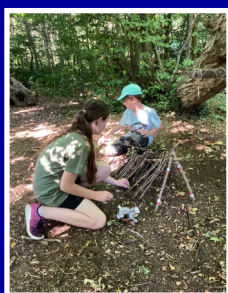


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Message from Miss Talbot

Have a Wonderful Summer

We have finally reached the end of the academic year, our first year without any period of school closure for a long time. It has been so lovely to have returned to many normal activities this year from school trips to swimming lessons, sports day to discos. It is all these extra events that give our children special, memorable experiences which I hope will continue to outshine the difficulties and disappointments that Covid brought into our lives.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all our staff for all their hard work this year. We are very fortunate to have such a hard working and dedicated team who work tirelessly to bring out the best in the children and ensure that the day to day operation of the school runs smoothly, whether that's in the classroom, at lunchtimes, in administration, through pastoral support or looking after the school site. I'd also like to thank all our parents for the continued support you provide to our school. For those of you with children leaving Godinton we wish you well for the future and hope that your children will look back at their time at Godinton with much pride. To all of you, on behalf of all the team at Godinton, we wish you a very happy summer.



Class News—Year 1

Trip to Samphire Hoe

A day at the beach is just the place to be on a lovely sunny day and as the sun shone, Year 1 went on an exciting adventure to Samphire Hoe near Dover as part of their geography work on beaches. Every aspect of the day brought excitement including the coach, the motorway, and then the really long tunnel to access the beach!

The children's experience started with an introductory talk by one of the rangers, who outlined the plans for the day before the adventure began. The children had a good opportunity to explore the beach and create smelly pots from the plants and materials they could find. They all joined in with a scavenger hunt on the beach as well as a bug hunt, where they collected lots of crickets and spiders. After lunch they walked along the sea wall and looked at the surrounding area, including the Port of Dover and the white cliffs; if the children looked closely, even France was visible. The children talked about the man made and physical features they could see. The trip was the perfect way to close the children's beach study topic.

The children were very much a credit to us all. They all had an amazing day, and even helped to reduce sea pollution by doing a bit of litter picking.

Thank you to all the parents who came and supported the trip – your help was very much appreciated.



Year 4

VE Day Party



Year 4 rounded off their World War Two topic with an outdoor VE Day celebration party. This involved a good old fashioned sing-a-long to songs from the war accompanied by Mrs Kelleher's ukulele band and a picnic lunch with invited guests. The children dressed up in outfits inspired by the Second World war including land girls, soldiers, evacuees and sailors. The Year 4 team would like to thank all their parents for their help and support with the party and hope that you all had a wonderful time.

Year 5—Exploring Ancient Egypt

Year 5 have had an extremely busy term: they have become both expert embalmers and flatbread makers! Whilst looking at Ancient Egypt, they have been able to create some fantastic narratives about being lost inside a tomb or pyramid and discovering a pharaoh's lost treasure – or even more exciting, the pharaoh themselves! The instruction writing which concluded the term involved them writing a series of instructions on how to mummify a body accurately as they took on the role of a novice embalmer and adapting their own flatbread recipe to include ingredients which would have been available to the Ancient Egyptians thanks to the River Nile. Their creations certainly looked fit for pharaoh!



Year 6 Activity Week



Time flies when you're having fun and this has proven particularly true these past few weeks in Year 6, as we find ourselves in our final days at Godinton. Following the excitement of

Chessington, Safety in Action and Sports Day, the children have now had a taster of what lies in store as they prepare to transition to their secondary schools in September. Over the past few weeks, individuals from both classes have had the opportunity to visit their new secondary settings during Transition Week, where they participated in lessons, met staff as well as different children from other schools in their new form groups and sampled the delights of their school's canteen.

And no sooner had they returned to Godinton, then the majority of children were whisked away for their residential trip to Kingswood activity centre, where they participated in a number of fun and exhilarating activities which kept them busy from morning 'til night. Those that remained at school were kept equally well-occupied by the likes of Black Wolf Survival Skills and Bushcraft, practising Karate with Canton Martial Arts and visiting Wagamamas to sample its culinary delights. Once both classes were back together again, their energy went towards cooking Caribbean food and practising steel pan drumming in preparation for their Caribbean Carnival party.

Normality has (sort-of) resumed this week, with all children back in class once again and rehearsing in earnest for their Leavers' production of 'Shakespeare Rocks!'. Both Eagles and Falcons have been working very hard in learning their lines, practising their songs and



remembering their cues. Together with their production, and this – their last week at Godinton Primary School – it's proving to be a very exciting time for the Year 6s, and one which will hopefully leave the children with some happy memories of their time at primary school.

A fun filled year for Reception

What an exciting year we have had this year in Reception! From spending time in the mobile classrooms when we helped Stickman return to the family tree, to moving into our new classroom in the main building and discovering a baby dragon, we have learnt so much during our first year at school. Our teachers are incredibly proud of us!

Our topic this term has been 'magical journeys' and we have particularly enjoyed finding out about Space. We have also been completing lots of transition activities and have met our new teachers for Year One. We are looking forward to our new adventures and are excited about the next step in our learning journey.

Year 2 Forest School

Year 2 have been enjoying their Forest School sessions this term which has seen them den building and using tools to make their own medallions.

Our Forest School sessions will be extended to all year groups next year. In the autumn we will advise you as to when your child's Forest School block will take place and what clothing they will need to wear for the sessions. Mrs Pullen and Mrs Smith will be leading Forest School whilst Miss Attenborough is on maternity leave.

Year 3

Trip to Canterbury Roman Museum



Year 3 had the chance to view everyday life through Roman eyes during their visit to Canterbury Roman Museum last week. The workshops run by the museum, give children the unique opportunity to learn alongside a broad collection of inspirational Roman objects, all housed within an original Roman townhouse. Through handling real artefacts and investigating the Museum collections the children developed their enquiry-based learning skills and had the opportunity to discuss how various objects were used in everyday life. The children also explored Roman technology, making their very own Roman coin which they were able to take home and using catapults to knock down towers. Finally, they immersed themselves in a Roman market and home and discovered what everyday life was like for someone in Roman Britain. A train ride back to Ashford drew the children's exciting day to a close.

As always the children's behaviour was excellent – they were polite and interested in everything the Museum had to offer. Thank you to everyone who helped to make the visit special for the children.

You can find out more about Canterbury Museum at:

<https://canterburymuseums.co.uk/canterbury-roman-museum/>

Staff News

At the end of the year we will be saying goodbye to Miss Causebrook, Miss Jones, Mrs Wright and Miss Moore who are all off to start new exciting adventures. On behalf of the school we thank them for everything they have done for our school and wish them well for the future.

We are pleased to welcome three new teachers to the team in September – Miss Nelson will teach in Year 3, Miss Almond in Year 6 and Miss Branson in Year 4. We also have three new teaching assistants – Miss Scanlan is moving from our lunchtime team to Year R and we will be joined in Year 1 by Mrs Spain and in Year 4 by Mrs Jury. We are very much looking forward to working with all our new appointees.

We will also see Miss Brooker back in school full time in September when she returns from her maternity leave. Miss Brooker will be teaching in Year 1.

We have a vacancy for an outdoor lunchtime supervisor for September. Please see the ParentMail that was sent out earlier in the week for further details.

Road Safety

The children in years 2–3 have participated in Small Steps Road Safety Scheme run by Kent Highways Road Safety Team. The sessions helped the children to think about safety when crossing the road, especially coming to and from school everyday and importantly over the summer holidays. During the session the children learnt about safe places to cross, how to look and listen for vehicles, suitable safe clothing to wear, and how to cross with an adult. By the end of the session the children were filled with more knowledge and confidence. A booklet and reflective keyrings were given to all the children to take home.

Steel Pan Band



The Caribbean came to Godinton last week – and not just in high temperatures. We were delighted to welcome the Steel Pan Agency to school as part of the year 6 Activity Week. Our Year 6 children were taught about the tradition of steel pan playing which started in Trinidad and Tobago and had a go at trying the pans for themselves. In the afternoon the whole school was treated to a steel pan assembly in which the children were entertained by the band. It definitely got everyone into a summer holiday vibe!

Summer Homework

Please encourage your child to join in with our summer holiday homework that was sent out last week. We'd like the children to create a piece of work connected with their new class name (for example, if they are going into Bumblebees Class a piece of work all about bumblebees). This could be what their animal, insect or bird looks like, where they can be found, or any special features or habits that they have.

The type of task that the children do is entirely open ended. They might decide to create a piece of artwork: a painting, collage, mosaic, printing, a piece of sewing, a puppet or a 3D model. It could be a poem, a piece of research, a fact file, information cards or a story. The finished work should be brought back to school on the first day of term when you will be able to share it with your class. Your work will be displayed in your classroom and should therefore be no larger than 40 cm by 40 cm so we have enough room for everyone's work.

PTFA News– Disco

I hope that the children enjoyed the discos the other week. We had an excellent turn out. Thank you to our PTFA and all our volunteers for helping to make the evening a success.

Our new PTFA committee have had a very successful year, helping to raise, thousands of pounds for the school. On behalf of all the children at Godinton– thank you.



After School Club



You will have seen from my ParentMail last week that operation of our after school club provision will transfer to the school in September. We have had a very successful partnership with Kent Play Clubs and I would again like to take the opportunity to thank them for all the support they have provided to our children and families.

Due to the transfer of the club to the school at the start of the next academic year, any outstanding payments due to Kent Play Clubs must be made by **Thursday 21st July 2022**. If any accounts are in arrears at this time, your child's place at After School Club will be terminated and you would need to re-apply for a place in September when there would be no guarantee that a place would be available.

We are excited about a new era of after school club provision at Godinton. If you are interested in a place at Night Owls for your child, please contact the team.

Ashford Library Summer Reading Challenge



Children aged 4 to 11 are invited to join the Summer Reading Challenge in libraries across Kent this summer. The Summer Reading Challenge 2022 will start on 9 July and will continue to run throughout the summer, finishing on 10th September.

The Summer Reading Challenge is aimed at keeping children reading throughout the summer while away from school, as well as supporting parents and carers with children already at home. And it's completely free!

Gadgeteers is the theme for 2022 – in partnership with the Science Museum Group, this Summer Reading Challenge will inspire children and their families to get inspired about reading, imagination and to explore amazing science around them every day. Children will join the Gadgeteers characters as they work together to create awesome inventions and solve problems by working together. As children read library books, they will collect special rewards along the way and there's a certificate and medal for everyone who completes the challenge.

Gadgeteers will feature bespoke artwork from children's illustrator Julian Beresford and will celebrate imagination, innovation, reading and fun!

As in previous years, children can choose to join and participate in the Summer Reading Challenge by visiting their nearest library or they can take part by visiting the Summer Reading Challenge website. Once completed, children (whether library members or not) can visit the library for their medal and certificate.

Coffee Hub



Our weekly drop-in Coffee mornings continue to meet on Wednesdays from 9–10 am and are hosted by our family Liaison Officer, Mrs McGibney.

This year the Godinton coffee Hub has provided parents with an opportunity to network with others, catch up on school news, share ideas and get involved in the life of school. Here are quotes from two of our newer parents ~

"The coffee mornings have given me a group of Mums who have become friends."

"A lovely way to sit and discuss ideas and experiences with some amazing Mums over a cup of coffee."

Next term, why not pop in and enjoy refreshments with toddler play area.

See FLO for more details.

Fire Safety

Following a successful bid for funding, the school has recently undergone an update of all our fire safety measures. This has included a new fire alarm, replacement of fire doors across the school and the installation of additional call points and detectors. The final pieces of work will be completed during the summer holiday.

We have termly fire drills at different points during the school day which ensure that the children know what to do in the event of an emergency and the need to evacuate the building. Our children are always brilliant during drills and know exactly what they need to do.

Other News and Reminders...

- If you are thinking about getting your child's ears pierced, please do so at the start of the summer holidays so that they will be able to take them out by the start of the new year. Children are only permitted to wear stud earrings to school. Hoop earrings or dangly types are not allowed. All earrings must be removed for PE lessons. If the children can't remove them themselves, then please take them out before they come to school.
- Not to be outdone by our new After School Club—our Breakfast Club also has a new logo and a new name—Early Birds. Thank you to Mr Foss for the wonderful logos he has designed for us.



- There are lots of activities for families taking place across the county this summer and with access to free bus passes there's plenty to keep everyone busy. Have a look at the fliers that have been sent out recently via ParentMail for further details.
- Our lost property box is currently very full. If you are missing any items of clothing please come to the office to have a look. Naming all items of clothing worn to school will help lost items to be returned to you.
- When picking out school shoes for September, please remember that these must be plain black with no coloured markings, logos or soles. Plain black trainers are allowed.
- If you have a child starting in Reception in September, remember to have a look at the activities on the website for the children to join in with. We have very much enjoyed starting to get to know the children at our transition events and are looking forward to them all starting with us in September.
- On behalf of all the staff, thank you so much for all the kind gifts we have been receiving. It is very thoughtful of you.
- Please remember that school reopens on **Thursday 1st September**. We look forward to seeing you all then and wish you a very happy summer.

Caught on camera this month...

