



27 March 2024

GORDONBROCK WEEKLY



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another brilliant week at Gordonbrock...and at Eliot Bank actually. Our Federation Choir performed at Arts Fest last week Thursday and on Monday and it was a sight to behold. There were many moments of wonder. Thank you once again to all of team that supported the children across the two evenings.

Thank you all for a brilliant Spring Term, there have been many magical moments over the last three months to celebrate; including Year 3 and Year 4's amazing Singing Performance on Monday.

Lastly, I'd like to thank FOG and all of the volunteers that worked tirelessly to ensure that our children had an amazing time at the first ever Spring Disco! Have a restful Easter Holiday, play a few board games, go for a local walk and just have some fun. We'll see you all at the gates on Monday 15 April.

Mrs Wright



Over the last three weeks, our punctuality has slipped and we have lost over 30 hours due to lateness. This is something that we must improve together. **Attendance is so important** which is why we have outlined some of reasons below. Next Term, as the weather gets better and the days get brighter, try to get up just a little bit earlier so that you and your children are ready to start the day refreshed and on time! GB Team

Why attendance matters!

We are ambitious for all children and our aim is for them to:

- enjoy their experience at school
- succeed
- have the best possible start to their adult life.

By attending school regularly, children can:

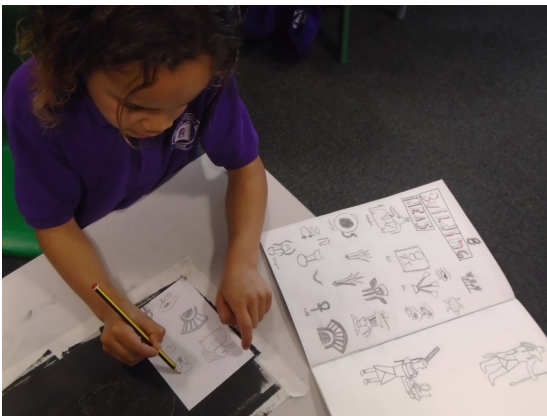
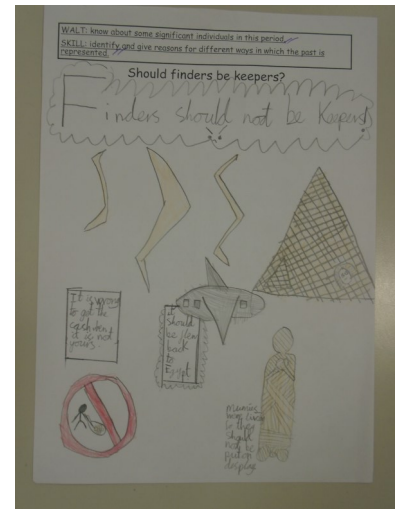
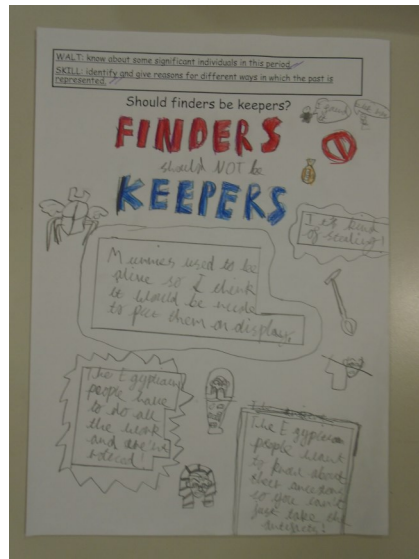
- reach their full academic potential
- develop and sustain relationships



Year 3

Last week in Year 3, we have been busy learning about mono printing as part of our new Art unit. We have experimented with gelli printing and mono tracing, using our prior History learning on Ancient Egyptian gods and hieroglyphics as our inspiration. It's been challenging and messy but great fun!

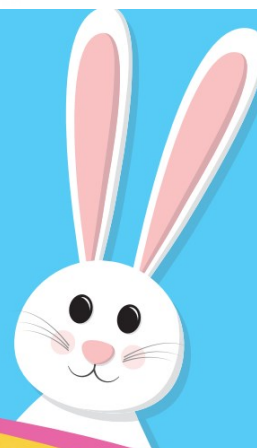
In History, we have been debating whether or not finders should be keepers, we then created posters to share our views. As part of music, we have worked on developing our harmonies and breathing. We hoped you enjoyed our performance on Monday.





Free Activities, Fun and Food over the school Easter holidays

For eligible children and young people*



- Special trips
- Arts and crafts
- Sports
- ...and much more

*Activities and lunches are free for school-aged children and young people (aged 4–16) who receive Free School Meals or are experiencing hardship.



To see what's on and how to book visit:
lewisham.gov.uk/holiday-activities



Department for Education



For the full list of activities, please check out the following page:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/holiday-activities>



The Parenting Space is a new online platform that has been developed in collaboration with South London parents and the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust.

This online parenting platform provides easily accessible advice and tips that support child and family mental health and wellbeing. The platform shares digital resources across social media channels such as [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Youtube](#), as well as on its own dedicated webpage at www.theparentingspace.org.uk

The Parenting Space was developed in collaboration with over 70 local parents, who played a crucial role in shaping the platform's appearance, content, format, and language, making sure it is engaging, practical, and parent-friendly.

Resources are co-produced with parents and cover a variety of topics relating to child behaviour, managing emotions, parenting a child with autism, family relationships and parental mental health. The content is informed by evidence-based parenting interventions alongside the real-life experiences of parents.

DISTRACTING FROM WORRIES

Support your child to switch off from worries **they can't control** by encouraging them to engage in **activities** that require their **concentration**.

- Outdoor ball games
- Building a den
- A favourite puzzle

Focusing on other tasks can help your child to feel less consumed by worries that they can't do anything about, and can help them to practice **shifting their attention** to more enjoyable activities.

"Growing up my parents wanted me to be a lawyer or a doctor"
- Mother, 43

As parents, it's normal to have dreams and aspirations for your child. Your child will likely have their own interests and aspirations, too. Having **open conversations** with them about their future goals can help them to feel **heard, respected and supported**.

GETTING BETTER SLEEP

A lack of sleep can affect our mental and physical wellbeing. Good sleep habits can re-energise us and help us better manage challenges that come our way.

Try creating regular bedtime routines for yourself and your kids

1. Avoid sugary things and caffeinated drinks before bed
2. Reduce **screen time** in the evening
3. Take a hot bath or shower & try **reading** or listening to a podcast
4. Write any worries in a **worry notebook** before bed so that they don't sit in your mind
5. Keep the lights low
5. Go to bed and get up at the **same time** everyday, including weekends!

#theparentingspace

There are some amazing resources with tips and advice to support you, including:
Autism, Baby, Behaviour, Co-Parenting, Managing Emotions, Parent Mental Health, Parenting across cultures and much more.

Please check out the following page:
<https://www.cpcs.org.uk/the-parenting-space/>



BALLERS SE

WHEN: 15/04/24 - 04/05/24

TRIALS

**KANGLEY BRIDGE
ROAD
LOWER SYDENHAM
LONDON
SE26 5AQ**



AGES: U7s ,U8s, U9s, U11s, U12s U13s



0207 1013 652



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BALLERS SE



WHEN: 15/04/24 - 04/05/24
YEAR GROUPS FROM SEPTEMBER 2024

MONDAY:
U12S (YR 6/7) & U13'S (YR 7/8)
@ 7:00PM - 8:00PM

THURSDAY:
U7'S (YR 1/2) U8'S (YR 2/3) U9'S (YR 3/4),
@ 5:30PM - 6:30PM

THURSDAY:
U11'S (YR 5/6)
@ 6:00PM - 7:00PM

All of our coaches are:

- ✓ **FA Qualified**
- ✓ **DBS Checked**
- ✓ **Child Safeguarding Trained**

AGES: U7s ,U8s, U9s,
U11s, U12s, U13s

SEND US AN EMAIL OR GIVE US A CALL



admin@ballerssportscoaching.com



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CALLING ALL YEAR 1 BALLERS

Join us for FREE football sessions every Monday starting April 15th. Limited spaces available !

Our sessions are designed for those ready to take their skills to new heights. Train with UEFA licensed coaches. Let's unlock your potential together!

Time : 5:00PM - 6:00PM

Location : The Bridge Leisure Centre
Kangley Bridge Road
London
SE26 5AQ

Scan the barcode to register or visit
www.afclewisham.com/u6training



INFO@AFCLEWISHAM.COM



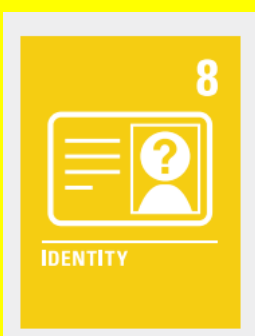
Article of the Week

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

How to Train your Dragon by Cressida Cowell

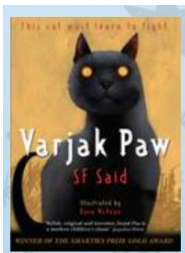


Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was an incredible sword-fighter, dragon-whisperer and the greatest Viking hero who ever lived. But he wasn't always like that - in fact, in the beginning, Hiccup wasn't fierce, brave or heroic at all. But the arrival of the Seadragonus Giganticus Maximus offers the chance for Hiccup to shine. The ferocious bravado of the other Vikings proves useless, and

Age 6-8

Hiccup is called upon to save them by using his brains rather than his brawn. Can he defeat the dragon and save the Viking tribe from certain death?

Varjak Paw by SF Said



Varjak Paw is a Mesopotamian Blue cat from a large family that live comfortably inside the Contessa's large, grand house. Yet, when the Gentleman arrives with his odd black cats, Varjak and his grandfather the Elder Paw believe that something strange is going on.

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.

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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 170 hours and 32 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.



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

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 29/03/24 - 12/04/24 | Easter Holidays |
| 15/04/24 | First Day of Summer Term 1 |
| 18/04/24 | Year 2 Assembly |
| Wk comm: 18/04/24 | Platform Cricket for Year 4 to begin on Thursdays |
| Wk comm: 29/04/24 | Weekly Reading Mornings for Reception and Year 1 (more information to follow) |
| 02/05/24 | Year 5 Parent Event (9:10am—10am, more information to follow) |
| 06/05/24 | Bank Holiday (school closed to pupils) |
| 13/05/24 | KS2 (Year 6) SATs Week |
| 22/05/24 | Reception Assembly (TBC—more information to follow) |
| 24/05/24 | London History Day |
| 27/05/2024 - 31/05/24 | Half -Term |
| 05/06/24 and 06/06/24 | Class Photos (more information to follow) |
| 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) |