Newsletter 1 *Friday 18th September 2026*

Gordon Primary School

Golfe Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1SU

Website: www.gordonpri.uk

Email: admin.gordon@redbridge.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 8478 2977



Fortnightly message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Now that we have settled into the start of a new school year, we would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to the families who have joined our school this month and welcome back those of you who are returning to Gordon. We are delighted to begin another year of learning together and would like to thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe, respectful and well-organised school environment for all members of our school community.

Meet the Teacher meetings

Thank you to those of you who attended our Meet the Teacher meetings, last week. The meetings would have provided you with all of the information you need to support your child for the coming year. Should you have been unable to attend your child's meeting, you can view the information on our school website within the Curriculum, Year groups area.

Please remember to check the *Diary Dates* section for important details about upcoming events.

With these and many other events and celebrations to look forward to, we wish you well as we look forward to another excellent year at Gordon Primary School.

Rights of the Fortnight

Week 1 – Right 28

You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.

Week 2 – Right 2

You have the right to protection against discrimination.

Diary Dates

1st September – 31st October
Secondary school application window for September 2027

Week beginning 21st September
Reception children start full time (08:45 – 15:15)

Induction week 3, for Nursery

Monday 21st – Wednesday 23rd September
Fairplay House Residential – Students in Year 5 and 6

Thursday 24th September
Year 6 visit the Tower of London

Monday 19th – Friday 23rd October
Bikeability – Year 5 and 6

Tuesday 20th October
Flu immunisations – Reception to Year Six

- Further details to be provided, nearer the time

Week beginning 26th October
Half term – School closed to pupils and staff

Thursday 19th November
Individual photos

Thought for the fortnight: There are far better things ahead, than any we leave behind. ***– C. S. Lewis***

Stunning Start to Year One

Year 1 had an exciting and mysterious start to their new learning journey when they discovered that Beegu had crash-landed in a rocket! The children became detectives, carefully investigating the clues to work out what had happened. They discussed their ideas, made predictions about what might happen next, and used their imagination to think about where Beegu had come from and why she had arrived. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their questioning, reasoning and prediction skills while becoming fully immersed in the story of Beegu.



"The rocket crashed!" – **Eric, 1R**

"I think it is a alien from space." – **Balaj, 1R**

"What has happened?" – **Dua, 1R**



Related Right:



As part of article 13, the children in Year 1 had the opportunity to communicate their thoughts, ideas and predictions, as part of group and pair discussion. Alongside this, they enjoyed developing their curiosity and creativity, when analysing the different colours and making inferences about where the objects had come from. What a great way to get their imaginations flowing.

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.

Day of Dots

Year 2 have started their exciting learning journey linked to *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds with a very dotty day.

They took part in a dotty treasure hunt, following clues around the school to find hidden dotty stones. They also got creative with dotty art, using paint and cotton buds to create colourful patterns on paper plates. In maths, they explored addition and subtraction using counters, and in science, they had great fun investigating what happens when we add Skittles to water.

It was a fantastic day full of creativity, curiosity and learning. They can't wait to see where their learning journey takes them next.

“I loved finding the hidden stones because it was like a mystery!” - **Shireen**

“My favourite part was making my dotty art. I made lots of different patterns.” - **Delmy**

“The Skittles experiment was amazing because the colours spread into the water!” - **Wali**

“I liked the treasure hunt because the clues made me think.” – **Teodor**







Related Right:



In Year 2, the children accessed their right to a good quality education which encourages them to be the best that they can be. This is part of Article 28.

Thought for the fortnight: There are far better things ahead, than any we leave behind. ***– C. S. Lewis***

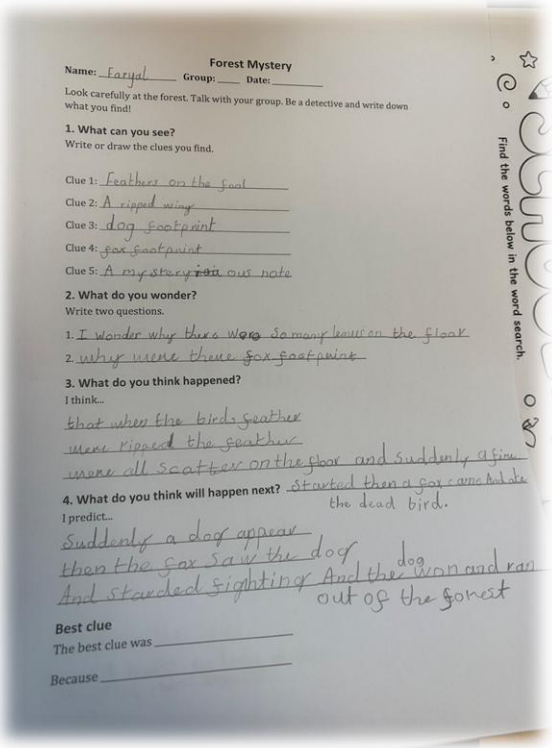
Inference Investigators in Year 3

The hall was transformed into a mysterious scene to introduce Year 3's new English text, *Fox*. The children became detectives and had to explore the hall, find clues and make predictions about what they thought had happened.

Clues included colourful feathers, a picture of a broken wing, two small dog paw prints, fox paw-prints, an envelope containing the message "I can take you higher," and a forest fire video playing on the projector.

The children worked together to discuss what each clue could mean and who they thought might be involved. This encouraged them to predict the characters, setting and possible events in the story, particularly the Fox, Dog, Magpie and a bushfire.

The activity created excitement and curiosity about the new book and gave the children questions they wanted to answer when we began reading.



Forest Mystery

Name: Faryal Group: ___ Date: ___

Look carefully at the forest. Talk with your group. Be a detective and write down what you find!

1. What can you see?
Write or draw the clues you find.

Clue 1: Feathers on the foal
Clue 2: A ripped wing
Clue 3: dog footprint
Clue 4: fox footprint
Clue 5: A mystery ~~pic~~ our note

2. What do you wonder?
Write two questions.

1. I wonder why there were so many leaves on the floor
2. why were there fox footprint

3. What do you think happened?
I think...
that when the birds feather were ripped the feather were all scatter on the floor and suddenly a fire started then a fox came And ate the dead bird.

4. What do you think will happen next?
I predict...
Suddenly a dog appear then the fox saw the dog And started fighting And the dog won and ran out of the forest

Best clue
The best clue was ___
Because ___

Find the words below in the word search.



Related Right:



Our enthusiastic learners accessed their right to play, relax and participate in creative activities. As part of their investigations, they used their imagination and the clues provided, to make plausible predictions.

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.

Year Four's Stunning Start

Year 4 had an exciting start to their new topic as they stepped into the magical world of Narnia! The children visited Cleveland Road Primary School to watch the first part of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, meeting characters such as Mr Tumnus and the White Witch. To make the experience even more immersive, the teachers dressed up as characters from the story!

Back at school, the children became story detectives. They discovered mysterious footprints, investigated clues and made predictions about our mystery book. The children became suitcase detectives, exploring a range of unusual objects and discussing what they might tell us about the story. They also investigated a mysterious frozen scene, complete with artificial snow, pine trees, animal footprints, broken branches and a single lamppost.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their stunning start and are very excited to uncover more clues, read on and discover the magic of Narnia!

"I think Lucy will discover lots of new things." **Safa**





"I wonder why the Witch has made it winter." **Eliya**

"I think Lucy is brave for going through the wardrobe."

Related Right:



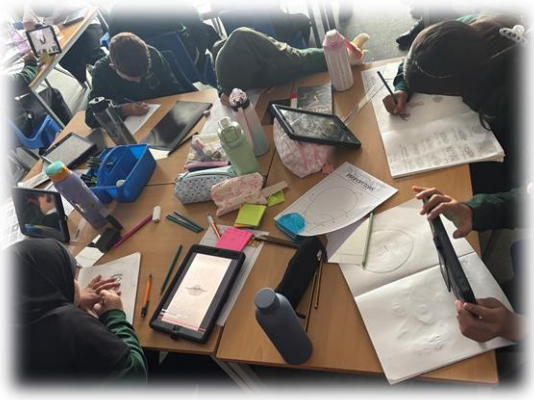
Through their Stunning Start activities, Year 4 enjoyed an exciting and engaging learning experience. They developed their confidence, creativity and teamwork while sharing ideas and making predictions, supporting their Rights of the Child to learn, express themselves and reach their full potential.

Thought for the fortnight: There are far better things ahead, than any we leave behind. ***– C. S. Lewis***

A Stunning Start to Year Six

Year 6 have immersed themselves in their new class text, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, and have already begun exploring the book's intriguing themes through art. Inspired by the story's setting and remarkable illustrations, the children have been creating their own steampunk-inspired self-portraits.

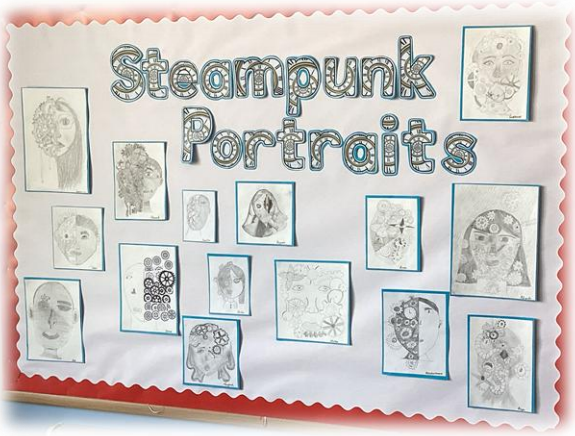
To prepare for their final pieces, the children studied a range of steampunk artwork, discussing the messages and ideas the artists were trying to convey. They explored how different media had been used to create the artwork and shared their opinions on the use of colour, line, shape and composition. The children also developed their shading skills, experimenting with a variety of techniques to create depth, texture and detail within their own work.



The finished portraits are truly impressive. Combining careful observational drawing with imaginative steampunk elements, the children have produced unique pieces that showcase both their creativity and artistic skill.

Today, the children visited the Young V&A Museum to explore toys and childhood artefacts from the period in which the story is set. This exciting opportunity helped bring Hugo's world to life, deepening their understanding of the historical context of the novel and helping them to appreciate what childhood may have been like during that time.

What a fantastic start to Year 6! We look forward to seeing how the children's enthusiasm for the story continues to inspire their learning across the curriculum in the weeks ahead.



"The steampunk art taught me to express myself through art." - **Arifa 6K**

"I really liked making steampunk art because we got to express our creativity on paper and use our imagination." - **Raniya 6K**

" I specifically liked how we had to make it as realistic as possible and add little details to make it more interesting." - **Maliha 6K**

“I really enjoyed mixing gears with portraits. I found it a bit hard learning all of the facial features but with practise I got better.” **Zahra 6JL**

“In art, we did a technique called steampunk style. It is a part where you put cogs and gears on portraits. What I liked about it is that when you finished it looked good. It was difficult to draw the cogs and gears” **Ayat 6JL**



Related Right:

Year 6 have been exercising their right to participate in cultural and artistic activities. The opportunity to explore artwork, share their opinions and engage with museum collections has helped them develop their creativity and appreciation of art, design and culture.

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.

Commendations

We are very pleased to be able to celebrate the children who have been awarded commendations, over the last fortnight. Many congratulations to all the children who have been awarded commendations for demonstrating the 5Cs.

		Week commencing 07.09.26		Week commencing 14.09.26	
YEAR	**Class**	**Teacher Commendation**	**Peer Commendation**	**Teacher Commendation**	**Peer Commendation**
Early Years Foundation Stage	N AM	To commence soon		To commence soon	
	N PM	To commence soon		To commence soon	
	RB	To commence soon		To commence soon	
	RP	To commence soon		To commence soon	
One	1HR	Yusuf	Navicca	Ahmad	Rebeca
	1R	Dua	Yinuo	Zain	Alayna
Two	2A	Wali	Dua	Tymofi	Sachtek
	2P	Ayra	Sebastian	Hadi	Humaira
Three	3A	Naomi	Nilda	Trinity	Dominic
	3R	Immanuel	Andrii	Eesa	Sarah
Four	4B	Erica	Hisham	Yunus	Harjot
	4N	Aleena	Kyalsin	Sukriti	Alisha
Five	5MP	Maira	Kaiyim	Jeziah	Yanis
	5R	Lujain	Marcu	Noura	Taha
Six	6JL	Maryam	Hanna	Muntaha and Tanishka	Adriyan
	6K	Fatima	Aaliyah	Abdulrahman	Aiya

Thought for the fortnight: There are far better things ahead, than any we leave behind. ***– C. S. Lewis***

Attendance Awards

Many congratulations to the classes with the best attendance. The attendance winners are announced in assembly every Monday.

Week commencing 07.09.26		Week commencing 14.09.26	
Phase	**Attendance Winner**	**Phase**	**Attendance Winner**
EYFS	To commence soon	**EYFS**	To commence soon
KS1 (Years 1-2)	1R	**KS1 (Years 1-2)**	2P
KS2 (Years 3-6)	3R	**KS2 (Years 3-6)**	3R

Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish) Awards

Many congratulations to all the children who have been given a Spanish commendation. These children have been nominated by Señora Fitzpatrick, for demonstrating excellent attitudes to learning in their Spanish classes.

Class	Week commencing 07.09.26	Class	Week commencing 14.09.26
Nursery	To commence soon	**Nursery**	To commence soon
Reception	Aa'isha	**Reception**	Gurbaz
Year 1	Aiman	**Year 1**	Rebeca
Year 2	Matteo	**Year 2**	Teodor
Year 3	Andrii	**Year 3**	Harvey
Year 4	Raihan	**Year 4**	Isacchar
Year 5	Mason	**Year 5**	Kaiyim
Year 6	Hadi	**Year 6**	Umar

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.

Music Awards

Many congratulations to all the children who have been awarded the Music commendations over the last two weeks. These children have been nominated by Mr McKevitt, for demonstrating excellent attitudes to learning in their Music classes.

Class	Week commencing	Week commencing
Nursery	To commence soon	To commence soon
Reception	Zayn	Essa
Year 1	Eric	Shahwali
Year 2	Teodor	Khizar
Year 3	Mudasar	Sanah
Year 4	Eesa	Yahya
Year 5	Ayaan	Bhavya
Year 6	Mariam	Aaliyah

Thought for the fortnight: There are far better things ahead, than any we leave behind. ***– C. S. Lewis***

Sports Commendations

Many congratulations to all the children who have been given sports awards by Coach Romeo. These awards are given to children demonstrating positive attitudes in PE and for those who put in extra effort to develop their skills, show teamwork and work hard to make great progress.

Class	Week commencing 14.09.26
Nursery	To commence soon
Reception	To commence soon
Year 1	Ayat
Year 2	Milo
Year 3	Aminah
Year 4	Eesa
Year 5	Abdul
Year 6	Omer

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.

Reading Awards

Week commencing			Week commencing		
Name	**Class**	**Award**	**Name**	**Class**	**Award**
To commence soon					

Thought for the fortnight: There are far better things ahead, than any we leave behind. ***– C. S. Lewis***

Importance of Attendance

As you will be aware, regular school attendance is incredibly important. Each day at school supports your child to build essential academic skills and healthy routines, while developing their social interactions with others.

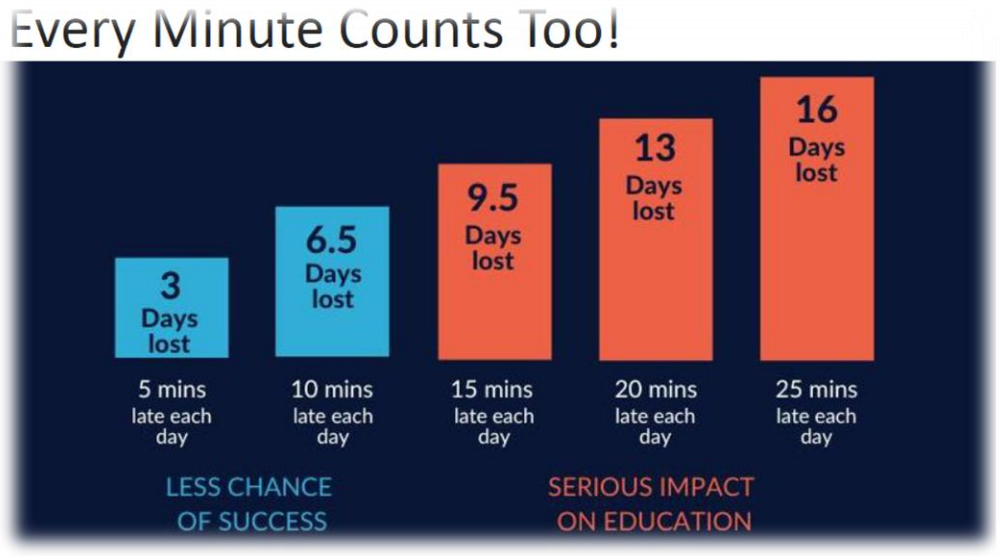
Though an attendance of above 90% may seem high, a child who attends for 94% of the day has in fact missed approximately 2 weeks of learning and 50 lessons, significantly impacting their progress and understanding.

The table below outlines how attendance percentages link with sessions, weeks and lessons missed. Please pay particular attention to the columns circled in red, to identify the significant impact that absences have.

Every Lesson Counts!

ATTENDANCE DURING SCHOOL YEAR	EQUATES TO SCHOOL ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY	NUMBER OF MISSED LESSONS
94%	10 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11 1/2 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13 1/2 Weeks	340 Lessons

Punctuality is also a vital part of your child's schooling experience. Not only does attending on time ensure that your child is able to access all of their lessons, it also teaches them vital work habits and responsibility for future jobs.



Did you know that just 5 minutes of missed learning time each day equates to a total of at least 3 days of learning lost, in a year?

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.

Allergy Awareness





Gordon primary school is a **nut free school,** in order to keep everyone with allergies, safe.

We also strictly enforce a "no food swapping" policy, to ensure that all children and staff are kept healthy, safe and well.

Though trading snacks might seem harmless or a great way for the children to try new or different food, it could result in a child having an allergic reaction or anaphylaxis.

We kindly request your support with this by not providing food items/treats for your child's birthday.



Mobile Phone Policy

Our school operates a **no phone policy** for pupils.

The exception is for our Year 5 and 6 pupils, who have permission to travel home alone.

Their phone **must** be switched off, before being handed into the office each morning.

It can then be collected at the end of the school day.

Parents/Carers are requested to not use their phones in the playground, at the beginning or end of the school day.
This is a valuable opportunity for you to have face-to-face communication with your child/ren while also preventing any children or adults from being distracted when leaving the school site and using the road.

Thought for the fortnight: There are far better things ahead, than any we leave behind. ***– C. S. Lewis***



Air Scouts take part in an amazing range of activities both on the ground and up in the clouds.

We help young people develop skills for life - including the practical, employability and character skills they need to succeed.

Beavers 6-8 yrs old
Cubs 8 - 10 1/2 yrs old
Scouts 10 -14 1/2 yrs old
Volunteering Opportunities for adults.
We meet Fridays @ SS Peter & Paul's parish center
Contact: Ana M Dryden
07712810855
8thilfordcanonsown@gmail.com
steveana_d@hotmail.com

342 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1QP

#SkillsForLife

Scouts

8th Ilford (Canon's Own)

Copyright 2018 The Scout Association Registered Charity numbers 306101/SC038437

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.