Newsletter 3 *Friday 16th October 2026*

Gordon Primary School

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Fortnightly message

Welcome to edition 3 of Gordon's fortnightly newsletter.

This week, you would have received an invite to attend our parent consultation evening on Thursday 22nd November 2026. A polite reminder that school will close at 1:30pm for pupils in Reception – Year Six, on this day. For ease of reference, please also find a copy of the letter and instructions for how to book an appointment, within the parent notices section of this newsletter. Should you need assistance with booking a meeting, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

From **Wednesday 21st of October,** ParentPay will no longer be active for Gordon Primary School. This means that any outstanding online payments need to be made before that date and any remaining funds, withdrawn from your account. Please also follow the instructions provided in the message that was sent out earlier this week, regarding setting up an Arbor account, if you haven't already done so. Please contact the school office with any queries regarding this. Further information about our new online payment system, will be provided in due course.

Rights of the Fortnight

Week 1 – Right 31

You have the right to rest and play

Week 2 – Right 30

You have the right to practice your own culture, language and religion - or any you choose.

Diary Dates

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

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

Tuesday 20th October
Flu immunisations – Reception to Year Six
- Please complete the form that has been sent to you by the NHS

Thursday 22nd October
Parent Consultation Meetings – School closes at 1:30pm, for pupils
- Nursery remains open until 3:30pm

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

Monday 2nd November 2026
School reopens to pupils at 08:45

Thursday 19th November
Individual photos

Wednesday 25th November
Year 4 visit The Lion King musical, in London

Thought for the fortnight: Never give up on what you really want to do. The person with big dreams is more powerful than one with all the facts. ***– Albert Einstein***

Exploring Our Local Area

During the last fortnight, Year 2 enjoyed an exciting walk around the local area of the school to explore their surroundings. They discovered many interesting features, including terraced houses, shops along the main road and lots of busy traffic. The children practised road safety by using pelican and zebra crossings.

Along the way, they spotted a car wash. Their walk took them to South Park, where they observed trees, squirrels, geese, acorns and feathers.

The experience was both fun and educational, helping the children deepen their understanding of their Geography topic, *Our Local Area*.







Related Right:

Through exploration of the local area, our Year Two learners developed their curiosity and knowledge of the world that they live in. This supported them to access several different articles, including Article 31.



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



Young Minds Hello Yellow Day

On Friday 9th of October 2026, the school community participated in Hello Yellow Day to raise awareness and funds for young people's mental health, ensuring no young person feels alone with their struggle.

As part of Hello Yellow Day, our Year 2 children explored different ways to express their feelings and emotions. Using yellow paper, they created their own emojis to show how they were feeling. They also enjoyed a special **Doodle Afternoon**, where both Year 2 classes came together, sitting opposite each other to draw whatever was on their minds, including their thoughts, feelings and worries.

The results were amazing! The children's doodles showcased wonderful creativity, imagination and individuality. It was a lovely opportunity for everyone to express themselves through art, share their feelings and recognise the importance of looking after our mental health.

Delmy 2P – "It was a very special creative day and I got all my emotions out."

Sebastian 2P – "Yellow day was very fun we did lots of smiley Faces and lots of yellow art."



As part of Hello Yellow Day, Sahil made marks on a large yellow paper and immersed pasta in yellow paint. He had a lot of fun; he was highly engaged and he was excited throughout the day. He was very happy!



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Vashti's Art Show

Alaya, Bryan, Abubakar and Lamaisah from Year 2, immersed themselves in creating beautiful art work, experimenting with dots of different sizes just like the main character in their English text - Vashti.





They then shared their work as part of a 2P Art exhibition, with the room filled with excitement, curiosity and meaningful conversations. The children used rich language to describe their feelings and empathised with Vashti.



Alaya 2P "I am feeling happy because everyone likes my dot. I used watercolours to make something."

Bryan 2P – "I am feeling proud because everyone clapped for me."

Abubakar 2P – "I love my dot I am happy because my dot is on the frame."





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Related Right:



Our Year Two learners thoroughly enjoyed developing their creativity and confidence, when exploring the experiences and emotions of the main character from their English text. Not only were they learning, as part of right 28, but they also used painting to help them relax and focus – Article 31.

Thought for the fortnight: Never give up on what you really want to do. The person with big dreams is more powerful than one with all the facts. ***– Albert Einstein***

Year Four Geographers

Similar to Year Two, as part of their Geography learning about the school's local area, Year 4 enjoyed an exciting visit to Hainault Forest. The children explored why the forest is important for both wildlife and humans, discovering how it provides habitats for animals and a space for people to enjoy nature.

They put their map-reading skills into practice, using maps to navigate their way through the forest and find their way back. To finish the day, the children enjoyed some well-deserved fun in the adventure play area!

Isaiah- "Hainault Forest is very important because trees give us oxygen and fresh air."

Aleena- "People bring their dogs for walk. It's a good place for exercising."









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Related Right:



This links to Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), which recognises every child's right to rest, leisure and play. It gave the children an opportunity to learn outdoors, explore their local environment and enjoy the benefits of outdoor play.

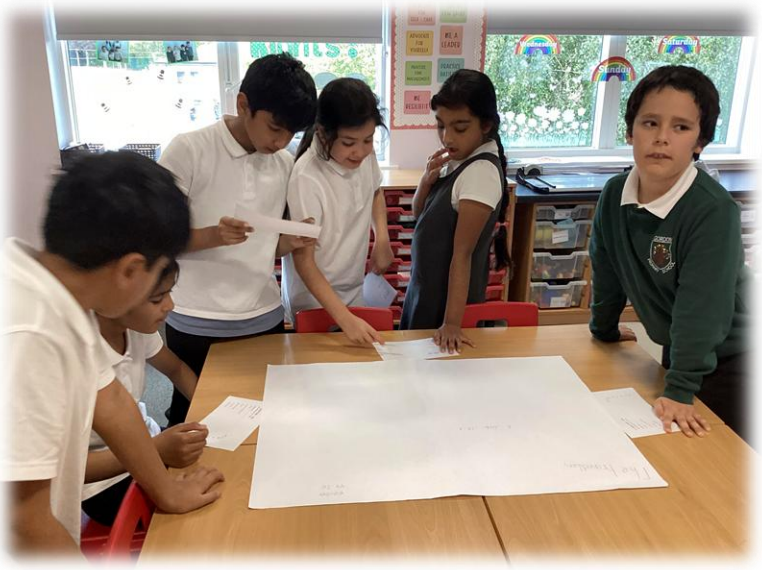
Thought for the fortnight: Never give up on what you really want to do. The person with big dreams is more powerful than one with all the facts. ***– Albert Einstein***

Financial Literacy

In Year Five, as part of their finance focus this half-term, the children planned a holiday with careful consideration of their budget. Each team had a budget of £50 and could not go over budget. They had to convert the pounds they had been given into the local currency and then work out what they would spend their money on and how much they would have left.

"I enjoyed learning about different currencies around the world and understand that I need to know how to convert and manage money when I go on holiday." – **Noura 5R**

"I can use this information and skills for when I go on holiday to France." **Tanveer 5R**





Related Right:



The children are developing their knowledge and understanding of finance, within society, along with their knowledge of the importance of budgeting, to ensure that their basic needs are met.

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Terrific Tower

The children in Year 6 went on a very exciting trip to the *Tower of London* last week, where they explored all the gory details behind crime and punishment in historical London.

They started off with a tour of the crown jewels which the children were really impressed by! After that, they headed to the Bloody Tower where they learnt of the fate of the Princes in the Tower. They even explored the White Tower where executions commonly took place. Despite the spooky atmosphere, the children explored confidently and ended the day with a lovely lunch next to Tower Bridge.

Well done Year 6!





"It was so cool seeing the crown jewels and I really liked looking at all the gems and learning that they were all real." – **Aiya 6K**

"On the trip I learnt the story of two princes and I think the King did kill them!" – A**dhi 6K**

"Now I know how people were punished in old times." – **Fawaz 6K**

"The trip was very fun because it was my first time going to London Bridge and the Tower of London. It was a little scary because the stairs were very narrow and it was hard to get up but, we got to see the Tower Bridge go up at lunchtime when a ship was crossing and that was really cool!" – **Adriyan 6JL**



Thought for the fortnight: Never give up on what you really want to do. The person with big dreams is more powerful than one with all the facts. ***– Albert Einstein***

Investigating Inheritance and Variation in Year 6

Year 6 have been busy putting their Working Scientifically skills into action as part of their learning about evolution and inheritance. Rather than simply learning about inherited characteristics, the children carried out a hands-on investigation to explore why offspring share characteristics with their parents but are not usually identical.

Working in groups, the children were given two parent organisms with a range of different characteristics. They then used a coin-toss model to determine which characteristics each new offspring would receive. With every toss of the coin, another feature was decided, including characteristics such as ear shape, body pattern, tail shape, colour and eye shape. The children then used their results to create and draw their unique offspring.

The excitement really began when they repeated the process to create several offspring from the same two parents! The children compared their creations and quickly noticed that, although the offspring shared characteristics with their parents and one another, the different combinations meant that they were not all identical.

Throughout the investigation, pupils developed important Working Scientifically skills by making predictions, recording results, comparing outcomes, identifying patterns and using their evidence to draw conclusions. They also considered the limitations of using a coin toss as a simplified scientific model and discussed how real inheritance is much more complex.

The practical activity provided a memorable way for pupils to understand inheritance and variation, while encouraging lots of scientific discussion and reasoning. It was wonderful to see the children so engaged as they discovered first-hand how variation can occur between offspring.

'The offspring are all different!' **Bidit**

'I enjoyed science because I got to learn how children inherit characteristics from both parents – I learned which are inherited and which are acquired.' **Anonymous**

'I enjoyed learning about genetics and inheritance. I found it quite interesting.' **Zahra**

Related Right:



Our Year Six learners not only accessed their right to an education, but also developed their natural curiosity about the world that we live in and human biology. It was great to hear many of them making connections to the role that science plays within the wider world and community.

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Pupil Leadership Team



Excitement has been building across the school as our Year 6 PLT members began campaigning for the leadership roles of **Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Secretarial Assistant.**

After choosing their campaign colours – Zahra - **red,** Fawaz - **green,** Adhi - **yellow** or Raaghav – **blue,** the candidates worked hard to create eye-catching posters and prepare speeches explaining why they would be the best person for the role. The pupils thought carefully about the qualities of a good leader and how they could help make positive changes within our school community.

Our classes have enjoyed listening to the candidates' speeches and learning more about their ideas before taking part in a democratic vote. The election process has provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to experience democracy in action, understand the importance of voting, and recognise that every voice matters.

We are incredibly proud of all of our candidates for the confidence, creativity and commitment they have shown throughout their campaigns and look forward to announcing our new Year 6 PLT leadership team soon!

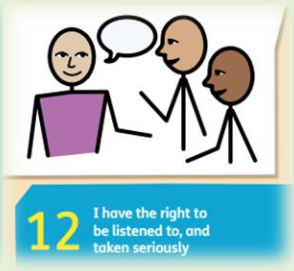
“I really enjoyed voting and experiencing how voting takes place in our country. I can’t wait to vote when I am older.” – **Wali 5R**

"I really liked deciding which person should be voted PLT chair." – **Eshaal, 2A**

"I loved voting day because it was fun and I felt like a real adult." – **Haneesh 2A**

"It was really fun to watch the videos of the candidates because I learnt all about how they would help change the school." – **Shireen 2A**

Related Right:



This experience supported the children from Year 1 – 6, to have their voice and opinion listened to and taken seriously. It was a great opportunity for the children to experience voting and the importance of having the right to have their say. Great preparation for adulthood.

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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 05.10.26		Week commencing 12.10.26	
YEAR	**Class**	**Teacher Commendation**	**Peer Commendation**	**Teacher Commendation**	**Peer Commendation**
Early Years Foundation Stage	N AM	Ayzel	To commence soon	Kudrat	To commence soon
	N PM	Hamid	To commence soon	Japsimrat	To commence soon
	RB	Advik	Zamil	Fayaz	Essa
	RP	Hazel	Zayn	Samar	Essey
One	1HR	Rebeca	Ayla	Agnimitra	Eesa
	1R	Riyasat	Aimen	Balaj	Musa
Two	2A	Sachtek	Fatima	Milo	Ravneet
	2P	Mohammad	Iliyana	Emir	Abdul Ahad
Three	3A	Sarim	Ianis	Aminah	Fatima
	3R	Yaseen	Zayan	Sulaimaan	Lana
Four	4B	Yaqub	Tasnia	Ezha	Erika
	4N	Sanyukta	Hoorain	Mahnoor	Gurneer
Five	5MP	Bruno	Tabassum	Rayan	Abdul
	5R	Selah May	Saylor	Saylor	A'ishah
Six	6JL	Yogya	Yogya	Raaghav	Ayat

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	6K	Rafael	Ahmad	Taybah	Mohammed Safai

Attendance Awards

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

Week commencing 05.10.26		Week commencing 12.10.26	
Phase	**Attendance Winner**	**Phase**	**Attendance Winner**
EYFS	RP	**EYFS**	RB
KS1 (Years 1-2)	2P	**KS1 (Years 1-2)**	2P
KS2 (Years 3-6)	6K	**KS2 (Years 3-6)**	4B

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 12.10.26
Nursery	To commence soon
Reception	Vyom
Year 1	Sajal
Year 2	Ahmad
Year 3	Sarah
Year 4	Tyra

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Year 5	Hanish
Year 6	Maliha

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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 05.10.26	Week commencing 12.10.26
Nursery	Ayomide	Ayzel
Reception	Miraal	Iosua
Year 1	Musa	Raied
Year 2	Samiul	Hadi
Year 3	Karam	Eesa
Year 4	Aleena	Malachi
Year 5	James	Sejal
Year 6	Umar	Abdulrahman

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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 05.10.26	Week commencing 12.10.26
Nursery	Neo	Maahi
Reception	Jannat	Ozan
Year 1	Zaynab	Yugveer
Year 2	Aiyra	Tymofii
Year 3	Sulaiman	Mudusar
Year 4	Layal	Safa
Year 5	Alyssa	Latifa
Year 6	Adhikevas	Mariam N

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Reading Awards

Week commencing 05.10.26			Week commencing 12.10.26		
Name	**Class**	**Award**	**Name**	**Class**	**Award**
Musa	2P	Bronze	Bhavreet	3A	Bronze
Jessica	3A	Bronze	Mahroosh	3R	Bronze
Lana	3R	Bronze	Sulaimaan	3R	Bronze
Hisham	4B	Bronze	Eesa	4B	Bronze
Hisham	4B	Silver	Dakshina	4B	Bronze
Iqra	5MP	Bronze	Erika	4B	Bronze
Anfal	5MP	Bronze	Noura	5R	Bronze
Sejal	5MP	Bronze	Stanislav	5R	Bronze
Tabassum	5MP	Bronze	Armaan	5R	Bronze
			Fawaz	6K	Bronze
			Adhikesav	6K	Bronze
			Gurnoor	6K	Bronze
			Arifa	6K	Bronze

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Parent Consultation Bookings

Parent Consultations for Autumn 2026 – Nursery to Year 6

Now that we are part way through the first half of the Autumn term, we invite you to meet with your child's class teacher, as part of our upcoming Parent – Teacher consultation meetings. The meetings will be held in school and take place in your child's classroom.

These meetings will provide a vital opportunity for you to talk to your child's class teacher about your child's start to their new school year, along with discussing what your child is doing well and any areas for development. To support you to work with your child at home, you will be provided with a copy of the parent-teacher discussion sheet, including targets for English and Maths, for you to keep.

This year's meetings will be taking place on **Thursday 22nd October 2026** and will be held from 1.40pm – 7.00pm. Please note that the school will **close to pupils** in Reception to Year Six, at 1.30pm on Thursday 22nd October, to enable these meetings to take place. **Our Nursery provision will remain open until 3:30pm.**

To book a meeting with your child's class teacher, please follow the instructions on the following page. If you need any support when doing so, please call the school office for assistance.

We look forward to talking with you about your child's progress.

With kind regards,

Veena Naidoo

Head Teacher

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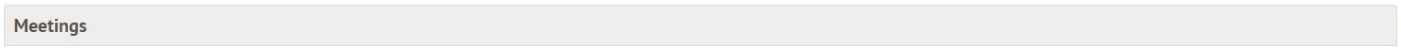
How to Book a Parent Consultation Appointment

1. Log in to your Arbor account using the link below. If you haven't set up your Arbor account yet, you still need to click on the link below and then choose the 'first time logging in?' option followed by **the email address you have received this email on**.

https://gordon-primary-school-mis.uk.arbor.education/?/home-ui/index

2. On the Arbor homepage, select **'Autumn Parent Consultation Meetings'**.

3. Under the 'Meetings' header, select your child's name.



4. Click on the 'Time slot' dropdown menu and choose the appointment that is convenient for you.



5. Select 'Book time slot' to confirm the booking. A booking confirmation will be sent to your email address.



6. If you are unable to book online, please call the school office for help.

7. Should the appointment times prove to be inconvenient, we will of course make ourselves available at other times. Please write to your child's class teacher, using the home-school communication book, if you need to arrange an alternative time.

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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?

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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.

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