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## Message from Miss Talbot

Dear parents,

It's hard to believe that another school year has come to an end and that we are already starting to think about next academic year and the exciting things to come. Time in school always seems to fly by, perhaps because we are continually thinking in six week blocks or maybe because there's always so much going on and no two days are the same.

When I look back at this year – there is a lot to be proud of. We have wonderful children at Godinton; they are hard-working, polite and kind. There is always a calm and purposeful air in the classrooms and our staff work hard to bring out the best in the children and to give them opportunities to shine. The children have had their learning enhanced in so many ways this year: by exciting school trips and by visitors to the classroom – just ask Reception about their animal day. They have joined in with a variety of whole school events such as World Book Day or Geography Day. They have had the opportunity to push their boundaries and develop their confidence by staying away from home and trying activities they have never done before such as archery or abseiling. They have taken on responsibilities such as prefects and house captains and have represented the views of their class and initiated change through our Mini Management Team. They have contributed to fantastic collaborative projects such as Young Voices, have raised money for charities and have earned house points for their team. They have entertained the elderly in our community and have developed areas of our school grounds such as the wildlife garden. Finally, when it comes to sport, our children represent our school magnificently, demonstrating good team spirit, determination and enthusiasm. It's no wonder time flies by so quickly.

As Headteacher, my pride in our children is immense. In our Year 6 children, I see pupils who are confident, well rounded individuals who have had the opportunity to see where their strengths and talents lie and who will go onto secondary school ready to build on their primary school successes. I wish all our year 6 pupils the very best of luck as they move onto pastures new. It has been an absolute pleasure to have had you as pupils at Godinton.

On behalf of all the staff at Godinton, I would like to wish all the children a wonderful summer break and thank you for the continued support you give to the school. We look forward to seeing you all in September.

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## Miss Ricketts' Mosaic

I'm sure that everyone will agree that the mosaic which now adorns the front entrance to the school is a very fitting tribute to Miss Ricketts. Thank you to everyone who helped to make the unveiling of this piece of artwork such a special occasion—in particular, Sophie, Dylan and Lexie who read the poems so wonderfully.



I know how much this memorial means to Miss Ricketts' family and friends and we are pleased to have something very special to reflect how important Miss Ricketts is to our school.



## New Family Liaison Officer



We are delighted to have appointed a new Family Liaison Officer to Godinton. Mrs Jacqui McGibney will take up her new position in mid September. Jacqui is an experienced practitioner, who has worked previously with children and families in a supportive capacity. We look forward to welcoming Jacqui to the team.

## House Points



It was a pleasure to take 50 children to the bowling alley last week, on a special trip as a reward for gaining their gold 100 house point badge.

House point totals will reset in September, giving all the children another opportunity to go for gold in 2018–2019. All the children will be bringing a house point certificates home.

If anyone has lost any of the badges they have earned this year, replacements are available to purchase from the school office at the cost of 50p each.

The winning house for this academic year is Leeds with 7031 house points. Only 44 points behind in second place is Walmer with 6981. Dover came third with 6667 housepoints and then Rochester with 6250. Congratulations to everyone for all the house points earned this year—an excellent reflection of the hard work that has taken place.

## Changes to the School Office

After over ten years as a teaching assistant at Godinton, Mrs Atkins is having a change and will be taking up a position in our school office alongside Mrs Kelleher and Mrs Smith. We know that Mrs Atkins will be a fantastic addition to our office team and wish her well in her new role.

Next year, Mrs Atkin's Year 2 Teaching Assistant position will be filled by Mrs Lucie Clark. Mrs Clark has worked in the school for the past year as a teaching assistant in Year 6.

## Hardelot Residential

25 children from years 4-6 enjoyed a fantastic three night adventure to Hardelot in France last week. As always our children were impeccably behaved and represented our school admirably.



The children's experiences included visiting the town of Boulogne and a nearby chocolate factory, picnicking on the beach and sampling the goods at a local snail farm! The children thoroughly enjoyed their experience and despite being exhausted upon their return, I know that Mrs Crowfoot, Mrs Ellis, Mr Lund and Mrs Barrett all had a wonderful time too! Please have a look at the photos on the school website which can be found in the 'children' section.



## Attendance Figures

Accompanying your child's end of term report will be their attendance summary for the year. Most children will have some days off school during the year due to illness—coughs, colds and tummy bugs for example. When children are ill and need to be at home, we do not expect them to come into school. Government guidelines however rate attendance which is below 95% as a concern. We would like to take the opportunity to remind parents that absence for the purpose of a holiday will not be authorised.

Attendance at Godinton is good and above national expectations, standing at 96.2%.

## Collaborative Choir



It was a pleasure to watch some of our talented singers taking part in a collaborative choir at St Mary's church in Ashford at the end of last month. The children formed part of a choir with other schools from the CATS (Central Ashford Town Schools) collaboration, including East Stour Primary, Downsview Infants, Willesborough Juniors and Infants schools, Repton Manor Primary and Victoria Road. Each school had received choral tuition from Josh Cadman from Sing Academy. The performance included a medley of songs from around the world.

## PTFA News

### Summer Fair

This year's summer fair raised over £1000 for the school. This money will go towards the continued development of our outside areas. Thank you to everyone who came along to support.

### Date for your diary—Mini Olympics

On Friday 21st September, the PTFA will be holding a mini Olympic evening from 4.00 to 5.30 pm. Children can come along with their parents and take part in a series of mini sporting events. Further details will be provided when we return to school after the holiday.

### Want to join our PTFA?

Our current PTFA committee will be stepping down from their roles in September. No longer having children at the school they feel that it is time to hand over the reins to the next generation committee. We would love to welcome some new faces, with new ideas to key committee roles and to recruit some new helpers for different events.

Our PTFA has always been a dynamic part of our school and we would love to build on its success next year. The PTFA arranges events which provide our children with some of their best memories of school and it would be a shame if it were unable to continue.

Please mull over whether you would be able to offer some support to the school as part of our PTFA or if you know someone who you think might be fantastic to join our PTFA, please twist their arm!

If you would like to find out more, please catch me on the gate in September or have a chat with one of our current PTFA members.

## New Website

All being well, our new school website will go live over the summer holidays. The site will still contain lots of useful information about the school but will now be easier to navigate and to find the information you require. Further pages will be added when we return to school in September, including photo galleries. Please have a look at the new site when it launches in August and let us know if there is any other information that you think could be displayed there.

### Godinton's 40th Anniversary

Godinton Primary first opened its doors to pupils in September 1978 and to mark the school's 40th anniversary we will be having a celebration week when we return to school in September. **Friday 7th September will be a dressing up day, on which children are invited to come into school in 1970s fashion.**

We look forward to a week of special events to make this important event in the school's history.

### End of Term Celebrations



The children enjoyed special activities this week as an end of term treat for working hard over the year. There were events in the classroom (games and DVDs) for some whilst others enjoyed activities on the school field or at the park. I know that the staff would like me to pass on their thanks to all the children for being such a privilege to work with and for all the kind end of year gifts they have received. Thank you.

## Other News...

- The school will be having some redecoration over the summer holiday with both the hall and the Reception classrooms being painted. It will be lovely to return to school after the holiday with a fresh lick of paint on some of the older parts of the school.
- Please remember that school reopens on **Tuesday 4th September 2018**. Have a wonderful summer everyone.

## Caught on camera this month...



## Sports Report

### Girls' football

Congratulations to our girls' football team in their last tournament. Here is a match report, written by Freya Pullen: A few weeks ago we did a girl football tournament. As it was really hot so we got tired out really fast. Here are the scores and who we played

Wye (Lady Joanna) 1-0 Godinton, Ashford Oaks 0-0 Godinton, Kennington 1-2 Godinton, Beaver Green 1-0 Godinton and Furley Park 0-0 Godinton

As we drew in the finals it went down to penalties and Furley park won. Narin got Player of the Match for the final. At the end of the game we were all very tired but we were glad because we came second overall.

### Hi-5 Presentation



Our amazing hi-5 team also have achievements to celebrate. Two teams were entered into the hi-5 league this year—Sharks and Jets. The teams initially played 5 warm up matches and were then placed into ability pools based on the results of those first matches. In the second half of the season each team again played 5 matches. The Sharks lost their first match then won the next 4, meaning that they came second overall in their pool. The Jets drew one match and won the other 4, which meant that overall they came joint top with Willesborough school – however the Jets had a greater goal difference so they came first in their pool. Mrs Ellis and Mrs Crowfoot are very proud of how much the children have improved this year and of how they conducted themselves throughout the season. Their achievements were celebrated at a presentation evening. Well done everyone.

### District Sports Athletics at the Julie Rose Stadium

Congratulations to all our children who participated in the District Sports Athletics Tournament at the Julie Rose stadium earlier this month. Our team consisted of some of the best athletes from Years 4, 5 and 6 who competed in a variety of track and field events. Our team came fourth overall in the large schools category and three of our children gained medals for their individual achievements: Grace and Rhys from Year 6 came second in their howler event and Josh from Year 6 came first in the 400m, beating a 16 year record. Well done to everyone.

