

# NEWSLETTER



GODSTONE PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

April/May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to see the children take part in a variety of extra-curricular events including Godstone Goes Global day, Night Owls visit and the Queen's Jubilee celebrations this half term (more to follow in the next newsletter). Several classes have also been on trips to enhance their learning in the classroom. In addition, we are all very proud of Year 2 and Year 6 who have completed their SATs recently. Lastly, to add to our celebrations, we are excited to wish Miss Barwick a happy maternity leave as she prepares to be a mum.

As we look forward to next half term, we have many more exciting things to look forward to, such as the Summer Fayre, Year 6 Residential, Transition Day, Sports Day and the Year 6 Production. I hope that in the meantime, you all have a restful and enjoyable half term break.

We have celebrated so many exciting events this year and have planned several more for next half term. With all this in mind, it is important to remember that we are currently entering a very difficult period of energy bills increasing and inflation. If you have been affected by the recent cost of living crisis and you are struggling to manage your finances, please contact me via email ([head@godstone.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:head@godstone.surrey.sch.uk)) to see if the school can arrange any support or put you in touch with an external services that can help you.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr Nick Usher**

Headteacher



# NURSERY

This half term we have enjoyed reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. We acted out the story in the Nursery, as well as in the hall. We made our own cress caterpillars and watered them. We continue to experiment with Eric Carle's painting, mark making and collage techniques. It was wonderful to have caterpillars in our classroom and very exciting to see the emerged butterflies! We have also been busy preparing for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, printing bunting, creating a rainbow of hands and learning a song and a dance for the school party.





# RECEPTION

This term Reception have been learning about minibeasts. They began by reading a book about a boy who only wanted to see the big animals at the animal park but actually the smaller animals were really important too.



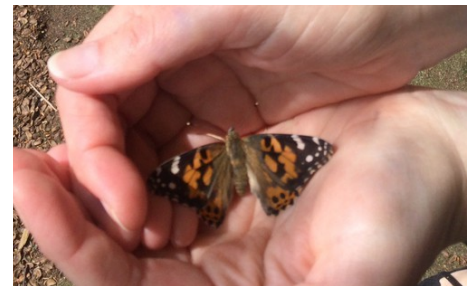
The children have learned about bees, ants, caterpillars, butterflies, ladybirds, beetles and much more. They know how important they are in the food chain and that most flying insects help spread the pollen to make new plants grow (pollination).



It was great fun looking for minibeasts in the outside. The children searched in the mud, under flower pots and in the leaves that gather next to the playhouse. They made lists of the creatures they found on their clipboards.



The children also watched caterpillars turn into chrysalides and then emerge as beautiful butterflies. They learned the life cycle of a butterfly and why the butterflies lay their eggs on specific plants (because they are the plants the caterpillars will eat when they hatch). They explored symmetrical patterns and made symmetrical paintings of butterflies using pipettes and paint.



They have also planted sunflower seeds to help attract more minibeasts. They found out that it takes around 20 000 bees to make one jar of honey because one bee only makes  $\frac{1}{8}$  of a teaspoon of honey in its lifetime.



# YEAR 1

Year 1 have had a very busy half term. We started the term off with an amazing performance of the Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch. The children learnt their words and performed beautifully.

We also painted some gorgeous water colour pictures of lighthouses which decorate the hall beautifully.





# YEAR 2

Summer 1 has been a fantastic half-term for the children in Year 2! The children have worked extremely hard all year in preparation for the Key Stage 1 SATs, which have now all been completed. We are very proud of all that the children have achieved!

This half-term the children have enjoyed learning all about The First World War. In English, the children spent time looking at the story of 'The Little Hen and the Great War' and rewrote the story themselves. They have also been looking at a non-fiction text based on The First World War. After spending some time learning lots of new information and understanding the features of an information text, the children were able to produce their own.

Non-Fiction Unit: The First World War  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
U1: To produce an information text.

| Success Criteria   | Pupil | Teacher |
|--|-------|---------|
| I can orally rehearse and write simple sentences, using capital letters and full stops.            |       |         |
| I can write information under the relevant heading, numbering or include key technical vocabulary. |       |         |
| I can add extra detail to my writing by using connecting and subordinating conjunctions.           |       |         |

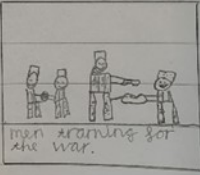
## The First world war

### The war Begins

The war began on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 1914. Britain and Germany went to war and they fought in the air, on land and at sea. It ended in 1918.

### The call to war

In 1916 more men were needed because less men were volunteering.



men training for the war.

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## The First world war

### The war Begins

The war began ON the 4<sup>th</sup> August 1914. Britain and Germany went to war from 1914 to 1918. 23 million people were killed and injured millions more.

### The call to war

Over 750,000 men joined to war. They saw it as a great adventure and so they signed up.

# YEAR 3

Year 3 have really enjoyed this half term and have thought about our school values in all that we have done.

We have had great fun exploring our class text 'The Iron Man'. We have used this text in our reading and writing and were really excited to invent our own plot. We used our science knowledge to think about alternative materials that the Iron Man could be made of. We used drama to take on the role of a new character and retell the story.



As part of our DT learning we designed and created games that use static electricity. We thought carefully about the materials that we would use and how our games would work. We created a design brief that we had to consider. Our games had to have the parts trimmed neatly, assembled securely and to move as intended. We also had to ensure that all components fitted in the box and that our games had a high-quality finish. Have a look at some of our amazing work!



We have been focusing on recognising and accurately drawing simple shapes in objects during our art learning and discovered that in nature objects are usually formed of wavy lines and man-made objects consist of straight lines. We used this knowledge to help us to draw more accurately. Our water bottle observational drawings are fantastic and we are so proud.





# YEAR 1 AND 2

## Trip to Brighton

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May, Year 1 and 2 went on an exciting trip to Brighton! The children travelled to Brighton by coach and, despite the weather not being on our side, they were still full of excitement and enthusiasm.

In the morning, we went to The Sea Life Centre and the children enjoyed seeing all the different creatures and learning lots of facts about them.

After lunch, the weather brightened up for us and so we all went down to the beach and onto the pier.

It was a lovely day out for all of the children and a big thank you to the parent helpers who accompanied us on this trip!





# YEAR 4



This half term, every Friday morning Year 4 have been going swimming at Woldingham School.

Split into two groups, the children are all in the water for 30 minutes and instructed by Mrs Keogh. Using floats and noodles, the children are learning the skills for front and

back crawl, perfecting their kicking, arm movements and breathing techniques. They are also developing their independence and life skills by getting changed themselves, with a little help from the adults as and when needed. A big thank you too to the four parents who have been helping us each week.



Our Science topic this half term is 'States of Matter' and the children are learning the scientific definitions of solids, liquids and gases.

With the help of Mrs Penston, we have conducted a range of experiments to demonstrate how solids, liquids and gases act. We have looked at what happens when a solid turns into a liquid by heating it and when a liquid is turned back into a solid by freezing.

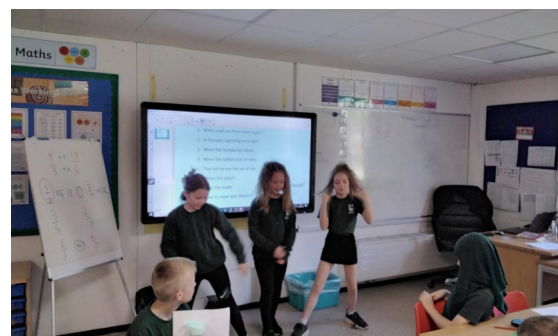
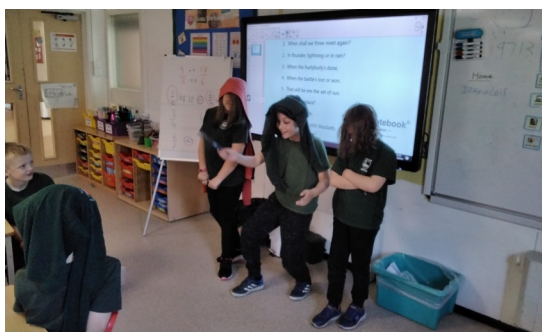


Through drama, we acted out how the particles in solids are tightly packed together, explaining why they are rigid and keep their shape, how in liquids there is some space between particles and how in gases there is a lot of energy and space between particles, explaining why gases can be compressed.



# YEAR 5

May has been a very busy month for Year 5 and we have had lots of exciting lessons and events to enjoy. In English, we have thoroughly enjoyed reading Macbeth by William Shakespeare and the class has been inspired to read and research further plays. This has resulted in some fantastic homework and learning in class. Notably, we have written letters to Lady Macbeth, diaries by Macbeth and poems based on the three witches. Below are photos of the class performing their poems.



Year 5 have also had an very interesting month in Maths learning all about decimals. We enjoyed Maths Morning and completed an investigation involving different combinations of colours in football kits. We realised how using a systematic approach would help us a lot in finding all of the possible combinations.

Finally, a group of Year 5 girls were able to represent the school at a cricket tournament at Woldingham School. They showed excellent behaviour, integrity and manners throughout and did the school proud. A special mention to Evie B and Meredith for their fantastic batting and to Francesca for taking a wicket with her very first ball!



# YEAR 6

We have now reached that time of year where the children are going to begin rehearsals for their end of year production – how exciting!

Miss Barwick and Mrs Rogers looked through a variety of musicals and we made the decision to go with one that has not been done before and it is called...

## Time Lord



We introduced the musical and carefully went through each character so that the children had a good understanding of the plot. Then, we gave all children the chance to auditioned for their most favoured parts and this was a great success! We were so proud of all of the children who auditioned, as some children also had to sing a solo for the parts that they wanted.

Over the last two weeks, the children have been familiarising themselves with their lines and scenes and have started to work on developing their character through adaptations to their voices and mannerisms.

After half term, the children will be rehearsing frequently and are so excited to perform to the whole school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July and then to parents, at The White Hart Barn, on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July.





# GODSTONE GOES GLOBAL

## Nursery

Nursery enjoyed being part of Godstone Goes Global this year by learning about our chosen country, Germany. The children danced to German folk music, listened and moved to Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata and tried to sing The Wheels on the Bus in German. We practised saying numbers to ten in German too. We tasted Black Forest Gateaux, sauerkraut and fruit juice mixed with carbonated water. Our attempts in making sauerkraut so that it is edible have been unsuccessful, however, there was lots of great cutting and snapping of the cabbage and mixing the mixture together! The children made German flags using yellow, red and black shapes, whilst some of the children painted the flag too.



## Reception

Reception learnt about South Africa for Godstone Goes Global. We tasted guava, biltong and Chocolate Romany cream biscuits. The children enjoyed lots of drumming, dancing and music too.





# GODSTONE GOES GLOBAL

## Year 1

We learnt about Egypt. We focussed on ancient Egypt looking at the hieroglyphics and messages written. We talked about the food and different religions in Egypt today. We also looked at maps of Egypt in relation to where we are.

## Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed spending the day learning all about the history, geography and culture of Italy. The children engaged with a wide range of activities throughout the day, which were enjoyed by all the children. They learnt about different foods in Italian and enjoyed the challenge of trying to locate a number of cities across the country. We also spent some time learning about the Romans and everyone designed and made their own Roman shield and helmet.

## Year 3

What an amazing time Year 3 had! Our country was France and we started the day by having a French lesson learning all about different foods. We had the chance to practise writing and saying different food and our opinion on them. After that, we researched different monuments in France and some key facts about them. We worked in groups to research and create information pages about a monument and shared our ideas with the class. We also explored the artist Claude Monet and had great fun recreating some of his most famous artwork. We demonstrated great resilience with this and we are so proud of the final results. We finished the day with a football match against Italy (Year 2) and showed great reciprocity.

## Year 4

Year 4 chose Japan as their country for their Godstone Goes Global focus this year. Whilst time learning about Japan was a little limited due to swimming, we still looked at where Japan is in the world and some associated map work where we identified the four main islands and the key cities and towns. We also learned how to say numbers to ten in Japanese, discussed what people eat there and even practised our skills using chopsticks. In the afternoon, we all participated in a karate taster session. Holly already goes to karate lessons outside of school and she showed us some of her learning. Very impressive!





# GODSTONE GOES GLOBAL

## Year 5

Year 5 learnt all about Spain for Godstone Goes Global Day. We learnt some basic Spanish phrases and practised Spanish conversations. We also studied Pablo Picasso and created our own portraits. For PE, we played handball which is a popular Spanish sport. Finally we learned about Spanish food and tried some chorizo, jamon and Spanish cheese.



## Year 6

In Year 6, the country that we celebrated was Australia. The children all came in one, two or three of the colours from the Australian flag: blue, red and/or white. We started the day with some Australian mindfulness colouring, followed by a reading comprehension all about The Great Barrier Reef. Then, we went through some information regarding Australian culture. The children used the information acquired to inform their answers for an exciting quiz. After break, the children made their own boomerangs and took part in a competition outside to see how far their boomerangs could go, the wind, however, was not on our side! We finished the day by making some Anzac biscuits, of which the children thoroughly enjoyed, and then the children participated in a game of cricket, which is one of Australia's most popular sports.

We finished the day with a short assembly and shared with each other what we had been learning about. A great day had by all.

# YOUNG VOICES

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April, thirty children from across Year 5 and 6 went up to The O2 Arena to perform at Young Voices 2022.

The children travelled up to The O2 Arena by coach and spent the afternoon completing final rehearsals before the concert in the evening. Teachers and pupils all agreed that it was unquestionably worth the wait after COVID and everyone enjoyed singing a wide range of songs including a pop medley, The Beatles medley and The Muppets medley.

It was a fantastic day for all of the children, full of excitement and enthusiasm. The children were a joy to take to this event, representing the school with such pride! We were so impressed with the commitment and effort that the children put in to learning the songs. Congratulations to all of the children who were a part of this memorable event and a special thank you to Mrs Rogers, Mrs Jones and Miss Dowson for accompanying us on this trip. We would also like to thank all of the parents and family members who made the trip up to London to come and support their children as they sang as a part of the largest school choir in the world!





# MATHS MORNING

We enjoyed another fantastic Maths Morning at Godstone Primary and Nursery School. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers here to support the children and to see them enjoying lots of interesting investigations. Below are a selection photos from the day.



# SWANS

In Swans we made a Union Jack flag to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which means the Queen has been our Queen for 70 years.

**By Verity—Year 5**



# **ATTENDANCE**

## **Punctuality/Lateness**

Punctuality to school is crucial and registration at the beginning of the day with the class teacher is one of the most important periods of the day. Lateness into school causes disruption to that individual's learning and to that of the other pupils in the class. It is paramount therefore that all children arrive at school on time.

As a reminder to parents:

- Please adhere to class drop off and pick up times as set out on page 4 of this newsletter.
- Pupils who arrive after registration will be recorded as late.
- Registers close at 9:20 am. After this time, if no call is received by the parent as to why the child is absent, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.
- Persistent lateness is monitored by the school office and will be investigated and appropriate action is taken. If there is no further improvement, this may be referred to our Education Welfare Officer.

## **Attendance Panel School Meetings (failure to ensure regular school attendance)**

The Local Authority retains control of the Education Welfare Service and every effort is made to maintain close links with the Education Welfare Officer attached to the school. Where school interventions have failed to secure regular attendance, an official referral may be made to the Education Welfare Officer.

## **PENALTY NOTICES**

We would like to remind parents that The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 state that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. The Head Teacher should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.

In accordance with the above regulations, requests for leave of absence are treated sympathetically, but only in exceptional circumstances can they be approved. The policy of the Government to which this school has agreed, states that parents who take their child out of school for five days or more during term time, without the authority of the Head Teacher, will each be liable to receive a penalty notice. Penalty notices will be issued by the Local Authority.

The penalty is £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice raising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days of the notice. If the penalty is not paid in full by the end of the 28 day period, the Local Authority must prosecute the recipient for failing to ensure regular school attendance under Section 444 Education Act 1996.

Please be aware that each parent is liable to receive a penalty notice for each child who incurs unauthorised absence, for example, if there are two parents and one child, each parent will receive one penalty notice. If there are two parents and two children incurring unauthorised absences, each parent will receive two penalty notices, which in this case would amount to £120 each if paid within 21 days.

Mr N Usher  
Acting Headteacher

Mrs S Emerson  
Education Welfare Officer

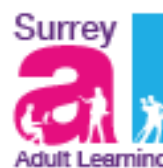


# DIARY DATES

**May—July 2022**

| Date  | Time          | Event   |
|---|---------------|---|
| <b>MAY</b>  |               |   |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May                         | 3:15pm/3:20pm | Last Day of 1 <sup>st</sup> Half of Summer Term |
| Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> May - Frid 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun | N/A           | HALF TERM                                       |
| <b>JUNE</b>   |               |   |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June                         | 2:15pm        | Whole School Jubilee Performance                |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June                         | 8:40am        | Start of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Half of Summer Term    |
| Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June                      | 8:45am–3:00pm | Nursery/Reception Trip to Tilgate Park          |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June                     | 9:15am        | New Reception Welcome Meeting (School Hall)     |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June                     | 7:00pm        | New Reception Welcome Meeting (School Hall)     |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June                        | N/A           | Year 6 Residential – Carrotty Wood              |
| Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June                       | N/A           | Transition Day                                  |
| Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June                     | 9:15am        | Class Photos                                    |
| <b>JULY</b>   |               |   |
| Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July                       |               | Summer Fayre                                    |
| Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July                        | 2:00pm        | Year 6 Production (Children/Staff at School)    |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July                       | 7:00pm        | Year 6 Production (Parents) – White Hart Barn   |
| Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> July                        |               | Year 3, 4 and 5 - Tandridge Singing Picnic      |
| Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July                     | TBC           | Sports Day                                      |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> July                        | N/A           | School Reports to Parents                       |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July                     | TBC           | Reserve Sports Day                              |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July                        | 2:15pm        | Year 6 Leavers Assembly (Parents)               |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July                        | 3:15pm/3:20pm | Last Day of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Half of Summer Term |
| Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> July                        | N/A           | SUMMER HOLIDAYS                                 |

**\* Dates are subject to change**



## Need some support with parenting but don't know where to look?

Surrey Family Learning offers **FREE** courses and workshops to help you create a better family life.

Are you worried about your child's behaviour or development, or see your child struggling in school?

These courses can benefit you and your child. Book online today at:

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning)



### Courses available

○ **Parenting** Help understand your children and teenagers' behaviour, anxiety and mental health. Learn support strategies.

○ **English as an Additional Language** Support for you and your child with English and how education in England works.

○ **Maths** Learn about methods used in schools today.

○ **Cookery** Be inspired and cook healthy family dishes together.

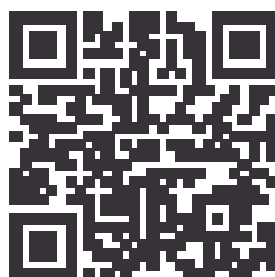


0315F



Our free Children and Young People's Crisis Line is available 24 hours a day for young people 6 years old and over, parents and carers who are experiencing emotional and mental health crisis.

**Please call 0800 915 4644  
selecting option 1**



Scan me to visit our website

[www.mindworks-surrey.org](http://www.mindworks-surrey.org)

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Families with children from birth to 19 years old can call our Surrey-wide 0-19 Advice Line on [01883 340 922](tel:01883340922)

The advice line is available from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays) and provides support on all aspects of child health, development and parenting.

- \*Child development
- \*Sleep and your baby
- \*Growth and your baby
- \*Infant feeding including breastfeeding
- \*Coping with a crying baby
- \*Healthy eating
- \*Management of minor illnesses
- \*Speech and communication
- \*Introducing family foods and solids
- \*Behaviour
- \*Immunisations
- \*Your emotional wellbeing
- \*School nursing service



Please click on the link below for more information:-

<https://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/services/advice-line>

# ADVERTISEMENTS

## **Bump and Beyond: the 4th Trimester, Free Antenatal Sessions**

Please share this information with parents and carers



Are you expecting a baby? You and your partner are invited to join a free antenatal session 'Bump and Beyond: the 4th Trimester' run by Children and Family Health Surrey health visitors. The free sessions are open to everyone living in Surrey from 28 weeks pregnant onwards. Further details, including how to book a session are available via this weblink; [Children and Family Health Surrey - Antenatal](#).



We have spaces available at 1st Godstone Brownies for girls aged 7-10yrs. We have lots of fun working towards badges and going on adventures. We meet at the Endeavor Hall on Godstone Green every Friday 3.30-4.30pm during term time. Please contact Brown owl at [brownowlgodstone@gmail.com](mailto:brownowlgodstone@gmail.com) or register at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)