

### Contents

Class News.....	2
Godinton in Bloom.....	3
Reading Challenge.....	3
Term 6 Homework Trails .....	3
Godinton's Big Build .....	3
Covid Restrictions.....	4
Kent Libraries Summer Reading Challenge .....	4
Other News and Reminders .....	5



### Message from Miss Talbot

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to be able to hold our Lower School and Middle School Sports Days last week. It has seemed like such a long time since we were able to bring the school together for any event so it was an absolute joy to see everyone come together—albeit still in their bubbles. The children engaged in a carousel of activities which included jumping, ball control, and hurdling amongst other athletic events. They also completed flat races and relays. It was also lovely for some of Year 6 children to be involved in scoring the activities—they all did a fantastic job. The winning houses will be revealed at the end of term when all the points gained on the day will go towards overall house point totals.

Poor weather has once again curtailed Upper School Sports Day but we will endeavour to re-arrange this before the end of term. I'm sorry that we haven't been able to invite parents to watch this year. With the rule of only 30 people able to meet outside still in place until July 19th, this would have been challenging to arrange. We'll ensure that next year's Sports Day is one to remember!

We are all looking forward to September when we will once again be able to resume an active sports programme at Godinton.

Godinton Primary School  
Lockholt Close,  
Ashford,  
Kent.

TN23 3JR

Tel: 01233 621616

[www.godinton.kent.sch.uk](http://www.godinton.kent.sch.uk)

[office@godinton.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@godinton.kent.sch.uk)

[headteacher@godinton.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@godinton.kent.sch.uk)



## Class News

### What have we been up to?

The final term of the academic year is always a busy one— but with restrictions still in place it's meant that we've had to do some things differently this year.

### Year 6 Safety in Action

With the current pandemic disrupting many yearly events, Year 6 were unable to attend Safety in Action this year. This is an annual event organised for all Year 6s across Kent, during which spokespeople from a number of organisations are invited to speak to the children on many subjects, centred on personal safety. These include fire safety, drugs and alcohol awareness, social and emotional wellbeing, online safety, dangers at sea, as well as many other useful topics. The children are also given the opportunity to participate in a number of practical activities, associated with these subjects, including first aid training. The purpose of the day is to prepare the children for their next step into independence, particularly in readiness for their move to secondary school in September.

Although Year 6 were unable to attend the event this year, this did not stop it from going ahead and on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> June, the children were treated to a virtual SIA experience, with live talks and pre-recorded videos from representatives of the organisations. There were quizzes and in-class discussions, as well as workbook-based activities to complete. The children participated well in the online event and have been equipped with knowledge and skills that will hopefully keep them safe in the future.

## Year 3

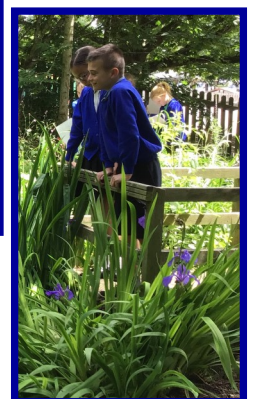
Year 3 had a sensational start to the term with a visit from a theatre company who delivered an exciting Ancient Greek workshop. The children explored a variety of Ancient Greek myths and participated in drama activities to bring the stories to life. An array of fantastic costumes added to the day—thank you for the effort that went in to dressing the children up.



### Out in the Garden

We are so fortunate to have so much amazing outdoor space at Godinton which is well used to enhance our curriculum. At this time of year our wildlife garden is alight with different plants as well as a variety of beautiful minibeasts including dragonflies and butterflies. Year 6 have used the area to work on their classification of species topic and Year 2 have been regular garden visitors to look at how plants have been growing.

Mrs McGoldrick and Mrs Paggett have worked very hard this year to keep our garden area a tranquil haven for wildlife and the results are stunning.





## Godinton in Bloom

Our thanks go to Tesco at Park Farm for their generous donation of lots of lovely bedding plants which have filled hanging baskets and planters around the school. Our avid gardeners in Year 2 have been helping Mrs Prior with lots of planting which is certainly adding lots of colour to our site.



## Reading Challenge

Thank you to everyone who took part in our World Book Day Challenge. We had a brilliant response with almost 160 children taking part, and 50 children who completed all 50 challenges. We are in the process of sorting out prizes for all participants and these will be handed out before the end of term. There is still one unnamed challenge sheet (parent initials KF). Please let the office know if this belongs to your child. Well done everyone.



## Term 6 Homework Trails

I hope that your children have enjoyed completing the term 6 homework trail tasks which have focused on outdoor and family based activities. Please encourage your children to complete the final task which is to write a postcard to me or their teacher, telling them about the things they have completed on their trail. We look forward to reading these. Postcards should be returned to school by Monday 19th July. The template for the postcard has been sent home but is also on the website.

## Godinton's Big Build

Last weekend, we moved our Year R and 1 classes into our lovely new modular classrooms. These units have been sited on the school field and are self contained units with sinks, toilets and heating. The verdict from the children is that they are lovely and they have all been very sensible in making their way round to the classrooms in the morning. We will be using these units until the classrooms are ready for us to return to which should be in early December. Mrs Partridge, Mrs Williams and I have also de-camped to a mobile admin unit out on the field and will again be based there until the project is completed.

You will have probably noticed that scaffolding is starting to be erected over the area of the roof work and some internal work has also begun. The school office is still accessible and will be operational during the work.



If you want to have a look at some other photos of our new units have a look at the school website:

<https://godinton.kent.sch.uk/children/godintons-big-build/>

# Covid Restrictions

Today, it is anticipated that the Government will confirm their plans for the national easing of Covid restrictions from 19th July. Many schools across the country will have already broken up for the summer by July 19th. However, we will still have a week of school left and I want to ensure that during this time we take sensible measures that will see us through to the end of the academic year and allow us the opportunity to ease ourselves into the removal of restrictions over the summer. The rules on self-isolation are not expected to change until 16th August meaning that until that point, close contacts of a confirmed Covid case (including children and adults who have had both vaccinations) identified by track and trace will still need to self isolate.

For these reasons, we will continue with the majority of measures we have in place until we break for the summer. We have come this far and I don't want us to fall at the final hurdle before everyone breaks for the summer. No one is going to thank me, if we have a rise in cases before the end of term and families are unable to go on holiday as a result.

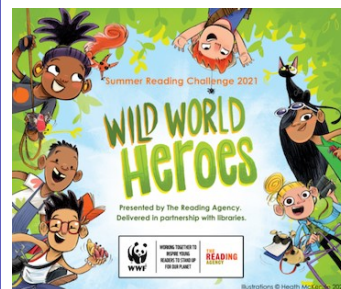
This will mean that we will continue with our staggered start and finish times and will be keeping the children within their current bubbles. The arrangements for playtimes and lunchtimes will remain the same. The wearing of a face covering at drop off and pick up will be a matter of personal choice but I would ask that you maintain social distancing, including from staff if you need to talk to them.

I am very pleased to see that the lifting of restrictions will allow us to return to near normal operations in September (if we can remember what these are!). This will mean that such things as Breakfast Club being able to resume its usual way of operating and we will be able to allow children to mix with those from other year groups.

There are however new ways of working that we have had to introduce because of Covid restrictions that we will also consider keeping once things return to normal. Over the next few weeks we will be reviewing what the removing of restrictions means for our day to day operations and will provide you with further information as to how things will look in September.

As always, I would like to thank everyone for their cooperation with all the Covid measures we have had to implement this year. It seems hard to believe that after 18 months we will now be facing the challenge of a life of greater normality. There is a lot to look forward to and we will keep you updated with plans.

## Kent Libraries



Get ready for the Wild World Heroes, as Summer Reading Challenge 2021 comes to Kent libraries!

Kent libraries are excited to introduce Wild World Heroes, Summer Reading Challenge 2021; a celebration of nature and action for the environment, in partnership with WWF UK.

Running from 10 July – 11 September 2021, children can choose to sign up and participate in the Summer Reading Challenge either by visiting a Kent Library to claim their joining pack, or by visiting [wildworldheroes.org.uk](http://wildworldheroes.org.uk) to take part online. Visit [kent.gov.uk/libs](http://kent.gov.uk/libs) to find an up to date list of our open libraries and information about when others will be opening.

The challenge is to read six library books over the summer period. It can be any type of reading material including stories, information books, audiobooks, eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and more. When they have read their six books and completed the Summer Reading Challenge, they will receive a medal and certificate (while stocks last). And it's all for free!

## Other News and Reminders...

- On Friday, the children brought home their end of year school report. This will be a more in depth report than we usually produce at the end of the academic year due to the school closure period in the spring. If you wish to discuss your child's report, please contact your child's teacher.
- Home visits for our new Reception starters begin this week. Our Year R team are looking forward to visiting your child at home and getting to know them. We would ask that where possible, these meetings are held outside. Please let us know if you are no longer able to make your appointment.
- Congratulations to Lorelai and Riley for their amazing efforts in raising money for the Macmillan Cancer Support charity. The children held a bake sale last weekend and raised an incredible £274 through the sale of homemade cakes. Well done!



## Sports Report

### Kent Challenger Games

Teamwork, strategic thinking and resilience were the order of the day at the Challenger Games, when a team of eight children from Year 6 were selected to take part in a series of activities designed to test all these skills.

More than fifty schools from the South East were invited to participate in the Challenger Games, which took place on Friday, 11th June at the Julie Rose Stadium. The tournament, run by Kent County Council and Ashford-based Military forces, is an annual event, which is a fully inclusive competition. During the afternoon, the children participated in a number of activities which encouraged them to work together and solve problems. There were communication and collaboration tasks, as well as challenges which drew upon the children's individual strengths. Points were awarded to each team based upon their effort, teamwork and participation within that particular event.

The Year 6 team chosen to represent Godinton at the competition were fantastic ambassadors for the school. Their behaviour and teamwork were exemplary, and all the children played an important role in the team's success at the Games. Whilst the group did not win the overall tournament, all children thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The motto of the Challenger Games was 'I can' and the children from Godinton proved during the course of the afternoon that they definitely could.

