

Contents

Class News.....	2
Class News	3
Charity Update	4
World Book Day Challenge.....	4
Grand Designs.....	4
Parking	5
Covid Cleaning	5
New Starters September 2021..	5
Other News and Reminders	6
Sports Report.....	6



Message from Miss Talbot

Welcome Back (Again)

It's been lovely to have a full school once again, to see the children coming in so happily in the mornings and to see parents looking relieved that home-schooling is over with. Thank you once again to everyone for all your support over the last few months—I hope that the coming months will be more settled for everyone.

The majority of children have coped immensely well with the disruption of the recent months and have shown huge resilience. However we know that some are finding it harder to make the adjustments to having a full class once again or to coming back to class. Please get in touch with class teachers if there is anything that you are worried about or that we can help with.

We have been very impressed with the volume of work that many children completed during the school closure period. Good engagement with remote learning is enabling the children to settle back into school work routines very well. If your child hasn't yet returned their Unexpected Adventure Trail book to school, please drop it back this week.



Godinton Primary School
Lockholt Close,
Ashford,
Kent.

TN23 3JR

Tel: 01233 621616

www.godinton.kent.sch.uk

office@godinton.kent.sch.uk

headteacher@godinton.kent.sch.uk



What have we all been up to?

Class News

The children have settled back into routines quickly and have re-engaged with the curriculum well. Maths and English skills continue to be a priority in order to ensure that we bolster the areas hit hardest by periods of school closure. Assessments are taking place so the teaching teams are very clear on the direction that learning needs to take in terms 5 and 6. However we want to balance this with providing an enjoyable, broad curriculum which enthuses the children. Have a look at some of the exciting things that have been taking place since we came back to school...

Year 5

It was lovely to welcome Year 5 back to their classrooms this term and we have been amazed at how well they have settled in. The children in both classes got stuck straight into their science learning and have planted sunflowers, nigella and cornflowers. We have already had some signs of the seeds germinating and shoots starting to appear! Our new blooms have inspired our Creative Adventure work and the children have been planning how they will create a William Morris inspired print to showcase the flowers that will soon be lining our classrooms. The children have shown fantastic resilience as they have adjusted back to our school routines

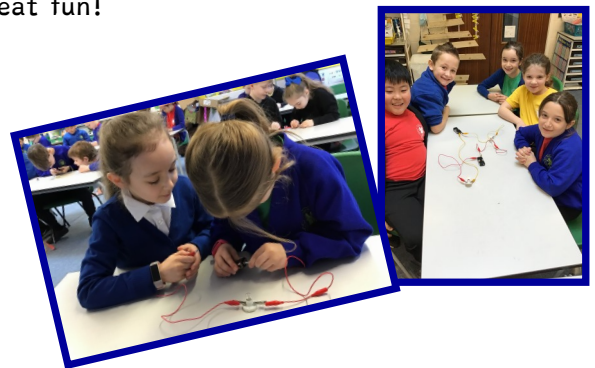
and the staff are very proud of them all.



Year 3

We have loved having Year 3 all back together. This term we are exploring the book 'James and the Giant Peach' in Guided reading; we have also been using it to enhance our understanding of play scripts.

We have started a new topic in Learning Adventure and are looking at Electricity. We have looked at static electricity and showed this by rubbing a balloon on someone's hair and have been starting to make our own circuits to investigate the flow of electricity. It's been great fun!



Year 4

Since our return to school, Year 4 have been using our powers of persuasion to debate whether humans should continue to eat meat. We have practiced the art of presumption and flattery to persuade the opposers or proposers to agree with our point. Within DT we carried out consumer surveys gathering both qualitative and quantitative data in preparation for our take away delivery service.

The most exciting news is that we've also been incubating chicken eggs.

We have a selection of light Sussex, barred Plymouth rocks and cream legged barred - 12 eggs in all. We hope they start to hatch soon.



Year 1



In Year 1 we have been popping on our eyepatches, grabbing our telescopes and immersing ourselves in pirate adventures with our

new topic 'We arrgghhhh pirates'.

The children had to save the day on their return to school when we discovered that an evil pirate had stolen Year 1's treasure from our treasure chest. Thankfully they worked together in teams to find and collect 20 coins each and recovered all 100 gold coins in record time. We have been delving into some fantastic pirate stories, identifying powerful adjectives and thinking about verbs in their past and present forms.

The children have been using their maths skills to investigate their numbers to 50 and solve pirate puzzles. We have also used our science skills to think about how materials are made and sort them into groups by their properties. The beebots have helped us to practice our coding skills and we've been creating our own pirates in Art and DT along with our very own treasure!



It has been so lovely having Year 1 back together again after so many bubble closures. The children have been amazing!

Reception



Burglar Bill had been to visit, stealing lots of different things from our classroom. Not to worry, the Police are on the case!

This term we have been looking at people who help us in our communities and our

Police Station role play area has sparked lots of interest in independent writing of wanted posters, creating disguises and looking for number clues. We have explored the roles of different keyworkers and who we need to turn to if we need help. We have been focusing on how to be a good friend, talking about different feelings emotions and who we can talk to if we need to.



Year 2

We have enjoyed settling back into school and spending time with our friends. Our house point charts are full to bursting because of all of the great learning we have been doing! For our first Creative lesson we absolutely loved making Mother's Day cards to take home and give to our Mums. In Learning Adventure, we have been exploring poetry and have begun to write our own shape poems to go with our Great Fire of London theme. Ladybird class are also eagerly observing the growth of the ladybird larvae and watching them move around their little home!

Year 6

Year 6's return to school has been a thrilling experience – literally. During the past two weeks, the children have been working hard on creating their own suspense stories. To facilitate their understanding of the genre, they have studied the techniques of suspense writing to use within their own narratives, such as short sentences to build up tension, similes, metaphors and ellipsis to create those 'what happens next' moments. The stories that they have woven have had the adults on the edge of their seats.

From thrilling tales to ship sails, Year 6 have also spent time researching the HMS Beagle, the vessel on which Charles Darwin served as a naturalist to sail to South America and develop his theory of evolution. Now that the children are familiar with the ship's components, they are looking forward to making models of the vessel in the coming weeks.

Comic Relief



Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to Comic Relief and for the valiant efforts to dress the children in red.

At the last look, we had raised £736 which is AMAZING!

Fundraising Success

Congratulations to Evie and Tommy who have been raising money for Brain Tumour Research by completing a fancy dress walk every day in March. So far they have exceeded their target on their Just Giving page, raising over £6,000. Well done!



World Book Day

Challenge



Have you made a start on our 'World Book Day Reading Challenge'? There are 50 different reading challenges. How many of them will you be able to complete by Monday 21st June?

The challenges are designed to be completed over the next few months. Prizes and certificates will be awarded for completing 10 challenges, 25 challenges, 40 challenges or 50 challenges.

For the younger children in the school, the challenges can be completed by reading with an adult or having a story read to them. For older children, they should aim to complete some of the challenges independently reading for more sustained periods at a time e.g. 30 minutes. We look forward to seeing how you get on.

Grand Designs



We loved seeing your amazing 'Grand Designs' that you completed before we broke up for Half Term. Photos of some

of the brilliant creations are now on the school website. These may give you some ideas for things that you might like to try over the Easter holiday. Well done to everyone who took part.

Housepoints

Congratulations to Joshua H (Walmer) and Olivia P (Dover) in Year 2 who are our first gold house point badge winners of the year. I'm sure that many more gold badges will follow for our other houses.

Parking

You may have noticed that our local PCSO has been on the estate in the past week reminding drivers to show consideration for the safety of our children and to park at Chimney's car park. PCSO Stevens will continue to make regular patrols so I would ask that to avoid the embarrassment of being asked to move your vehicle, you avoid parking inconsiderately in Lockholt Close or the surrounding roads.

Following some enquiries, we have been advised by the KCC Safer Mobility Officer that a survey will be completed after the Easter break to assess whether the council can reinstate the Road Crossing Patrol in Springwood Drive which was removed in 2016. I would encourage parents to contact KCC with any concerns about traffic in Springwood Drive or at the top of Lockholt Close in order to highlight the dangers that traffic is presenting.

Covid Cleaning

With stringent cleaning still required due to the pandemic, we have continued with our additional cleaning measures, ensuring that all steps are being taken to keep our children safe. Over the half term break, a full deep clean of the



site took place and before we reopened on the 8th March, we enlisted the services of 'Complete Covid' who carried out a cleaning process involving a combination of UV-C light technology and ozone diffusion which destroys 99.9% of germs and pathogens, including Coronavirus, across all surfaces. It is a safe process which is used in other schools, hospitals, dentists, surgeries, supermarkets, restaurants and bars. A further deep clean of the site is planned for Easter.

New Starters– 2021

It hardly seems possible that we are once again starting to think about those children who will be joining us in September. Those of you looking at a school place for your child in September 2021, will be notified by KCC as to the outcome of your application on Friday 16th April. We will contact those parents who are successful in gaining a place with us, after the Easter holiday. At the moment, I am unsure of the transition arrangements that we will be able to make due to the Covid restrictions. However we will do everything we can to familiarise your child with life at Godinton before they start.

For those of you looking at a potential school place in 2022 or beyond, please remember that in the event of a school having more parents applications, than places available, the school's oversubscription criteria will be used to determine offers. Like most schools, and in line with KCC policy, our Admissions policy states that a sibling link will be broken if a family move more than 2 miles away from the school since the admission of their last child.

Free Parenting Courses

Access to FREE online Solihull Parenting courses:

Kent Community Health Foundation Trust (KCHFT) Health Visiting have purchased the online Solihull Parenting Programmes, the 4 Courses include:

- Understanding pregnancy, labour, birth and your baby
 - Understanding your baby aged 0–12 months
 - Understanding your child aged 0–18
- Understanding your teenager's brain

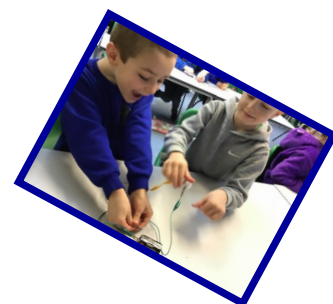
Parents are able to sign up to these courses for free by following the link below.

Go to www.inourplace.co.uk – apply the access code: **Invicta** and register for an account.

Other News and Reminders...

- This term, we have said goodbye to Mrs Atkins who has worked at Godinton for the last 15 years, initially as a TA and most recently in the school office. Mrs Atkins has been an asset to the school and we will all miss her. We wish her well as she takes up a new role within her family's business.
- Don't forget that the dates of Parents' Evening have changed. These will now take place on Tuesday 27th April (3.30–7.30 pm) and Wednesday 28th April (3.30 –5.30 pm) via Zoom. Further details will be sent out after half term.
- Remember that all adults with children under 14 are able to pick up lateral flow testing kits from sites around the county. These can be used for twice weekly asymptomatic testing but do not replace PCR tests at a testing site for those who display symptoms of Covid-19.
- Term dates for next academic year are on the school website. This will see us once again having a two week break in October. Please remember that holiday during term time will not be authorised. The children have already missed a large amount of schooling so holidays must be taken within the breaks.

Caught on camera this month...



Sports Report

The children have been busy getting stuck back into PE lessons both indoors and outdoors. Having the children come to school in their PE kits has helped maximise the amount of time available for PE sessions. As we head towards the summer, we will be looking at what additional after school sports provision we can offer for the children. I will share more information after Easter.

Health and Fitness

As the field dries out, we will be resuming our Fitness in Fifteen initiative which will give the children additional short bursts of exercise during the week. When the field has been too wet to use the track, teachers have been using 'I moves Active Bursts' to get the children moving.