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Message from Miss Talbot

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who supported our Summer Fair last Saturday. We were blessed with wonderful sunshine which drew lots of families down to the school for an afternoon of fun. Whilst the fair is of course a means of fundraising for the school, it is also an opportunity for us to provide a community event which everyone can join in with. It is always lovely to catch up with ex-pupils who come back to see us and to welcome families with children due to start school in September.

My thanks go to everyone who played a part in the event—everyone who donated items for the fair on our non-uniform day, all the parents, relatives, neighbours, staff and children who helped on a stall, made cakes, sold raffle tickets, set up, cleared away or came and spent their money on the day and to Linda Tunbridge and the PTFA committee for all their hard work and enthusiasm in making the event such a success. Our previous committee were a tough act to follow but the team have done a fantastic job in picking up the reins and ensuring that the PTFA continues to be an important part of our school community.

The summer fair made almost £2,000 profit which will go towards the development of our outdoor area. We will be purchasing benches and games signs for the playground and are looking at developing a playground 'chill out zone' in response to ideas from the children.

If any one has any ideas for future fundraising events that might prove popular with parents or children please let either myself or a member of the committee know. We will be holding the annual AGM in October when the committee would welcome new members or anyone interested in finding out more about the work of the PTFA.



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Class News...

Year 6 Activity Week



With their SATs behind them, Year 6 have been letting their hair down and enjoying Activity Week. The children of course enjoyed their Caribbean party day and steel drum experience, their day out at Chessington on Friday and a visit to Wagamamas where they tried their hand at making and tasting some delicious dishes but have also learnt some valuable skills over the course of the week.

Even having a basic understanding of first aid can save lives and we have been pleased to have been able to offer our Year 6 children the opportunity to learn some core first aid skills in an afternoon workshop. The children also attended the Ashford 'Safety in Action' workshops in which they learnt about stranger danger and how to make informed choices—vital skills as they move onto their new schools.



Some of our Year 6 children will also be taking part in the residential visit to the Swattenden Activity Centre in Cranbrook next week whilst those remaining at school will be learning outdoor survival skills in a Black Wolf workshop.

We will be saying goodbye to our Year 6 children at their Leavers' Assembly on the afternoon of Thursday 18th July.

Visit from Warburton's

The school was visited by Warburton's bread makers last week and some classes enjoyed the opportunity to make sandwiches and taste the bread which the company brought in.

The children were taught about the importance of food hygiene when preparing food and about the ingredients and processes involved in making loaves bread. The visit certainly helped the children to appreciate everything that goes into transforming wheat into the loaves that we see on our supermarket shelves.



Year 2 and Year R go Wild for Science



Years R and 2 enjoyed a visit from the Wild Science team last week and got the opportunity to handle a range of different animals, including chinchillas, frogs, lizards and millipedes and learn about their habits and habitats. Miss Moss even conquered her fear of snakes during the experience. The roadshow brought an exciting end to this term's Learning Adventure.

Saturday Cookery Workshops



Our Saturday cookery workshop for Year R and 1 children and their families at the start of the month proved to be a huge success once more. Our school cook, Jo, opened up the school kitchen to host an afternoon tea cookery workshop alongside Mrs McGoldrick and other members of the school staff who gave up their time to join in. These afternoons are an opportunity for children to develop their cookery skills and share them with their families. We hope to run similar events again next year and are considering how we can get some of our older children involved in cookery events.

Creative Homework

Well done to everyone who joined in with the last Creative Homework topic– 'Around the World'. I enjoyed a special tea party with the children selected by their classes, all of whom had produced fantastic, imaginative pieces of work in response to the theme. This ranged from a board games featuring different countries of the world to models of the earth, a model of the journey from France to England and a class quiz designed to challenge general knowledge about world flags.

All the children who have completed 2 pieces of Creative Homework this year will be invited to a special film afternoon which will take place on Tuesday 9th July. Mrs Stein will be circulating the details of this shortly.

Sports Day

I'm sorry that the weather scuppered our plans for Sports Day the other week so keep your fingers crossed that the recent spell of good weather continues and that everything can go ahead as planned on the afternoon of Wednesday 3rd July.

As most of Year 6 are out on their secondary transition days on Wednesday we brought forward our flat and relay races so they were able to participate last week. All the points amassed during these races will go towards the House totals. A few parents have asked whether it would be possible to come and watch the competitive element of our Sports Day as well as watching the afternoon activities that parents are currently able to join us for. Whilst we would love to include parents in all aspects of our Sports Day, logistics would make this more challenging. We have had very positive feedback from parents about the carousel of activities that the children rotate round during the afternoon and we hope that you will enjoy joining us for this on Wednesday from 1.30. Please remember to bring your own drinks and chairs and that the site is a no smoking environment which includes e cigarettes and vaping products.

Updated Privacy Notice

In the next few weeks we will be updating our Privacy Notice which will be available on the school website. The privacy notice will now state:

Occasionally the school will send out electronic communications via ParentMail to promote extra curricular activities run by local secondary schools or other organisations which may be of interest to parents.

If parents do not want to receive these notifications then they should inform the school in writing.

Congratulations and Success...

Charity Fundraising

William's fundraising efforts at the end of last term raised a staggering £347.69 for the World Wildlife Fund. He even inspired others to raise some additional funds including Betty, Kurush and Charlie from Year 4 who collected a whole jar of coins. Well done everyone.

Some of our Year 6 boys have also been fundraising, this time a charity football match to raise money for Sports Relief. Well done to Charlie and the other boys involved.

We are also pleased to report that we have so far been able to provide Brakes with 2 large collection bags full of empty crisp packets to donate to their 'Meals and More' campaign.

Local Litter Picking

Congratulations to Isabel, Amber and Emily from Upper School who have recently completed a weekend litter pick on



the estate. Armed with gloves and litter pickers, the girls gathered up rubbish from the local estate helping to make our locality a better place to be. Well done girls!

Running for Charity

Mrs Partridge has been successful in gaining a place in next year's London Landmarks Half Marathon. You may therefore see Mrs Partridge pounding the streets of Ashford over the coming months to get in some practice. We look forward to hearing how she gets on.

CATS Choir

Last week our school choir, performed as part of the CATS (Central Ashford Town Schools) Choir along with 8 other local primary schools. The event was held in the auditorium of the John Wallis Academy with each school performing their own song as well as some collaborative numbers. Each school had been coached by professional singing coaches who work with children up and down the country resulting in an amazing performance. We look forward to taking our choir to the O2 in January when they will perform as part of the Young Voices choir.



Other News and Reminders...

Keep a look out

We would like to ask local residents to keep an eye out for any 'after hours' activity at the school and to inform the police of anything suspicious. Recently we have had the last of the lead stolen from the school roof, causing overnight leaks during the week of torrential rain and damage to the classroom. The thieves came onto the site in the early hours of the morning of 10th June. Police have been informed.

Term Dates

Please remember that school finishes for pupils on Friday 19th July. We return to school on Tuesday 3rd September.

Governor News

In order for parents to get to know more about our Governing Body, we include information from our Governors in each newsletter.



Message from the Chair of Governors: Steve King

Parent Governor Election

May I begin by thanking the nominees who put themselves forward for our Parent Governor vacancy and the parents who voted for them in the election. On behalf of the returning officer for the election, I have pleasure to report the outcome as follows:

Mr Rob Wellard 61%

Mr Kwai Chi 39%

Having received the most votes Mr Rob Wellard is duly elected as a Parent Governor at Godinton Primary School.

Parent Governors play a vital role on the governing body. They hold the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school helped by building a rapport with the parental body that elects them. Furthermore, through their children, they have a first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum, and how the school is perceived from the 'consumers' point of view. This enables parent governors to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of the school, which is the key part of their role. Another important part of the role is being available to advise parents on appropriate routes of action but, they cannot become involved in individual concerns because no governor has the authority to act individually on behalf of the Governing Body or the school and their involvement may jeopardise appropriate complaints and appeals procedures.

Governor Training Day

At the beginning of June the eagerly awaited Governor Training Day arrived. It was a whole day event led by the school's Senior Leadership Team covering a wide range of topics. It was a fun packed and informative day which provided us all with a better insight to our school. The morning included sessions on Finance, Staffing Structure and Performance Management. The afternoon involved an update on the new Ofsted framework including consideration of the action needed to ensure we are ready for our next inspection. We particularly enjoyed a session on 'moderation' which is an important part of the process of teacher assessment whereby comparison is made of various children's work to validate the assessments made by their teachers. We looked at some examples of writing to help us understand the process.

For me, the best session was one involving a group of children from different year groups. Pairs of Governors were put with a group of 4 children with the children leading discussion on aspects of our school. The children talked to us about the things they were most proud of in their books, questioned us about our understanding of what goes on in school and gave their views on things like house points, school values and learning adventures.

Further Information on School Governance

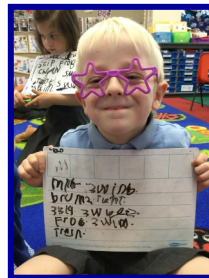
Parents can find further information on school governance on the school website. This includes information about the role of the Governing Body, articles of association and school financial statements.

Please refer to 'Governance' under the 'School Information' tab.

Other News and Reminders...

- If you are planning on getting your child's ears pierced during the summer holidays please could I ask that this is done at the start of the holidays in order to allow ears enough time to heal and for earrings to be able to be removed before we return to school in September. Earrings must be removed for all PE lessons.
- If parents have any post for the school office, this can be deposited in the secure post box at the front of the school which is checked and emptied every day.
- If you haven't yet returned your updated photographic permissions letter, please could we ask that this is done by Friday 5th July. Thank you.
- Whilst keeping your car engine idling to activate air conditioning whilst waiting for your children to come out of school is no doubt cooling, we would ask parents to consider the environmental impact of the fumes generated and the impact on pedestrians passing by. Thank you.

Caught on camera this month...



Sports Report

High Five 'International Tournament'

On Monday 17th June, we held our 3rd annual High 5 tournament, with our returning visitors from Gwenfo, Wales. Also joining us this year were Beaver Green, Willesborough Juniors and Ashford Oaks. Each school brought two teams, who played in ability pools A and B, meaning 4 matches for each team. All of the children that participated behaved extremely well and demonstrated superb sportsmanship throughout. In the end Gwenfo came first in each pool, with the remaining 4 schools taking a medal each across the board – our B team won Silver. We ended the morning with an ice-cream treat, and would like to thank the teachers involved (from all of the schools) for their hard-work in making this tournament happen.



High Five League

On Friday 21st June our League Team played their final matches, we are now just waiting to find out our final league placement (final matches in our group were played on 28th June). No matter where we come, Mrs Crowfoot & Mrs Ellis are extremely proud of all of the hard work and commitment that the children in the team have shown. Everyone has shown so much improvement since the league began in February, and (whatever the score) the children have conducted themselves impeccably and represented our school superbly.