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Newsletter March 2017

Issue 10

Godinton Gazette

Message from Mr Holditch

Morning Routine

I have been fighting a little bit of a battle each morning, trying to keep the children off the climbing apparatus in the playgrounds. Could I please ask for your assistance in this?

In the morning, we have a guardian on each of our three entrance gates, so that the children can't leave the site, whilst I am on duty on the playground, along with either Mrs Jones or Miss Talbot. The two of us are sufficient to monitor the playground and to react to any incidents such as a child falling over. However, we can't supervise the play equipment and hence I ask that no children go on the pirate ship or the climbing apparatus before school. Even if you are with your child, don't let them go on the apparatus please.

Roof Repairs

We recently had some leaks in the roof above the Year R and 1 classrooms, which meant that we had to have buckets dotted around the rooms, catching the water! I am happy to say that these seem to be sorted out. We have had a temporary repair completed, whilst we review exactly what needs to be done to complete a thorough repair.

Join Us for Lunch

Independent Caterers have decided to reintroduce our previous policy of inviting parents to join the children for lunch. You will be able to come in on a set Wednesday, sit with your child, and have lunch with them. Unfortunately, because of the size of the hall, we are going to have to limit this to one year group or class each Wednesday. A letter has been sent out to gauge your interest. Further details to follow after the Easter Break.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from Mr Holditch continued.....	2
House Points	2
Literacy News.....	3
Godinton Car Park	4
Eco Club	4
Sports Report	5
LCA	6

DON'T FORGET...

We have a post box on the wall of the reception entrance—this can be used for any correspondence for the school.

The post box is emptied twice a day . Thank you

Message from Mr Holditch

Easter Goodbyes

I am sorry to say that at the end of this term, Mrs Champion will be finishing her duties as one of our Midday Meals Supervisors. She is taking up a new post, working in the kitchen at Wye Secondary School. We thank her for all of her hard work in serving the lunches to our pupils and helping them during the dinner break, and wish her well in her new position. However, I am happy to say that she is continuing in her role as a gate guardian for the immediate future so we aren't losing her entirely.

I am very sorry to say that two of our teaching assistants, Mrs Wood and Mrs Jeffrey, are also leaving us at the end of this term. Mrs Wood has been with us for 6 years and has worked with both individual pupils and with whole classes. She is taking up a new position at Ashford Oaks School for term 5. Mrs Wood is an extremely skilled and caring person and we are very sorry to see her go, but thank her for all she has done for the school, and wish her every success in her new post.

Mrs Jeffrey has been at Godinton for almost 26 years! She has been a stalwart of the school and has given a large part of her working life to helping our pupils. It is staggering to think that during her time here, Mrs Jeffrey will have seen well over a thousand children join and leave our school. She has decided, quite understandably after 26 years, that it is now time for her to take a well-earned retirement and hence she will finish her career here at the end of this term. We thank her enormously for the incredible contribution she has made to the school and wish her every happiness in her forthcoming retirement.

House point update...

Rochester put an end to Walmer's victory!

It was Rochester who stormed to victory in the house points at the end of term 3, putting an end to Walmer's victory since the start of the academic year. The children in Rochester were treated to an extended break time and squash and biscuits as a reward for all their hard work.

House point totals from term 3:

Rochester: 983 Walmer: 970 Leeds: 911 Dover: 892

The House 'creative challenge' at the end of this term will provide lots of additional house points before final totals are collected before we break for Easter.

So far 75% of children in the school have reached their first 25 point badge and many of these have now reached their bronze badges too.

We were delighted to be able to award the first silver house point badge to Hope from Year 2 in Friday's assembly last week.

Congratulations Hope!



Out of This World

On Monday 30th January 2017, the children arrived at the start of the school day to discover something strange and 'out of this world' on the school site. Next to the playground, closely guarded by Army representatives, was an alien spaceship which we presumed had crash-landed at some point during the night. Samples of green liquid and the spacecraft itself were closely observed by the children before being taken away for further analysis. No aliens were found and we were left wondering why Godinton Primary School had been visited and what had caused the crash?



The children were inspired by this supernatural event and set about producing some fantastic writing. As a result, a range of their work has been selected and published in our We Are Writers book as a celebration of their enthusiasm and effort. Parents will be able to view a sample copy and place an order at the Book Fair which will run after school from Monday 13th to Thursday 16th March. I would like to thank the children for their hard work and the staff for their support in helping to create this fabulous book.



Visiting Authors

During our Writers' Week, the children were also lucky enough to work with a visiting children's author. Ian MacDonal shared his stories and experiences of becoming an author and then ran writing workshops with each class. There was an impressive turn-out for the book signing event too and many children came away with their very own signed copy of one of Ian's fantastic children's books.

On Wednesday 8th March, the children in Years 3 to 6 met another visiting author, Steve Clifford. Steve read extracts of his stories with the children and then set each year group a writing challenge to complete throughout the day. He was so impressed with the children's enthusiasm, behaviour and level of thoughtful questioning. This was yet another example of how fantastically proud we are of the children here at Godinton.



The after-school book signing was also a success and we would like to thank those who came along to support the event.



Just a reminder -

Lost property boxes are located in the reception area. Please take time to see if any of the items belong to your child.



Useful email contacts:

Mr Holditch

headteacher@godinton.kent.sch.uk

Miss Talbot

jilltalbot@godinton.kent.sch.uk

School Office

office@godinton.kent.sch.uk



ECO CLUB

Please save any plastic lids and bring them into the Eco Club. We are collecting them for future projects.

Many thanks

Miss Moss and Miss
Davies



PTFA NEWS

Monday 20th March

Cake sale and afternoon tea

Wednesday 22nd March

Mothers Day Shop

Saturday 25th March

Easter Bingo

Session 1 1.30pm—3.30pm

Session 2 4.00pm—6.00pm

Friday 24th March—Non
uniform day (donations for
Easter Bingo)

Godinton School Car Park

Please be reminded that the car park is a staff car park only and any parent who drives on site without permission will be charged £2.00 for a token to exit the school site.

There are very few exceptions when parents are permitted to drive on site. Set out below are these exceptions :

If you are called by the school to collect your child due to illness or injury

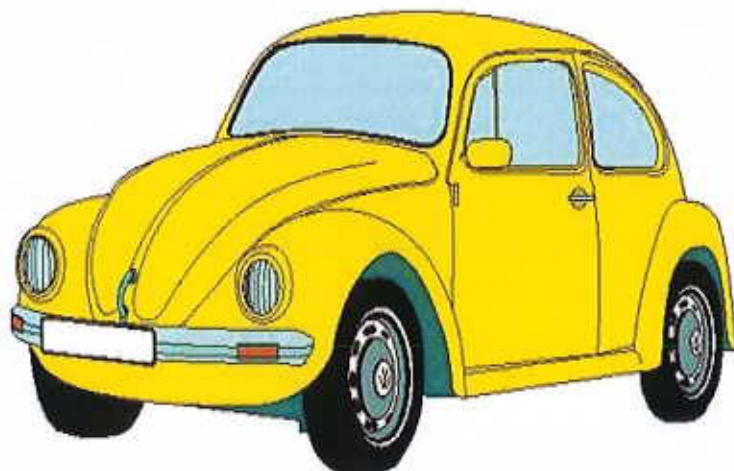
If we have invited you into school for an appointment (this does not include Parent Evenings / Open Afternoons / Book Viewings etc.)

If you or your child is a disabled badge holder

If your child is incapacitated due to such things as a broken limb.

If your child has forgotten their lunchbox, water bottle or coat for example or you have come to collect or return them from an appointment, **these are not reasons for driving onto the school site.**

We took steps to introduce the barrier system to ensure the **safety of your children** so I would ask all parents to please respect the above.



Sports Report

Sport Clubs running this term...

Monday—High Five (Year 5 & 6)

Tuesday—Hockey Club (Years 3 & 4)

Wednesday—High Five (Years 3 & 4)

Wednesday—Football Club (Years 5 & 6)

Wednesday—Cheerleading (Years 5 & 6)

Thursday—Dance Club (Emily Balmer Dance Company)

Friday—Tennis (Bethersden Tennis Club) (Years 3 & 4)

For more details visit the school website.

ACTIVE KIDS

Thank you to all those who have sent their vouchers in, we already have over 2000. Remember you can collect vouchers for every £10 spent from now until 2nd May. They can be posted directly in the box at the office window or sent in with the children.



kits4schools

Before Christmas we sent out details via Parent Mail regarding Kits 4 School - an organisation that will provide the school with a brand new sports kit via sponsorship from a local company. Although a couple of parents mentioned that their workplaces might be interested we are still awaiting a sponsor.

Why sponsor a school through the Kits 4 Schools program?

Kits 4 Schools is a low cost, tax deductible way to support a local school and it's pupils in tough economic times.

Year long brand awareness

Your brand on the school kit(s) for a minimum of one school year, seen by parents and teachers at every competitive/inter-school game, as well as a listing on the Kits 4 Schools site and a letter issued to the school to hand to parents.

Positive PR

By supporting young people and schools you are able to benefit from the PR opportunity it presents, liaising with local press to boost your company profile. You will also benefit from the PR generated on a national level for the Kits 4 Schools program

Corporate and Social Responsibility (CSR) through Community Engagement

CSR is the buzz word of the moment and businesses of all sizes are encouraged and expected to play their part. One of the biggest areas of CSR is community engagement, and supporting local schools is a great way to demonstrate a positive CSR effort and benefit your local environment.

Supporting young people

It is now more important than ever to support young people and the Kits 4 Schools program is designed to encourage the respect learned through representing their school and experience the benefits of being part of a team.

If your company is interested in joining the Kits 4 Schools program as a sponsor and supporting your community and our school, please could you contact Kits 4 School direct via www.kits4schools.co.uk

FOOTBALL

On Thursday 23rd February we played at home to St Mary's. Our team were amazing and we won 2—0.

Well done to all who took part!!



LCA

★ ★ Learning Creative Arts

SING!
DANCE!
ACT!

MUSICAL THEATRE SUMMER WORKSHOP

Our summer workshops train performers in singing, dancing and drama. We provide a full 5 day workshop programme, working on sequences from several different musicals, training performers to a high standard. There is a performance on the Friday for family and friends!

**GODINTON PRIMARY
SCHOOL, ASHFORD**

MONDAY 7TH AUGUST to
FRIDAY 11TH AUGUST

£60 PER PERSON

SUITABLE FOR AGES 6-18

*Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment

LCA-STAGE.COM | 07714 276 241 | INFO@LCA-STAGE.COM