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### Message from Miss Talbot

Dear Parents,

It has been a privilege to watch our children participating in a wide range of sporting activities over the past few weeks—some with an element of healthy competition and others where the emphasis is in having a go and experiencing something new.

Our Sports Day finally went ahead last week and once again gave the children the opportunity to participate in a range of different activities that tested different aspects of physical activity including throwing, jumping, dribbling and coordination. All the activities were ones that all the children could have a go at, regardless of age or ability and the emphasis was on a team approach to amassing as many House Points as they could for their House. The results of the competitive matches saw victory for Walmer but when points from sports day were added, it was Leeds that were the overall winners. Congratulations to Leeds on their victory and to all the children for their enthusiastic participation.

We also participated in the annual district Sports event at the Julie Rose stadium this month—this is a competitive event in which athletes from local schools are pitched against each other in distance running, sprint and relays as well as three individual throwing events. Our team was allocated to the large schools group, competing against teams from 3 or 5 form entry schools. The team worked exceptionally hard and there was a brilliant sense of team spirit amongst the children. Although we were placed last in our group we had some excellent individual results including a special award for Areisa as the fastest Year 3 /4 girl in the Ashford area.

Last week also saw the school participate in the Challenger Games—another local competition held at the Julie Rose Stadium. Further details of this event can be found in the Sports' Report.

**On behalf of all the staff at Godinton can I take the opportunity to wish you all a very happy summer break and to thank you for all the support you have offered to the school over the past year. We wish our Year 6 Leavers all the very best for the future. We return to school on Tuesday 3rd September and look forward to seeing you all then.**



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## Class News...

### Year 4 VE Day Party



Thank you to all the parents and other guests who joined Year 4 for their VE Day party to mark the end of this term's Learning Adventure. Having studied various aspects of life during World War Two over the course of the past two terms, the children recreated a VE Day party complete with Mrs Kelleher's ukulele band playing a host of songs from the 1940s. Congratulations to Year 4 for putting on a fantastic afternoon's event.



### Year 5's Victorian Banquet

Year 5 finished off their Learning Adventure on Tuesday with a Victorian Banquet. The year group have been learning about this period in history as part of their Learning Adventure and have focused on aspects of the Industrial Revolution. Lessons, Victorian style, and the opportunity to try some Victorian food completed the day. We hope that the parents who came along



## Swattenden Residential

34 of our Year 6 children spent last week at the Swattenden residential centre in Cranbrook enjoying a host of activities from mountain biking to paddle boarding. As always the behaviour of our children was exemplary and I know that they all had a wonderful week. Thank you to all the staff who went out of their way to ensure that the children had a wonderful time.



## Black Wolf Survival Skills

Those Year 6 children who didn't go on the residential enjoyed the opportunity to play at being Bear Grylls in a day of survival skills led by the Black Wolf Team. The children tried their hand at archery, threw ninja stars, made dens and spent the afternoon making fires. They also all made bracelets using a loop and plaiting method which required lots of patience.

The emphasis of both the Swattenden Residential and the Black Wolf workshop is very much about team building, problem solving, perseverance and resilience with all the children working together very successfully. The activities moved the children out of their comfort zone and they proved to themselves what they can do when they put their mind to something.

## Year 3 Greek Gods and Heroes Picnic



Our Year 3 children also entertained their parents with Greek dancing after a picnic on the field yesterday. The children have been learning about different myths and legends and celebrated this with a special afternoon. The children's Learning Adventure has also seen them making clay pots.



## Challenger Games Choir

We took 10 children from our choir to the Kent Challenger Games held at the Julie Rose Stadium last Friday. The Challenger Games event brings together schools from all over Kent to participate in a series of physical activities. The choir performed alongside 10 other schools at various intervals throughout the day and lifted the teams and audience with their rendition of popular songs. Well done to all those who took part.



## Congratulations and Success...

### Gold House Point Badge Winners

Congratulations to the 50 children who achieved their gold House Point badge this year. All our children work so hard to gain points for their teams but special recognition needs to go to the children who have gained 100 points. Their efforts were rewarded with a trip to the Picture House cinema on Monday. House points will reset in September when children will be able to start collecting their 2019-2020 badges.



## Godinton Big Dance

This week, the whole school took part in our 'Big Dance'. Over the past few weeks, dance leaders from Year 6 had been busy putting together a Justin Bieber dance routine which they then taught to the whole school out on the playground. A whole school rendition of YMCA warmed everyone up beforehand. Congratulations to the dance leaders for their fantastic choreography.



Congratulations to Ethan in Year 5 who raised almost £400 for a cancer charity after completing a 5km mud run. Well done Ethan.

## Other News...

### Homework in September

In September we will be changing how we organise homework and amalgamating class homework with Creative Homework. Each term the children will be set a 'Homework Trail' by their teacher. The trail will include some 'Base Camp' tasks that need to be completed each week—this includes learning spellings or phonics (depending on year groups), reading practice and for years 2–6, times tables practice. It also includes an online maths homework activity which will be set each week. We will no longer be using the 'My Maths' programme but will instead be introducing 'Mathletics' a more engaging, interactive maths package.

The children will then be able to choose which homework activities they complete each term from a 'Homework Trail' of 9 options centred around their Learning Adventure topic. At least one of these tasks will be a creative task which will give the children free rein to explore an idea in an imaginative way—the same way we currently do with Creative Homework. The children must complete at least 3 tasks from the grid over the course of a term. Those children who want to challenge themselves can go for the 'Extra Mile' award and complete 6 tasks from the grid.

At the start of each new term, the children will return all completed homework to school and will have a homework showcase when, in class, they will view each other's work and present the things they have done. A new trail will then be set for that term.

Every time the children complete an 'Extra Mile' challenge they will gain 5 House Points and if they complete 3 'Extra Mile' challenges in a year, they will be invited to a special film morning in Term 6.

Full details will be sent out to parents at the start of next academic year, including details about the Mathletics programme and login details. We hope that this will be an exciting way to engage children with homework tasks.

## Summer Holiday Homework

The children will have brought home this week an invitation to take part in a summer holiday homework challenge. All children have been invited to produce a piece of work (artwork, model, piece of writing, poem, textile work, research) based around their class name which they will need to bring into school on the first day of term. We look forward to seeing all the exciting things that the children produce.

On this day, the children will be participating in team building activities with their class teacher as a way of getting to know each other.

### Mini Management Team



Having decided on some items that they felt were needed in the playground, the MMT were delighted that benches and signs have now arrived in school, ready to be put up over the summer holidays. This includes some bright blue benches made from recycled plastic and playground rules and games signs. The MMT also decided that it was important to have new signs for the 'Buddy Benches'.

Another area that the MMT have looked at is the reduction of single use plastic items in the school. As a result we have replaced the disposable plastic cups used at tea party with reusable cups.

They have also finalised the details of the lunchtime 'Top Table' that will start in September.

Our Mini Managers will remain in post until October Half Term when we will hold elections for our new teams. They have been a brilliant group of children to work with, full of great ideas and very intuitive about the needs of the school.

## A Kindness Revolution is Coming...

Next year, we will be embarking on a 'Kindness Revolution' at Godinton—an opportunity for the children to embark on a series of activities and challenges designed to support and consider the needs of others both in our school and in the wider community. Some will link with STAR week, such as the community acts of kindness that the children undertook at Christmas last year and others will include us working with charity groups such as the NSPCC. We will also be participating in Ashford Vineyard's 1000 Hours of Kindness' project. More information will be revealed in the autumn.

In the meantime, I hope that you will join us in kickstarting our Kindness Project by donating items for Hygiene Bank. Hygiene Bank is a national, grass roots, community-powered charity which helps families with hygiene, beauty and personal care essential in a similar way in which Food Bank operates.

Each hygiene bank, encourages its local community to donate items via drop off points. Products are then collected, sorted and distributed by partners working locally to families who would benefit from receiving such items. It hopes to be as successful as Food Bank has proved to be in supporting families with food essentials.

Godinton has been approved as a Hygiene Bank collection point so please help us to make this a success for the Ashford community. The collection point will be a permanent feature in the entrance foyer as of September, when you can donate items such as unopened and unused shampoos, soaps, bath and shower products, toothpaste and toothbrushes, sanitary products, nappies, deodorants, shaving products or toilet paper—those essential items that would go onto your weekly shopping list which we often take for granted. Thank you for helping us to make a difference to our local community.

## Staff News

Mrs Tinker and Mrs Collins have been teaching in Year 5 and 6 respectively on a part time basis over the past year. We will be very sorry to lose them both from the staff team when they leave us at the end of the academic year to take a break from teaching. I'd like to thank them both for everything they have done for the school and to wish them well in whatever exciting adventures lie ahead. Their departure means that Mrs Pemberton and Mrs Clark will be forming a new job share partnership in Year 6. Mrs Clark will work on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs Pemberton on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Mrs Fagg will also be leaving us at the end of the academic year having decided not to return from her maternity leave. I would like to thank Mrs Fagg for everything she has done for our school over the past five years and we wish her well as she spends more time with her daughter.

Miss Marsh, who has been covering Foxes class alongside Miss King on a temporary basis since Miss John's departure at Easter, will be returning to completing supply work in the school in September. Miss King will be returning to her HLTA cover role in September. Again, I would like to thank them both for covering Foxes class so admirably over the past few months.

Two of our teaching assistants are also leaving us at the end of the year. Miss Stanton will be leaving to pursue further studies at college and Miss Moore is leaving for pastures new. They have both worked extremely hard in their roles and we wish them the very best for the future.

We welcome 4 new staff to the team in September. Mrs Jones will be teaching in Year 1 and Miss Attenborough will be teaching in Year 5. We also have two new Teaching Assistants—Mrs Pluckrose who will be joining the Year 2 team and Mrs Gandon who will be joining the Year 5 team. We congratulate them all on their appointment.

We also have another staff wedding to celebrate. Our Head of Middle School, Miss Walker, is getting married over the summer and will return to school in September as Mrs Walker. We wish Miss Walker and her fiancée much happiness together.

## Other News and Reminders...

- Please remember to order any items of school uniform early in the holidays in order for it to arrive in time for the start of next academic year. Uniform deliveries to school can be collected from the mobile KMAC van in the school car park on Monday 2nd September between 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. July and August are the busiest times of the year and deliveries can take 15 working days to arrive once an order has been placed.
- If you haven't yet completed and returned your updated photographic permissions slip to school please can you do so before we break up. The database needs to be updated over the school holiday ready for September.
- Thank you to everyone who helped out with the last school disco. We are so grateful to the many parents who helped in different ways—selling sweets, administering tattoos and organising the music. My thanks go to Linda and her committee for all their fantastic efforts this year.

## Caught on camera this month...



## Sports Report

### Kwik Cricket at Mersham Cricket Club

Some of our Year 3 and 4 children had the opportunity to take part in a Kwik Cricket tournament at Mersham Cricket Club last week, competing against other local schools. All the children did a fantastic job and worked hard to develop their bowling, fielding and batting skills over the course of the day. Congratulations to all those who took part.

### Kent Challenger Games

A team of 10 year 6 children took part in this year's Challenger Games at the Julie Rose stadium. The focus of the event is on inclusion with children of all abilities competing against children from other schools in a series of team challenges. I was immensely proud of our team who showed tremendous team spirit.

### Other Sporting Congratulations...

Congratulations go to our High Five team who gained third place in their league this year. The team did an amazing job and demonstrated excellent team spirit. Well done everyone. Finally congratulations go to Areisa for her award at the District Sports Athletics Tournament last week, as the fastest Year 3 /4 girl sprinter in the Ashford area.

