

Head Teacher's Message

Welcome to our new Parents and Carers and welcome back to those of you who already know us well! I hope you had at least some opportunity to relax over the summer.

The children have settled incredibly well into their new classes and routines; a special mention to our Year 3 pupils who have shown remarkable resilience and seem to be taking everything in their stride at the moment. Well done to them and a huge thank you to all of the other children for being such excellent role models!

If you have been in school this week, you can't fail to have noticed that phase one of our playground work has been completed; drainage issues are resolved and we now have a level surface rather than the undulating outdoor space children previously had PE lessons and played on.

Phase two is set to begin in the October half-term break and will see playground markings be laid for sports as well as games and our Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) be installed. The MUGA will ensure that we can teach a range of sports more effectively and also provide a clearly defined area for football to be played at breaktimes (and stop stray balls interfering with other activities!) This is very exciting and we can't wait for the children to be able to enjoy both PE and playtimes even more.

Phase three will be in the new financial year and will see the grassed area being redeveloped. Our School Council were heavily involved in shaping our plans and will continue to be closely consulted in how the playground can be best utilised. UNCRC Articles: 12 - Children have the right to express their views and have them taken seriously; 29 - Education must develop children's talents; 31 - Children have the right to play.

At Godwin we do everything we can to ensure that learning is engaging so that children want to find out more. Next week, Sublime Science will be presenting a series of hands on, exciting workshops for each class across the school - which, where possible, will have links to their current science topic. They are an award winning provider of science workshops and were featured on Dragon's Den, receiving investment from two Dragons. Our aim is to start our science learning off with a bang (possibly literally!)



I'm delighted that children in Years 3 and 4 will start gardening sessions in our school garden next week. With the help and support of many parents and carers we developed this neglected space into an oasis in 2019 and know how much the children enjoy using it - both in led sessions and at break times. If you don't usually use that entrance, please walk past and admire our beautiful new mural - I'm sure you will agree how it complements the setting perfectly. UNCRC Articles: 29 - Education must develop children's talents; 31 - Children have the right to relax.

All Godwin children will have music lessons taught by a specialist teacher this year. We have invested heavily in our music provision, with lots of new instruments to supplement our range. We know how important it is to ensure that children have the opportunity to experience new things in order to discover what it is they really enjoy.

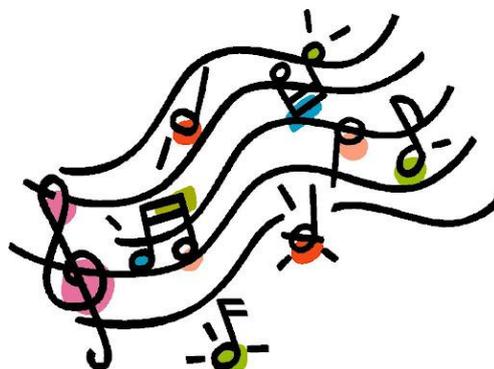
UNCRC Article: 29 - Education must develop children's talents.

Chess lessons will also be starting in Year 5 from next week. These sessions are another way in which our children encounter something which is new to most of them, learn from an expert and hopefully develop a love for the game which will last into adulthood. Perhaps we might even have the next Grand Master in our midst!

UNCRC Articles: 29 - Education must develop children's talents; 31 - Children have the right to take part in a range of cultural activities.

Year 4 will start their swimming sessions next week and I'm sure will enjoy either learning or further developing this important life skill. All Year 4 parents and carers have been notified - please ensure that your child brings everything required on the correct day. We are aware that due to Covid-19, our current Year 5 pupils out on this last year so we hope to be able to arrange lessons for them later in the year - details nearer the time.

UNCRC Article: 29 - Education must develop children's talents.



There are lots of other exciting things on the horizon to share with you (don't worry Y6 - there's plenty for you too!) - hopefully I have given you a flavour of what is to come! please see the Curriculum Newsletter for your child's year group which is being emailed to you separately from today's newsletter.

With best regards for a happy weekend.

Meet the Teacher Meetings

These meetings are taking place next week. Please do come along if you are able so as to meet your child's class teacher briefly.

PLEASE NOTE: Please make sure you come to the right meeting for your child's class.

Tuesday 14/9 – 3.55pm – 4M & 4V

Tuesday 14/9 – 4.15pm – 4K & 4I

Wednesday 15/9 – 3.40pm – 3D & 3Q

Wednesday 15/9 – 4.00pm – 3K & 3M

Thursday 16/9 – 3.40pm – 5J & 5T

Thursday 16/9 – 4.00pm – 5M & 5Y

Friday 17/9 – 3.55pm – 6W & 6Z

Friday 17/9 – 4.15pm – 6B & 6C



Year 6 Secondary School Meeting

Parent/Carers of our Year 6 pupils are invited to these meetings to collect the 'Starting Secondary School, Your Guide to Secondary Schools in Newham' booklet and also to find out more about the application process.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to maintain safe distancing in the Sports Hall, we can only invite one parent/carer per pupil to attend on the appointed evening and ask that you do not bring any children to the meeting.

Wednesday 15th September 5.00pm – Classes 6B & 6C

Thursday 16th September 4.30pm – Classes 6W & 6Z

We look forward to seeing you!



Parent/Carer Conferences

Tuesday 12th October

Wednesday 13th October

Please keep these dates in your diary for the first of this academic year's Parent/Carer Conferences.

Further details as to how to book your appointment will be sent out very soon.

SAVE THE DATE

Meet the Author

Thursday 30th September

6.30pm (doors open 5.30pm)

Stratford Library

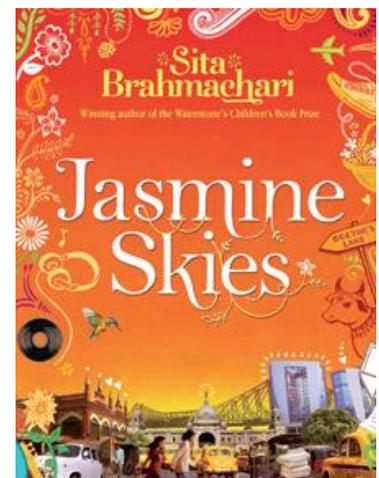
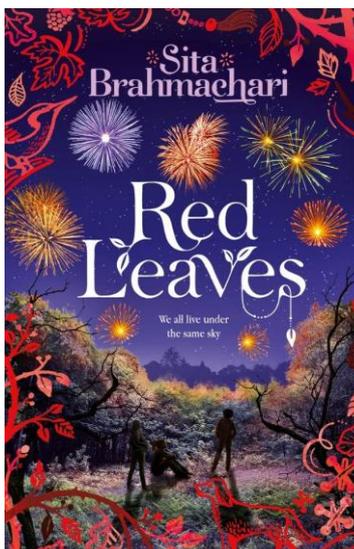
Onjali Rauf & Sita Brahmachari in Conversation

All are invited to attend this event to hear from these two giants of children's literature.

There will be refreshments, information stalls and Newham Bookshop will have a pop-up shop!

Tickets available on Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/our-world-our-stories-tickets-168452282311>



Achievement Awards

3D – Laura for embracing mistakes.

3K – Aizah for considering her choices and helping her peers when they are unsure of what to do.

3M – Yazel for considering her choices and being an excellent role model.

3Q – Ashrah for thinking carefully about her decisions.

4I – Raphael for working collaboratively with his learning partner and being supportive.

4K – All of the class for persevering during their first week of school.

4M – Azizah for collaborating well with her partner and settling in well into 4M.

4V – Uworth for explaining his reasoning articulately during maths lessons.

5J – Nevaeh for thinking about the best choices to make during learning time.

5M – Aiza for persevering with her maths learning throughout the week.

5T – Rocky for considering his choices and perseverance in his work.

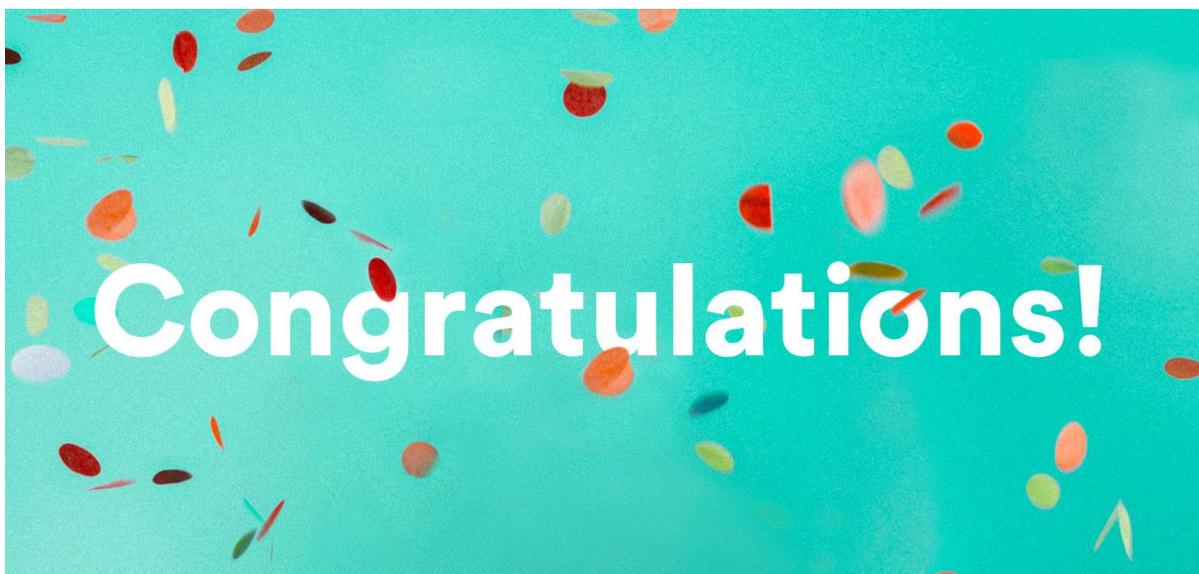
5Y – Mihran for showing a positive attitude towards his work.

6B – Shah Hussain for collaboration, showing he is a good learning partner and team player.

6C – Haroon for showing an excellent attitude to his learning and contributing well to discussions.

6W – Isobel for consistently considering her choices and setting an excellent example.

6Z – Juri for collaborating so well in English on fronted adverbials.



Learning Powers

At Godwin Junior School we promote and encourage seven different learning powers:

Being curious, persevering, evaluating, collaborating, embracing mistakes, explaining reasoning and considering choices.

This week, we'll focus on why it is important to be curious.

1. Humans are naturally curious! We can see this in the way babies explore their surroundings and the questions toddlers ask. We want to encourage and praise this curiosity so that our pupils carry it into their adult lives.
2. Curiosity caused early humans to explore the planet and develop the origins of technology and science. It literally shaped the world we live in. Curious learners can become the scientists and engineers of tomorrow, improving lives and solving problems.
3. Curious learners achieve better results in school because they are more engaged and enjoy their learning more.
4. Did you know that curious people are happier? Research has shown curiosity to be associated with higher levels of positive emotions, lower levels of anxiety, more satisfaction with life, and greater psychological well-being.
5. Curiosity can expand our empathy. When we are curious about others and talk to people outside our usual social circle, we become better able to understand those with lives, experiences, and worldviews different than our own.

So next time your child shows their curious side, remember to say well done!

