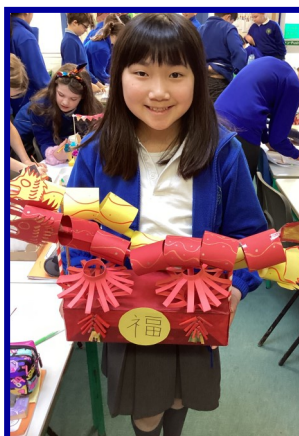


Contents

Year 1 Pirate Day.....	2
EYFS Outdoor Area	2
Musical Highlights Year 6	3
Ofsted.....	3
Playground Buddies.....	4
Road safety Programme.....	4
Secondary allocations.....	4
Easter Bingo.....	4
Other News and Reminders.....	5



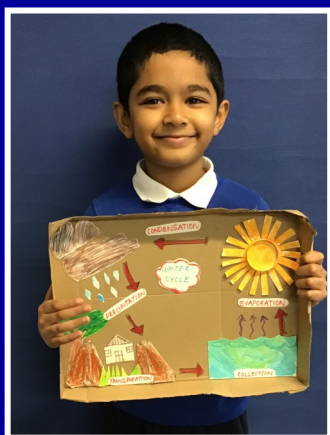
Message from Miss Talbot

On the Homework Trail

We always love seeing the amazing pieces of homework that the children complete as part of their homework trail; they are creative, informative and represent a great understanding of the work they are completing in class.

The format of our homework trails is designed to fit around home commitments. The children have the term to engage with the tasks set and can do this at a time which fits in with all the other things that they have going on. The minimum expectation is that 3 tasks, including the middle task on the grid are completed. Those children who go the extra mile (6 tasks including through the middle), will get a special sticker –if they collect three over the course of terms 1–5, then they are invited to take part in a special film afternoon. House points are also awarded for those children who exceed the expectation.

Getting into good habits with homework is important—it develops the children's skills of perseverance and motivation. Please encourage your children to show a positive commitment to homework by completing their trails and taking part with Mathletics.



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

Year 1 Pirate Day

Ahoy me hearties!

We had 60 little pirates in school just before half term, as Year 1 held a very special Pirate Day as part of their Ocean Explorers topic. The children very much looked the part, with beards, eye-patches and pirate hats being the order of the day and they were all given their very own pirate name!



Thankfully no one was made to walk the plank, and instead the children enjoyed a pirate themed day of exciting activities. A highlight of the day was the Pirate Picnic. The children looked back at their fruit skewer designs that they had created in previous DT lessons and used the tools to carefully make their very own fruit kebab. They also followed instructions to make a pirate sandwich (who knew that pirates liked cheese sandwiches so much)! As well as looking at a range of books about ocean exploration, the children were amazed to find that a pirate treasure chest had been left by some pirates in their classroom and they were tasked with trying to find all the missing gold. This immersive experience brought the children's Learning Adventure to life and a brilliant day was had by all.



Exciting developments in the EYFS Outdoor Area



There isn't much that Mr Rowson, can't turn his hand to and his latest project has been creating a new sandpit out on the Reception

playground, made from a giant tractor tyre. The children helped to get the sandpit set up and ready and have been very enthusiastically burying things and digging things up ever since.

The sandpit is part of our wider development of our outdoor provision for the youngest children in our school. Over the Easter holiday we will also be having a very large wooden canopy erected over the hard surface area so that a wider range of activities can be set up permanently and protected from the elements. We are so fortunate to have an amazing outdoor space for our Reception children and want to continue to resource this area so that the children have brilliant outdoor learning opportunities.



Musical Highlights in

Year 6

This term started with carnival celebrations in Year 6 as they took part in a steel pan workshop as part of their 'Paradise Found' topic. The Year 6 children joined in with a drumming workshop and had the opportunity to play the steel pans before the whole school was treated to a special assembly.



Further musical opportunity followed this week, when 30 of our Year 6 children joined children from 12 other Ashford schools to take part in a day of singing workshops at Highworth Grammar School. The day included a series of singing workshops and rehearsing in the morning, followed by a performance in the afternoon, bringing together song and instrumental work learnt throughout the day. The children were also treated to a performance by Highworth's High Notes choir.



Ofsted

In the week before half term we were visited by Ofsted who carried out our school inspection. This involved just one inspector who looked in particular at the quality of education provided for our children and their personal development. It was almost 6 years since our last inspection so it was a pleasure to share with the inspector how the school has developed over this time and to talk about the education we provide for our children. We have a lot to be proud of.

Throughout the inspection, our children, as always were amazing. Their kindness towards others, politeness and efforts in the classroom shone through. Many children were spoken to by the inspector, either in class or within small groups where they showed the inspector their work and talked to her about life at Godinton.

I will be in a position to share the report with you once it has been finalised by Ofsted which should be in the next few weeks.

Staff News

This week we say goodbye to Mr Barber, Butterflies class teacher who has been with us since September. Mr Barber is starting a new position as a teaching assistant at a local special school which will fit in with his family commitments. At the end of term, we also say goodbye to Mrs Oliver, who has been one of our TA team in Year 1. We thank Mr Barber and Mrs Oliver for everything they have done for our children and wish them well.

New Playground Buddies

We are delighted to have a new set of Year 5 and 6 Buddies in place—ready to take up their positions in providing help to younger children at playtime. They have been trained in their roles by Miss King who will be providing ongoing support to the group.

Our congratulations go to:

Year 5: Joshua H, Riley, Sabine, Emily P, Ffion, Roy, Kayden, Jocelyn, Caitlin, Gracie, Evie, Keira and Jake.

Year 6: Lily, Erin, Rosie, Emily T-F, Harley C, Harley J, Aubree, Tommy R, Lina, Harry D, Jack H, Shay, William M, Zach, William D, Lana, Grace and Noah.

‘School Steps’ Road Safety Programme

At the end of last term, our Year 2 and 3 children completed their ‘School Steps’ road safety training. Delivered through Kent County Council, the session, is designed to teach children the basics of road safety and build the foundations for future independent travel.

The training takes place in the playground using a road laid out on the ground to simulate the actual road crossing experience. Focus is made on finding safe places to cross, dangers at junctions and crossing between parked cars.

We hope that this will be a useful experience for the children.

Year 6 Secondary

Allocations

Year 6 parents will have been notified on Friday as to the secondary school allocation for their child. We hope that for most of you, this will be a positive outcome. If however you are dissatisfied with the allocation, are considering an appeal, or have any questions about waiting lists etc., please get in touch—we are here to help.

Congratulations to Leeds House

Congratulations to everyone in Leeds House for their victory as the winning house in Term 3. House points have re-set this term and we look forward to seeing whether we have a different house in first place before we break for Easter.

So far this year we have had 6 children who have reached their silver House Point badge.

Easter Bingo

Tickets are now on sale for our Easter Bingo event on Saturday 23rd March. Two sessions are available (1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.) and can be booked via the link to the PTA Events platform. Please see the ParentMail sent out last week for further information.

Other News and Reminders...

- Please can I ask for your cooperation in tightening up on a few aspects of school uniform. Black footwear should be worn to school (this includes plain black trainers) but coloured or white trainers are not permitted. Children should not be wearing make-up to school (we have seen a few occasions of mascara being worn) and please save nail varnish for holidays and weekends. Thank you.
- Please can I also bring everyone's attention to our expectations regarding clothing for P.E sessions. In order to fully participate, in all aspects of P.E (both indoors and outdoors) children must be suitably dressed. A ParentMail was sent out last week with reminders.
- Our school day starts promptly at 8.50. Lessons begin at this time and all children are expected to be in from this point. Please ensure that you work to this time. Lateness is recorded on the school register and could result in the involvement of our KCC Attendance Officer if this persists. Please view the attendance page on the school website for further information on how to ensure good attendance for your child.
- I would be grateful if everyone can ensure that their child has a water bottle in school (this should be see-through and no larger than 500ml). In situations where children have forgotten their bottles, we are going through a large number of plastic cups, which as well as being costly, is not helpful to the environment.
- Please remember that dogs are not permitted on the school grounds, even if they are being carried in arms.
- Don't forget that we will be dressing in red for Comic Relief on Friday 15th March.

Caught on camera this month...

