



# Godwin Newsletter - 24th March 2023

preparing pupils for lifelong success



## Head Teacher's Message

Visitors to Godwin this week have been really impressed by our children's confidence and ability to talk about how our school supports them to develop a love of learning. Senior Leaders from Star Primary School came to talk to groups of our children about many of the enrichment activities that they participate in, such as gardening, chess, Debate Mate and the Brilliant Club. It was a privilege to hear our children talk so proudly and knowledgeably about their achievements and how they feel the school is enabling them to become confident, articulate and responsible global citizens.

A group of Year 5 pupils are taking part in Newham's 'Battle of the Bards' today. After being inspired when studying Macbeth, some of our children have memorised their favourite passages from the play and will be delivering these in front of an audience, competing against other schools in a highly engaging event. The rehearsals have been very dramatic, with children utilising all of the oracy skills we have supported them to develop to create highly-polished performances. We know that they have really enjoyed practising and can't wait to find out what the experience was like.

This week sees many in our community begin to mark the holy month of Ramadan. The British Values of Tolerance and Mutual Respect have been very much in our thoughts and discussions during assemblies, as has UNCRC Article 14: Every child has the right to practice their religion. We have drawn parallels with other faiths as well as emphasised the importance of self-discipline to us all. Ramadan Mubarak to all of our Muslim families.

# The Case for Oracy.

Next week, children in all year groups will take part in our first annual Raised Voices competition. This event gives pupils the opportunity to practise public speaking through the speeches of well-known figures. Today we would like to explore the reasoning behind this event and its potential benefits for children.

## What is Oracy?

Oracy is the ability to articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language. It can be broadly broken down into four skill areas:

- **Physical** (use of voice and the effect of body language)
- **Linguistic** (Choosing appropriate vocabulary, grammar and rhetorical techniques)
- **Cognitive** (The content, structure and reasoning of your ideas)
- **Social and Emotional** (Working with others, confidence and audience awareness)

## Why does it matter?

In school, oracy is a powerful tool for learning; by teaching students to become more effective speakers and listeners we empower them to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them. It is also a route to social mobility, empowering all students, not just some, to find their voice to succeed in school and life. Studies show that some struggling learners say as few as four words per lesson; we want to make sure no child at Godwin is in this position. For this reason, it is part of our School Vision to develop confident, articulate individuals.

## How do we promote oracy skills?

Talk Partners are a cornerstone of all our lessons. Pupils are asked to discuss questions and ideas before feeding back to the rest of the class. This supports less confident speakers to generate and structure ideas before talking in front of an audience, as well as ensuring every child is fully engaged in their learning.



Debates and discussions are also structured through the use of ABCs (Agree, Build, Challenge). Children are taught to listen to and respond to the thoughts of the previous speaker and to *challenge ideas* rather than arguing with the person themselves.

Our Year 5 and 6 children also have the opportunity to take part in the Debate Mate after-school club, which is led by university-level mentors and leads to participation in debating competitions around London and even nationally.

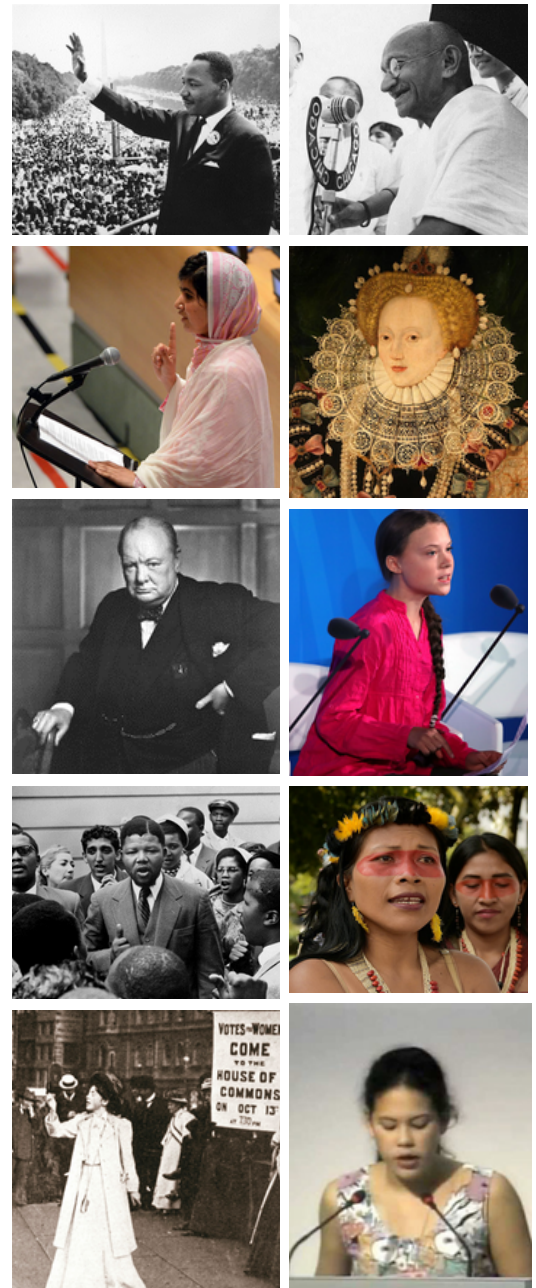
As parents and carers of children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will know, we also hold the Godwin Poetry Slam in the summer term. This event is extremely popular with pupils and helps them to practice the physical aspects of oracy whilst performing for a larger group.

## Raised Voices Speech Competition

Now, we are expanding our range of oracy-focused events with our speech competition. Children have studied speeches from the ten notable people pictured here, learning about what makes a speech effective and memorable. They have chosen extracts to practise and have supported each other with constructive feedback.

Year group heats will take place next Wednesday or Thursday, with four children from each year group going through to the final on Friday morning. We cannot wait to hear them! Parents and carers are extremely welcome to attend the final and further details are on the next page.

We hope you will agree that pupils here are developing the skills they need to be the outspoken, fearless leaders of tomorrow.



# GODWIN JUNIOR SCHOOL PRESENTS:



## RAISED VOICES



**COME AND WATCH OUR INSPIRING SPEECH CHAMPIONS  
PERFORM IN FRONT OF THEIR PEERS AT OUR  
COMPETITION FINALS.**

**FRIDAY 31ST MARCH**

**YEARS 3&4 – 9:15AM**

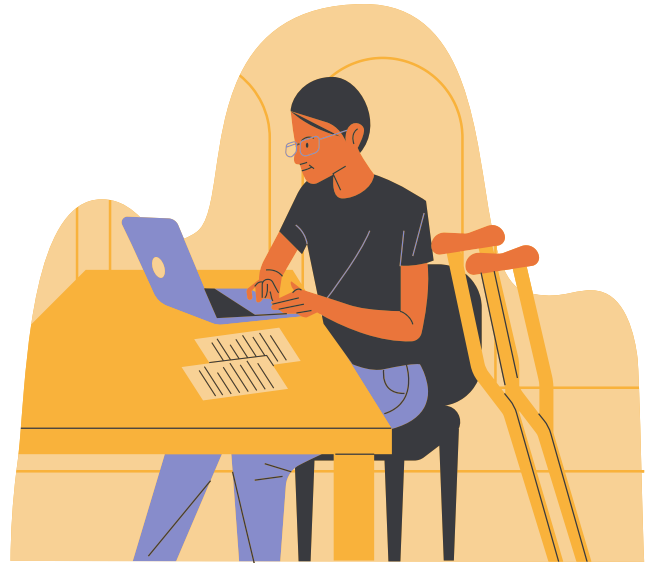
**YEARS 5&6 – 9:55AM**



# Future Writers' Competition

This week our winner was Aayat from 5M with his idea for a spooky story called 'Doors'.

Next week is the final week of this competition, so please enter soon if you would still like to.



## Mindfulness Corner

Every Friday we will share a link to a different group or organisation with resources for mental health and wellbeing. (Just so you know, we are not endorsing any particular site nor are we ambassadors for it - but we are simply providing pointers towards sites that might be interesting/helpful).



This week we feature mental health support from the Prince's Trust:  
<https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/help-for-young-people/who-else/housing-health-wellbeing/wellbeing/mental-health>

"Only in the darkness can you see the stars."

*Martin Luther King, Jr*

## Article of the Week

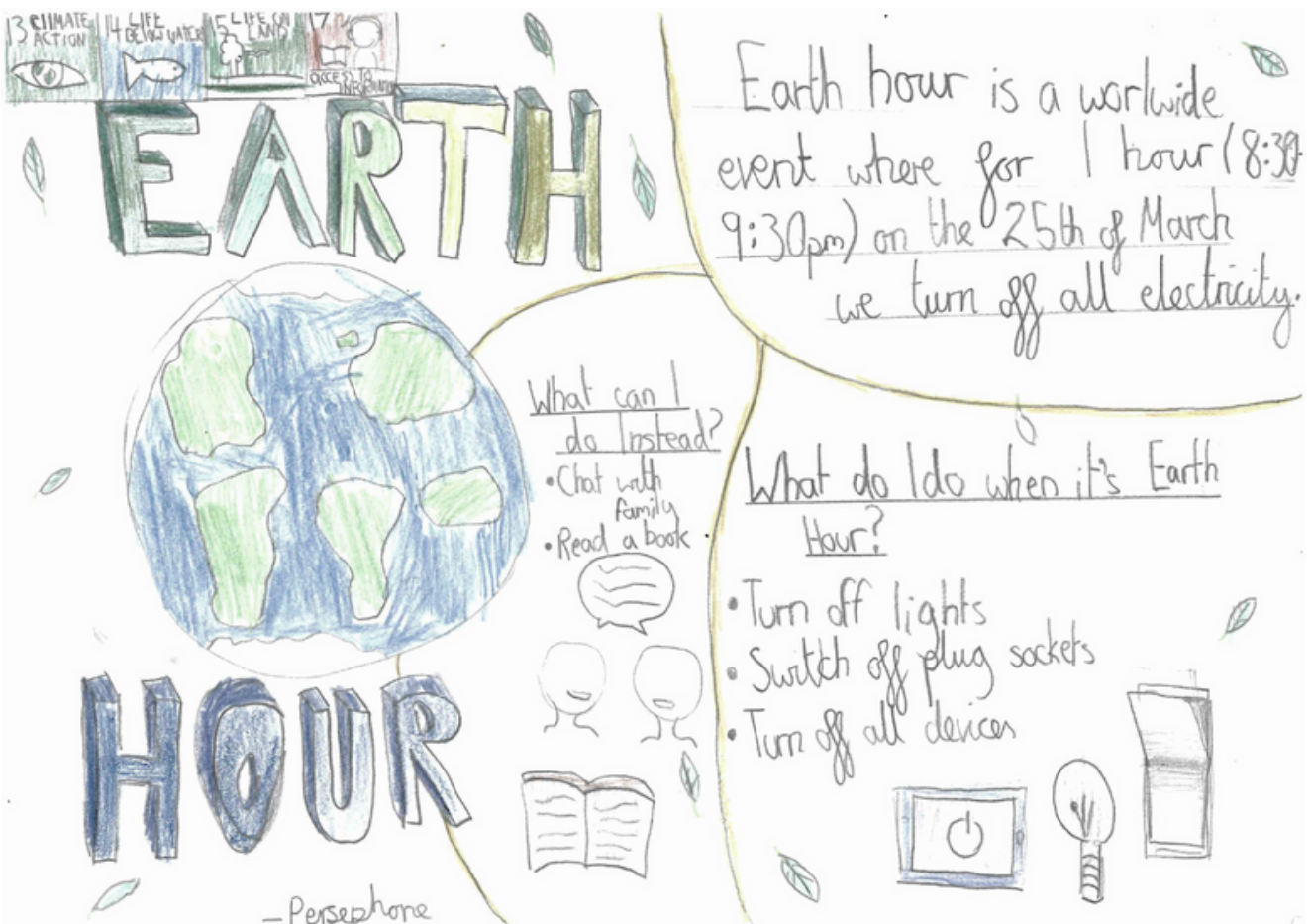


According to **Article 14** of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, children have the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion.

**Article 30** of the agreement adds that children should be permitted to live their way of life even if they are in the minority. Both of these topics are crucial to remember when considering Ramadan, which is a time for Muslims to fast throughout the day and pray for spiritual cleanliness. Throughout this holy month, the emphasis is on forgiveness and reflection.

As Ramadan approaches, keep in mind that all children have the freedom to express their ideas as long as they are not damaging to others or themselves.

## Earth Hour





# GODWIN'S BATTERY COUNT

**THANK YOU FOR COLLECTING:**



We've had a lot of fun hunting for batteries this spring, and we want to thank everyone for their hard work!

We've collected 1243 batteries so far, which is amazing.  
Keep up the great work!

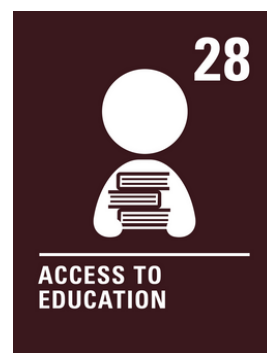


# Punctuality and Attendance

CLASS	ATTENDANCE
3B	99%
3I	97%
3K	97%
3Z	94%
4Z	87%
4K	96%
4T	97%
4Y	93%

CLASS	ATTENDANCE
5M	95%
5J	100%
5V	92%
6O	97%
6K	89%
6B	89%
6W	97%
total	94%

for the week  
beginning 13th  
March



Last week 5J managed perfect attendance, with 3B close behind. Well done! 3I, 3K, 4T, 6O and 6W also had good attendance. Please help your class to meet our target of 96% or above next week.

6K won the punctuality cup with everyone on time all week. Fantastic!



## Lining Up Cup

This week's winners are:

3z and 5j

Congratulations!







EASTER  
HOLIDAYS

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★ Trustpilot



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# YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

**Venue:** Bobby Moore Academy, 23 Marshgate Lane, E202AA

**Dates:** 3rd April - 14th April 2023

**Times:** 9:30am - 4 pm

**Price:** £19:50 per day

**Ages:** 5 - 12 years old

**Additional info:** SIBLING DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

Mix it up during the school holidays with our multi-activity holiday camps!

These camps are a perfect blend of activities for all ages, combining different sports with a variety of team games.

Every day is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before – from dodgeball to fencing, lacrosse to cheer.

**Book now** for an Easter break full of fun!

please  
bring

A packed lunch  
Plenty of water  
Suitable clothing  
Loads of energy!



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OFF TOO!**

\*Ts&Cs apply. Refer a Friend discount on new bookings only.



Based on over 15,000 reviews



# Achievement Awards

- 3B – Jannatul: for persevering in her learning this week and being a positive role model
- 3K – Alex: for persistently demonstrating exemplary behaviour in class and always considering his choices
- 3I – Zadie: for being a fantastic learning partner and working collaboratively with others
- 3Z – Antoni: for persevering in his learning and considering his choices
- 4K – Elwood: for persevering during assessment week and carefully rechecking his answers
- 4T – Karo: for considering her choices and persevering in English
- 4Y – Mahjabin: for her enthusiasm and perseverance in class
- 4Z – Bilal: for persevering with his handwriting
- 5J – Karol: for choosing to fully engage and participate during group discussions
- 5M – Alilah: for her curiosity and reasoning on our visit to the Royal Observatory
- 5V – Anastasia: for persevering in all areas of the curriculum
- 6W – Samia: for always demonstrating excellent collaboration
- 6O – Akash: for being a curious learner
- 6B – Maryam: for persevering and improving in reading
- 6K – Mahima: for making excellent progress in writing