



Gordon Primary School

Golfe Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1SU

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Diary Dates

Friday 27th March

Last day of Spring Term, *school closes at 1.30pm to all pupils*

Monday 13th April

Summer term begins, *school commences at 8.45am*

Week commencing 27th April

Summer Term clubs commence this week

Wednesday 29th April

Year 5 Scholars visiting *Goldsmith's University of London*, for their graduation ceremony

Monday 4th May

Early May Bank Holiday – *school closed to all pupils*

Week commencing Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May

KS2 SATs Week
Mental Health Awareness Week

Week commencing Monday 25th May

Half Term Holiday

Monday 1st June

Summer term 2 begins, *school commences at 8.45am*

Year 4 Multiplication Check starts, *lasting for two weeks*

Fortnightly message

Thank you all, as always for your support during the term, especially to parents and carers who assisted the school on many of our recent educational visits and supporting our children with their projects.

A polite reminder to please ensure that yourself and your children are looking both ways, and are not using an electronic device, when crossing the road outside of the school gates. Though we have a school streets restriction in place, please encourage the children to walk on the pavement, rather than in the middle of the road.

Best wishes to those celebrating Easter in the upcoming holidays.

We trust that you will enjoy quality time with family and friends over the holidays. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 13th April 2026 when you will take part in engaging activities as part of your *Stunning Start*, that will link to your final core text of the academic year. How exciting!

Kind regards,

Veena Naidoo

Head Teacher

Rights of the Fortnight

Article 26

Every child has the right to benefit from social security, including financial support for families in need.

Article 30

You have the right to practice your own culture, language and religion - or any you choose. Minority and indigenous groups need special protection of this right.

Thought for the fortnight:

'Wealth consists not in having great possessions, but in having few wants.'
- Epictetus

Hands-on Algebra !

Year 6 have been deepening their understanding of algebra this week by creating algebraic expressions using cubes and dienes. Although Miss Jones knew they could tackle the numerical work confidently, this lesson was designed to add an extra layer of depth. By drawing pictorial representations and using concrete objects, the children were able to *see* the structure of algebra, not just calculate it. This hands-on approach helped them build a stronger grasp of how expressions are formed and what each part represents. The class showed great focus and flexibility in their thinking as they moved between concrete, pictorial and abstract methods—a fantastic step forward in their mathematical reasoning!



Related Right:

This learning links to Article 29 of the UNCRC, which states that education should help children develop their skills, confidence and understanding of the world. By representing algebra using concrete objects and pictorial models, Year 6 pupils deepened their reasoning and gained a clearer understanding of how expressions work. This hands-on approach supported different learning styles and encouraged children to think flexibly—helping them grow as confident, capable learners and supporting their right to an education that helps them reach their full potential.



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

Reception's Science Week

Science Week was a fantastic success, and the children had an amazing time exploring the world of science through a range of exciting activities. Throughout the week, Reception took part in hands-on experiments, investigations, and problem-solving challenges that encouraged curiosity and creativity. From making predictions and testing ideas to discussing their discoveries with friends, the children showed great enthusiasm and teamwork. It was wonderful to see so many budding scientists asking thoughtful questions and engaging so positively with their learning. We hope this week has inspired a lasting love of science!



Related Right:

This learning links to Article 29 of the UNCRC, which says that education should help children develop their skills, confidence and understanding of the world. Throughout Science Week, our Reception pupils explored new ideas, asked questions and carried out hands-on investigations that encouraged curiosity, problem-solving and creativity. By experimenting, predicting and sharing their discoveries, the children developed early scientific thinking in a supportive and engaging environment—fulfilling their right to an education that helps them reach their full potential.

29



I have the right to an education which develops my personality, talents and abilities



Education should develop children's respect for other people's human rights.



Education should develop children's respect for the environment.



Children should learn about their own culture and other cultures.

Thought for the fortnight:

'Wealth consists not in having great possessions, but in having few wants.'

- Epictetus

Year 3's Scientific Enquiry: Does having longer legs mean you can run faster?

Class 3A turned into a team of young scientists this week, as they carried out a fun enquiry to investigate whether having longer legs means you can run faster. The children began by making predictions before measuring the leg lengths of classmates of different heights. After gathering their data, they put their ideas to the test with a series of energetic races outside. Despite the windy conditions, the runners dashed across the playground, while their classmates cheered them on enthusiastically. Once all of the results were collected and analysed, the class discovered that there wasn't a clear pattern in the data, suggesting that having longer legs or being taller doesn't necessarily make you a faster runner. It was a brilliant investigation filled with excitement, teamwork and lots of scientific thinking.

Dion - 'It was fun racing against people of different heights. It was a good thing that we all stretched before the race!'

Uzayr - 'I LOVED it because I came 1st place and I wasn't the tallest runner!'

Sahad - 'I am a little disappointed that I didn't come first but it was fun!'

Gurneer - 'I was a bit disappointed that I came last, but I really enjoyed running against the others and taking part'

Sukriti - 'I can't believe my legs are 72cm long! I was the tallest competitor!'

Kyalsin - 'I really enjoyed the race because even though I was one of the shortest runners, I didn't come last!'



Related Right:

This investigation also links to Article 13 of the UNCRC, which states that children have the right to express their ideas and share what they discover. Throughout the enquiry, pupils made predictions, discussed their reasoning, compared measurements and shared conclusions based on the data they collected. By communicating their thoughts and working together to analyse the results, the children strengthened their scientific voice and confidence in expressing what they think and know.



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Year 5 Fieldwork Trip – Bond Street to Tottenham Court Road

Year 5 recently enjoyed an exciting and informative fieldwork trip in central London, walking from Bond Street to Tottenham Court Road. This hands-on experience gave pupils the opportunity to develop their geography skills while exploring a busy urban environment.

During the trip, children carried out real-world data collection by completing tallies on different types of land use and transport. They observed how spaces were used across the city—identifying shops, offices, and leisure areas—and recorded the variety of transport options, from buses and taxis to bicycles and pedestrians. This helped them better understand how a major city functions day-to-day.

The pupils also focused on architecture, carefully studying three different buildings along the route. They noted interesting features such as building materials, design styles, and height, encouraging them to think about how cities change over time. To complement this, they sketched the skyline, capturing the unique shapes and structures that make London distinctive.

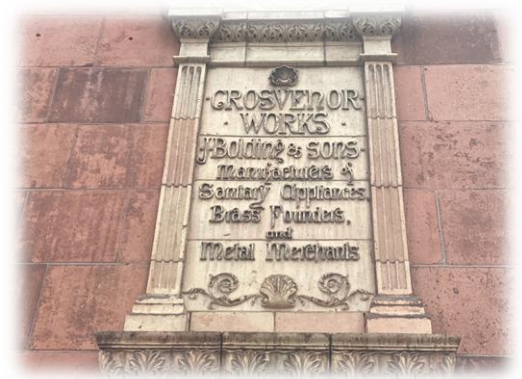
This fieldwork links closely to our “Rooftoppers” topic, where pupils compare London with Victorian Paris, thinking about similarities and differences in city design and development. It also connects to our Geography learning on Brazil. Later this term, pupils will explore Brasília, considering how its planned layout and culture differ from London.

The children demonstrated excellent observational skills, enthusiasm, and curiosity throughout the day. Well done, Year 5!

Noore – *‘When I went to Bond Street, I was surprised that the rooftops were different shapes. Some were flat, curved and some were triangular. Something I noticed that I hadn’t noticed before were the gargoyles because they were seen commonly in Bond Street but not in Ilford.’*

Hanna – *‘Even the most tiniest thing had the biggest detail. For example, the buildings in Bond Street had very dedicated faces that I wouldn’t have noticed before.’*

Arifa – *‘There are a lot of slanted rooftops in the city that you don’t always see in Ilford. This was a real surprising shock.’*



Thought for the fortnight:
‘Wealth consists not in having great possessions, but in having few wants.’
- Epictetus



Related Right:

This learning also links to Article 31 of the UNCRC, which states that children have the right to take part in cultural and recreational activities. By exploring central London on foot, observing its architecture, sketching the skyline, and experiencing the busy city environment first hand, Year 5 pupils engaged in meaningful cultural learning beyond the classroom. This fieldwork allowed them to enjoy and appreciate their capital city in an active, hands-on way—supporting their right to rich, enjoyable and culturally significant educational experiences.

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I have a right to rest, relax and play

Adults should make sure children have the chance to play and relax in a safe, supportive and stimulating environment.

Governments should make sure children can be part of cultural and artistic activities.

When decisions are made about activities in the community, adults should include children in *consulting them*.

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

Year 4 Barbican Trip

On Monday, Year 4 went on a trip to The Barbican to watch and take part in a concert by The London Symphony Orchestra (one of the best orchestras in the world). It is an amazing venue and the concert itself was fantastic, telling the story of *The King who tried to change his Fate*. We heard some amazing classical pieces during the story and we were even able to take part in the concert when we sang along with one of the songs which we had prepared beforehand. It was a great day out and the children were a credit to our school. Thanks again to the parents who came to help.

'It was amazing and I would recommend it to anyone.' – Ashreya 4P



Related Right:

This experience also links to Article 29 of the UNCRC, which states that education should help children develop their talents, confidence and understanding of the world. By listening to a live orchestra, engaging with storytelling through music, and performing a song they had learned in class, Year 4 pupils deepened their appreciation of the arts and strengthened their musical skills. This enriching experience supported their growth as creative, expressive learners.



Are you Rocksteady?

We were treated to another epic rock concert on Thursday as the Rocksteady bands put on a great performance. The children have come a long way on their instruments and they are really working well together to create some wonderful music. We're really proud of them all for what they've learned so far and how brave they are to perform in front of the whole school. Take a look at them all perform on our website!

If you would like to join Rocksteady then it's easy to do - just go to the website and register...

<https://portal.rocksteadymusicschool.com/login>



'They just keep getting better and better and they have so much fun. I wish I could join!' – Mr McKevitt

Thought for the fortnight:
'Wealth consists not in having great possessions, but in having few wants.'
- Epictetus

Related Right:

This learning also links to Article 29 of the UNCRC, which says that education should help children develop their abilities and confidence. Through practising their instruments, rehearsing as bands and performing on stage, pupils strengthened their musical skills, teamwork and self-belief. Their progress and commitment demonstrate how creative opportunities help children grow as capable, confident learners.



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 16.03.26	
YEAR	Class	Teacher Commendation	Peer Commendation
Early Years Foundation Stage	N AM	Mannat	Essey
	N PM	Vyom	Samar
	RBH	Yinou	Tabiha
	RP	Rebeca	Eesa
One	1A	Zulaikha	Abubakar
	1O	Yusuf	Ruth
Two	2AS	Avneet	Natalia
	2R	Dominic	Ianis
Three	3A	Dion	Sanyukta
	3R	Dakshina	Jussara
Four	4N	Hanish	Mason
	4P	Armaan	Alyssa
Five	5PW	Emery	Adriyan
	5R	Adhi	Sophia
Six	6JL	Amina	Madalina
	6K	Sreeyan	Ekam

Thought for the fortnight:
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Child of the Term

Congratulations to all our *Child of the Term* winners who have demonstrated the 5Cs in all aspects of school life, throughout the Autumn term.

YEAR	Class	Child of the Term
Early Years Foundation Stage	N AM	Jannat Ahmed
	N PM	Dua Najeeb
	RBH	Dua Fatima
	RP	Eesa Hussain
One	1A	Abdul Ahad Malik
	1O	Wali Qasim
Two	2AS	Shashwath Ranjithkumar
	2R	Ayan Ali
Three	3A	Ezra Baker-Nam
	3R	Aaminah Farooq
Four	4N	Bruno Abdul De Barros Djassi
	4P	Haniya Khan
Five	5PW	Syed (Mudasir) Ali
	5R	Taybah Ferdous
Six	6JL	Madalina Cutulab
	6K	Sreeyan Reddy Jaidi

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
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Attendance Awards

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

Week commencing 16.03.26		Week commencing 23.03.26	
Phase	Winners	Phase	Winners
EYFS	RBH	EYFS	RP
KS1 (Years 1-2)	1O	KS1 (Years 1-2)	2R
KS2 (Years 3-6)	3R	KS2 (Years 3-6)	6K

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 16.03.26	Week commencing 23.03.26
Nursery	Mannat	Aa'isha
Reception	Hussnain	Shahwali
Year 1	Fabia	Sanjida
Year 2	Mahroosh	Sulaimaan
Year 3	Ayaan	Hoorain
Year 4	Marama	Tabassum
Year 5	Nuwairan	Mariam Alam
Year 6	Avnoor	Anays

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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 16.03.26	Week commencing 23.03.26
Nursery	Yusuf	Fayaz
Reception	Tabiha	Aiman
Year 1	Fabia	Rut
Year 2	Zayan	Eesa
Year 3	Hashim	Habib
Year 4	Advaith	Haider A.
Year 5	Muaaz	Denis
Year 6	Haleemah	Avnoor

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

Sports commendations

Many congratulations to all the children who have been given sports awards by Coach Gbana. 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 16.03.26	Week commencing 23.03.26
Nursery	Wania	Srinika
Reception	Arham	Aiman
Year 1	Tymofii	Aysel
Year 2	Osman	Immanuel
Year 3	Tyra	Hoorain
Year 4	Stanislav	Tabassum
Year 5	Sophia	Bilal
Year 6	Tabrid	Hamza

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Reading Awards

Week commencing 16.03.26			Week commencing 23.03.26		
Name	Class	Award	Name	Class	Award
Alisha	3A	Gold	Davidas	6K	Silver
Aleena	3A	Ruby	Ruqayyah	6K	Diamond
Anika	3A	Gold	Ekam	6K	Diamond
Yahya	3A	Silver	Isra	6K	Amethyst
Sarah	2A	Emerald	Sreeyan	6K	Emerald
			Fabia	1A	Silver
			Yahya	3A	Silver
			Anika	3A	Gold
			Alisha	3A	Gold
			Hoorain	3A	Amethyst
			Gurneer	3A	Ruby
			Aleena	3A	Ruby
			Wali	10	Silver
			Eshall	10	Gold
			Tymoffi	10	Gold
			Khizar	10	Emerald

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
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			Yusuf	10	Bronze
			Parmeet	6JL	Bronze
			Guilia	6JL	Sapphire
			Jehziah	4N	Diamond
			Hayden	4N	Emerald
			Advaith	4N	Gold
			Taibah	4N	Sapphire
			Ayaan C	4N	Bronze
			Zunairah	4N	Silver
			Hanish	4N	Gold
			Sejal	4N	Bronze
			Dunya	4N	Bronze

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Parent Notices

Information for Year 5 Parents – for circulation to your families

The 11 Plus exam for 2027 entry will take place on Friday 18 September 2026. Children sitting the test will receive authorised absence from their primary school for the day.

Registration will open on 1 May 2026 and will close strictly at 5pm on 15 June 2026.

It is not possible to register before or after these dates. The registration link is already available on the webpage and will automatically open on 1 May 2026.

For children who need additional time or other adjustments, parents are required to upload the appropriate documentation when registering. This includes a care plan, a supporting letter from the SENCO or teacher supporting the child, or an EHCP that clearly outlines the support typically provided during assessments, such as SATs. This document must be attached to the online registration form. We cannot accept any adjustment requests submitted after 15 June 2026, so it is essential that parents are made aware of this deadline to avoid disappointment.

Parents must register their child while they are in Year 5 using the link below. Children will sit the test in Year 6:
<https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/school-admissions/redbridge-11-plus/>

Important information for parents before registering

- If you do not live within the common catchment area for the Redbridge Grammar Schools, please do not register your child for the test.
Regardless of how well a child performs, we cannot offer a place to candidates living outside this area.
- To check if an address is within the common catchment area:
Visit Redbridge Maps (<https://my.redbridge.gov.uk/map>) → select Education → choose 11+ Common Catchment Area, then enter your postcode. The child's home address must fall within the blue boundary. (The red boundary shows Redbridge; the blue boundary shows the whole common catchment area, which includes all of Redbridge, Waltham Forest, and parts of Barking & Dagenham, Newham, and Essex.)
- Be aware that grammar schools in other areas may schedule their tests on the same day. Most run their tests in the first few weeks of September. Parents should consider their preferred schools before registering.
- If you register your child for the Redbridge test, please note that we cannot offer an alternative test date if they miss it due to taking another school's entrance test on the same day.

Test format

The Redbridge 11 Plus test consists of two papers:

- English and Verbal Reasoning
- Mathematics and Non-Verbal Reasoning

Open Evening Dates

- Ilford County High School for Boys – Thursday 30 April 2026
- Woodford County High School for Girls – Thursday 30 April 2026

This information will also be shared on Redbridge's social media pages (Twitter and Facebook) closer to the registration period.

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

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind Regards

Sapna Hurry (pronoun She/Her)

Assistant Team Manager

Admissions and Awards

London Borough of Redbridge | 4th Floor front | Lynton House, 255-259 High Road | Ilford | IG1 1NY

Tel: 020 8708 3308 | Email: sapna.hurry@redbridge.gov.uk

*Our telephone opening times to the public are from 8.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

[Web](#) | [Facebook](#) | [X](#) | [Instagram](#) | [TikTok](#)



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RBO Youth Opera Programme Applications (2026-2027)

The Royal Ballet and Opera have opened applications for places on our FREE Youth Opera programmes starting in September 2026. We invite applications from all enthusiastic young singers living in and around London, who will be aged 8 –11 on 1st September 2026 (currently in Years 3-5).

Young Voices Programme

Young singers who will be aged 8 on 1st September 2026 are invited to apply for our Young Voices programme – a FREE 6-month singing programme aimed at developing participants’ vocal skills and musical literacy.

Youth Opera Company

Young singers who will be aged 9-11 on 1st September 2026 are invited to apply for our Youth Opera Company programme – a FREE multi-year in-house chorus which offers all-round training in the performing arts and opportunities to audition for the children’s chorus in the Royal Opera Company’s productions.

All applicants should be able to demonstrate:

- A passion for and commitment to singing
- An interest in drama and performing skills
- An enthusiasm for teamwork and collaboration

We particularly welcome applications from those typically under-represented within youth singing programmes including those who are from global majority heritages, lower-income backgrounds, those who are boys, and disabled children.

For more information regarding the RBO Youth Opera Programmes and how to apply, please visit our website here: [RBO Youth Opera Programmes](#)

Please submit your application **by midnight on Sunday 10 May**. Should you experience any issues completing the application form, please contact youthopera@roh.org.uk in advance of the deadline.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to get in touch — and many thanks in advance for any help sharing this opportunity.

Best wishes,

Stephanie Waldron
L&P Opera Officer

Congratulations to this fortnight's commendation winners.
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Dear Resident,

I thought I would share a piece of good news for Redbridge.

The BBC's much-loved programme **Antiques Roadshow** will be visiting our borough this summer.

The show will be filming at **Valentines Mansion & Gardens in Ilford on Sunday 7 June 2026**, giving local residents the opportunity to attend and even have antiques or collectables assessed by the programme's experts.

So if you have an old family heirloom tucked away in the loft, a curious item sitting in a cupboard, or something you have always wondered about, this could be your chance to find out its story - and perhaps even its value.

Even if you do not have anything to bring along, it should be a lovely day out and a great opportunity for Redbridge to be showcased on national television.

You can find further details, including how to apply for tickets or submit an item for valuation, here:

<https://visionrcl.org.uk/antiques-roadshow-rolls-into-redbridge-this-summer/>

Best Regards,

Tanweer

Cllr Tanweer Khan

Councillor for Mayfield Ward

Chair of Pension Fund Committee

London Borough of Redbridge

Redbridge Town Hall

128-142 High Road, Ilford, IG1 1DD

Email: tanweer.khan@redbridge.gov.uk



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Redbridge Mental Health Support Team presents...

PARENT AND CARER'S IN MIND: WEBINARS FOR WELLBEING

Hear from mental health professionals about how to promote your child's emotional health and wellbeing. Our monthly webinar offer starts with our three most popular topics

**REGISTER
NOW!**

MANAGING EXAM STRESS

Exams can be stressful times for young people and their families, in this webinar we will be looking at the exam experience through the lens of anxiety. We will be sharing ideas on how you can support children and young people as they navigate this common event in school years.

WED 25.02.26 7-8PM

MOVING UP TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Moving from primary to secondary school can be a significant milestone, in this webinar we will be looking at ways parents and carers can support children with preparation, help them with any worries and support yourselves to manage the change.

WED 25.03.26 7-8PM

TALKING ABOUT BIG FEELINGS

Understanding our emotions can be an important way to help us communicate what we need successfully. In this webinar we look at the relationship between emotions and behaviour, we will be sharing ideas and strategies to help you support children and young people with this valuable knowledge.

WED 29.04.26 7-8PM



**FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO SIGN UP
CLICK HERE,**

London Borough of
Redbridge
#BREAKTHESTIGMA



**VISIT WWW.REDBRIDGE.GOV.UK AND SEARCH 'MHST'
OR GO TO LINKTR.EE/REDBRIDGEMHST**

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