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Message from Miss Talbot

Dear Parents,

As we draw this academic year to a close, I would like too wish all our Godinton families a very happy summer.

To those of you who have children in Reception, who have completed their first year with us, I hope that next year, as restrictions hopefully continue to ease, we will be able to give you the full Godinton experience. We have lots of exciting plans for next academic year and hope that we will be able to see these through.

To those of you with children who will be leaving Godinton today, I would like to wish you well. It has been a pleasure to have you and your children as part of 'Team Godinton'. Please keep in touch and when we resume summer and Christmas fairs, pop along and say hello.

To all of you, thank you for your continued support. We will take the opportunity to recharge over the summer and will come back in September ready to face whatever comes our way.

School reopens for the children on Wednesday 1st September.



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Year 6 Kingswood Residential

It was a pleasure to accompany 50 of our Year 6 children to the Kingswood activity centre in Ashford for their 2 night residential last week. The children had waited a long time for this opportunity which had been postponed from last academic year. The trip however was worth the wait and the group enjoyed a wide range of activities—scaling heights on ‘Leap of Faith’, ‘Jacob’s Ladder’ and a climbing wall, navigating a blindfolded obstacle course and making and launching rockets were just some of the highlights. Many of the activities pushed the children out of their comfort zone but huge levels of perseverance saw the children make amazing accomplishments. Seeing some of our usually quieter children reaching the top of Jacob’s Ladder was a very proud moment!

The group also excelled when it came to going to sleep. I’ve accompanied many residentials and spent lots of long nights patrolling corridors and growling at children to go to sleep. Despite grumbling about the comfort of the beds, this group went out pretty quickly. Waking up was a different matter—the boys were up at 5.00 whilst some of the girls had to be woken up in the morning. Sleep was definitely needed as their adventure was a full on experience which saw the children engaged in activities almost non stop for 12 hours!

My thanks go to Mrs Crowfoot, Mrs McGibney, Mr Lund, Miss Attenborough, Mr Smith for giving up their time to accompany the trip.



Term 6 Homework Trails

I really enjoyed looking at all the term 6 homework trail postcards which came into school last week. I can’t believe how many children took part and how creative they were in their interpretation of the tasks set. I hope that the children making dens, visiting unusual places, growing plants and creating outdoor art.

Homework trails will start up again in Term 1. If your child goes the extra mile on 3 occasions or more during the academic year then they will be able to take part in a special end of year treat.



If you are looking for a task to keep the children busy over the summer then they can take part in our summer holiday challenge. The children have been asked to produce something connected with the name of their new class and bring this into school on the first few days back.

End of Year Assembly

We ended the year with our first whole school assembly in 16 months out on the school field. It was lovely to assemble the children together to give out awards and to say goodbye to those staff and children who are leaving.

We wish all those staff and children who are moving onto pastures new the very best for the future.

Year 4 VE Day Party

Year 4 took themselves back to 1945 this week, for a VE Day party to celebrate the end of their topic on World War Two. The children ate party food and learnt to play traditional games such as hop scotch and marbles whilst listening to the sound of Vera Lynn. They all had a lovely afternoon!

Reconnect Summer Holiday Activities

This week, we sent home information about various activities being offered as part of KCC's Reconnect programme. This initiative has been launched in response to the pandemic as a means of re-engaging children with out of school activities. One of the things on offer is a summer holiday leisure centre pass for £25 (or £10 if your child is entitled to benefit related free school meals) which would certainly keep the children occupied over the summer. Free bus passes for children in Year 6 are also being distributed this week as part of the programme.

Have a look at the fliers that have been sent out via ParentMail for further information or visit:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/reconnect/reconnect-activities-and-events>

Kent Libraries

Don't forget to join in with Kent libraries Wild World Heroes, Summer Reading Challenge 2021; a celebration of nature and action for the environment, in partnership with WWF UK. 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 to take part online.

Kindness



The Kindness Ambassadors for have done an amazing job this year, promoting kindness within their classes. Our 2020–21 Ambassadors will be coming home today with certificates to thank them for their hard work.

Their final task has been to choose the next Kindness Ambassadors for each class. Our new Ambassadors were congratulated in today's Assembly and will receive their badges in September.

This winner of the Kindness Hamper this term was Kingfisher Class with Dragonflies as the runners up. Kingfishers were awarded with a hamper of goodies to say well done.

House Points

The House point winners for this term were Walmer. Leeds house were the overall winners for the academic year, amassing an impressive 32,000 house points. House points will reset in September and we look forward to seeing which house will be in first place next year.

Our Year 6 gold badge winners enjoyed an afternoon bowling at Hollywood Bowl last week. Children in Years R to 5, who gained their gold badges this year, will have their special treat when we return to school in September. In the meantime they enjoyed an ice lolly treat at playtime.

Other News and Reminders...

- September will see a return to full school uniform, please. This means that we return to plain black shoes and either school logos jumpers (cardigans, fleeces etc) or a plain royal blue one. Our uniform supplier Emporia Uniform will have items available in their Park Mall shop during the holidays. The online service is also available. Year 1 and 2 children will come to school dressed in their PE kits on PE days and years 3–6 will keep PE kits in school and change into them for PE lessons. We will let you know in September the days on which the children will have PE.
- Please ensure that all items brought into school are named—it makes it much easier to return lost belongings.
- Over the holiday, we will put onto the website, further information about the arrangements for September. I will also send out any updated guidance on the process for self-isolation that we will be returning to at the start of term. Please keep an eye on ParentMail.
- Thank you to those of you who have already completed your Breakfast Club enrolment form. You will not receive confirmation that this has been received but please work on the basis that if the message on screen said that the form has been sent, we will have received it. Details regarding the operation of Breakfast Club were sent out via ParentMail yesterday. If you have any queries, please contact the team at breakfastclub@godinton.kent.sch.uk
- In September, children will be able to arrive at school between 8.40 and 9.00 in the morning. Parents will not be able to access the playground but will drop off at the playground gates and the children will go straight into school. As things stand at the moment, there will be no one way systems. The arrangements for our new Reception children will be slightly different for the first few weeks but I will send further information out to all parents outlining the arrangements for drop off and pick up during the holidays.

On behalf of all the staff, thank you so much for the lovely, generous gifts we have received and the thoughtful messages we have been sent. We are extremely grateful.

Caught on camera this month...

