations to the girls! The boys were in a different position, they had two competitive games to play, and if results went their way then they would also be crowned champions.

The first game for the boys was against Dowlerry, with our direct rivals Baring playing against Prendergast at the same time. The boys and adults were all confident that they could win. However, the team really struggled to stamp their authority on the game and at half time the score was 0-0. In the Baring fixture, they were also 0-0. Meaning if we won and that Baring score stayed the same, then we would be champions. Knowing this, Jason made some tactical changes and with a rousing team talk, sent them out to win the second half. And win they did with some great attacking play by Shaun, who bagged two goals and ending the game 2-0. The Baring fixture ended 0-0 too, so making the boys League Champions for the third year in a row! POTM went to Shaun for his attacking play and work rate.

As the team were champions regardless of the result in their final game against Baring, the pressure was off. However, they had a new goal – finishing the league undefeated! This game was very tough, once again Gordonbrock boys were not showing their best form in the first half and Baring were deservedly leading 1-0 heading into the final 5 minutes. A rash challenge by one of their defenders on Jeremy was awarded a penalty and Luther calmly slotted it home. The game was nervy but it ended 1-1. POTM went to Sean for his amazing performance in goal, keeping us in the game several times with his shot-stopping ability and calm presence.

Confirmation of league standings:

Girls – Champions

Boys – Champions

Both teams qualify for the League Cup, fixtures to be held after Easter holidays.

Boys: Luther (Captain), Cassius, Shaun, Shalomon, Alfie, Jeremy, Sam, Toby, Sean, Leonardo

A big thank you to Jason for coaching, the parents and carers for attending and supporting the team.

Mr. Costello



# SPRING DISCO

**FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH**

**4.30-5.45 PM RECEPTION, YEARS 1 & 2**

**6-7.30 PM YEARS 3, 4, 5, 6**

**TICKETS £3.50 PER PERSON**

ADULT AND CHILD TICKETS, INCLUDING SIBLINGS ARE £3.50 EACH.  
(BABIES UNDER 1 YEAR-OLD ARE FREE).

**BUY TICKETS IN BOTH PLAYGROUNDS  
FROM MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

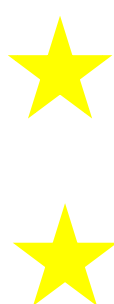


**F O G**  
Friends of Gordonbrock



**Lexia Superstars:** Well done to all of the children who have been on the Lexia programme over the past week. A special congratulations to this week's Lexia Superstar who completed a level during the past two weeks!

**PRACTISE**  
makes  
**PROGRESS,**  
**NOT**  
**PERFECT.**



**All sessions are FREE and start, unless otherwise stated, from Monday 19th February - Thursday 28th March 2024.**

To ensure that all parents get a chance to book onto a session, bookings for multiple weeks cannot be accepted.



**Ladywell Children and Family Centre 30 Rushey Mead, SE4 1JJ**

To book go to [www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/booking-form](http://www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/booking-form) or text or leave a message on 07513 727795 unless otherwise stated.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>Portion Size Workshop</b> 10.30pm - 11.30am <b>4th March</b> Learn about the size of your child's tummy and how to ensure your child is eating the right amount. <b>See details above to book.</b></p> <p><b>Fussy Eating Workshop</b> 10.30am - 11.30am <b>25th March</b> Our workshops help with techniques to make mealtimes less stressful and encourage a balanced diet. <b>See link and details above to book.</b></p> 	<p><b>Baby Massage</b> 10.00am - 11.30am <b>20th Feb - 19th March</b> Spend quality time with your baby at this 5 week in person course. <b>Age group:</b> under 1s <b>See details above to book.</b></p> <p><b>Feel Positive about Parenting</b> 10.00am - 11.30am <b>12th March</b> Being a parent can be difficult, but these 30 minute 1:1 sessions with our parenting practitioner can help. <b>Age Group:</b> 18 mths-10yrs <b>See details above to book.</b></p> <p><b>First Aid Course for Parents and Carers</b> 10.00am - 2.00pm <b>26th March</b> FREE course for Parents and Carers with Free creche <b>See details above to book.</b></p>	<p><b>Little Explorers</b> 10.00am - 11.15am Based on Five to Thrive key activities: <b>Respond, Cuddle, Relax, Play, Talk.</b> You will learn how positive interactions with your baby helps develop their brain. <b>Age group:</b> Birth to 18 months <b>Bookings for this session will be released online at 12 noon the Friday before.</b> <b>See details above to book.</b></p> <p><b>Explorers</b> 1.00pm - 2.00pm Help your child learn through play using indoor and outdoor environments. Building self-awareness, confidence and resilience. <b>Bring a change of clothes if possible - it might get messy!</b> <b>Age group:</b> Birth to 5 years <b>Bookings for this session will be released online at 12 noon the Friday before.</b> <b>See details above to book.</b></p> <p><b>Mindful Mums</b> 10.00pm - 11.30am <b>21st February - 20th March</b> Mindful Mums helps pregnant women and new mums to look after themselves during a challenging period of their lives. <b>Visit <a href="http://blgmind.org.uk/lewisham/mindful-mums/">blgmind.org.uk/lewisham/mindful-mums/</a></b></p>	<p><b>Baby Messy Play</b> 1.30pm - 2.30pm Sensory, fun &amp; mess play. <b>Bring a change of clothes if possible - it will get messy!</b> <b>Age group:</b> Birth - 18mths <b>See details above to book</b></p> <p><b>Vitamin D Collection</b> Come and collect or register for your free Vitamin D while sessions are on in the centre. <b>For enquiries please email reception on <a href="mailto:ladywell.cc@lewishamcfc.org.uk">ladywell.cc@lewishamcfc.org.uk</a> or call 07513 727795</b></p> 	<p><b>Triple P for Baby Course</b> 10.00am - 12.00noon <b>16th Feb - 8th March</b> This 6 week course supports your transition into parenthood. Suitable for expectant parents and those with babies under 1 year old. <b>To enquire or book your place please email enquiries <a href="mailto:@lewishamcfc.org.uk">@lewishamcfc.org.uk</a> or call 07377 724243</b></p> <p><b>Breastfeeding Hub Drop - in</b> 1.00pm - 3.00pm Get support and discuss any breastfeeding issues that you may be having.</p>  <div>   </div>

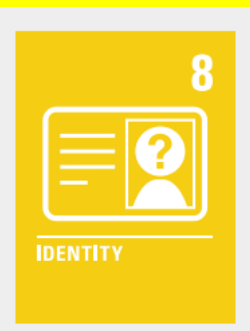
# Article of the Week

## 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 8 - Children have the right to their own identity – an official record of who they are which includes their name, nationality and family relations. No one should take this away from them, but if this happens, governments must help children to quickly get their identity back.**



## PUPIL PREMIUM (Free School Meals)

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

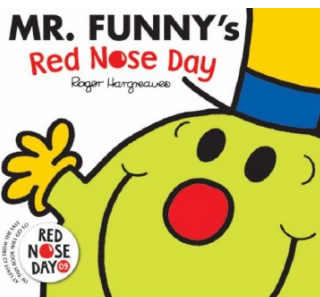
- ◆ Universal credit with an earnings threshold that does not exceed £7400
- ◆ Income support
- ◆ Income based job seekers allowance
- ◆ Income related employment and support allowance
- ◆ Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to working tax credit and have an annual income, as assessed by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



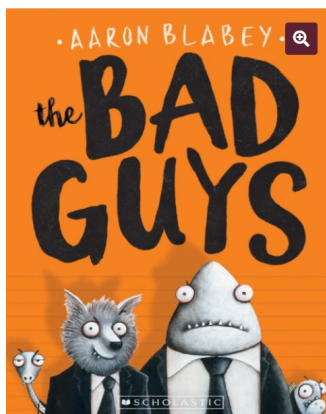
## Mrs. Wright's Recommended Reads

### Mr. Funny's Red Nose Day



Mr Funny is very funny. He makes everyone laugh. But he is very puzzled when he meets Mr Grumpy who doesn't even smile. How will he make him laugh?

Age 4-7



### The Bad Guys - chapter edition

In this hilarious new illustrated chapter book series, bad guys are doing good deeds...whether

Age 9-12

# Childcare Choices

## What does Tax-Free Childcare mean for me?

Tax-Free Childcare is a UK wide offer. Eligible parents with children under 12 can get up to £2,000 per child, per year, towards their childcare costs (or up to £4,000 for disabled children under 17).

For more information and eight-need-to-knows, please check out the website below:

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/tax-free-childcare/>



## 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.

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

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 142 hours and 8 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



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.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.*

## 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

21/03/24	Year 4 Buddhist Temple Trip (Emerald 6)
22/03/24	Year 4 Buddhist Temple Trip (Emerald 4 and 5)
22/03/24	FOG Spring Disco
26/03/24	Year 3 Parent Event
27/03/24	Last day of Spring term for pupils
28/03/24	INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)
29/03/24 - 12/04/24	Easter Holidays
15/04/24	First Day of Summer Term 1
18/04/24	Year 2 Assembly
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)