



# Godwin Newsletter - 23rd June 2023

preparing pupils for lifelong success



## Governors' Message

Please help! As set out last week, we're intending to have a stall at the Woodgrange Infant School Fete on 1 July and at the Forest Gate Festival on 8 July. As well as a great opportunity to engage with our local community, it's also a chance to raise money for Godwin, with a particular focus on money for the library. Can you:

### Woodgrange Fete – Saturday 1 July

- Donate good quality books for a second hand sale
- Donate good quality used/new Godwin uniform for sale
- Help on the day?

### Forest Gate Festival – Saturday 8 July

- Donate good quality books for a second hand sale
- Donate handmade crafts for us to sell - this was really successful last year
- Donate plants for us to sell - these were very popular last year
- Help on the day?

PLEASE start donating books and uniform for Woodgrange fete now. These can be brought to the main entrance of the school from next week.

And if you're interested in finding out more about re-establishing the Friends of Godwin/PTA then please email: [info@godwin.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@godwin.newham.sch.uk)



## A Right Royal Day Out

The winners of our throne building competition enjoyed their well-deserved reward this week - a day out in Central London.

They had a lot of fun taking in the sights, especially watching the Changing of the Guards at Buckingham Palace. After working up an appetite they really appreciated the 'posh' lunch which Ms Valle had lined up for them.





# Godwin's Poetry Slam

If your child is in Year 4, 5 or 6 then you will already be aware of our hugely popular annual Poetry Slam. Some children have been looking forward to it since September and the date is now almost upon us!

Today, sign-up sheets were posted in every classroom and children will be bringing home a small selection of poems. These are good inspiration to get everyone started but pupils can actually enter any poem they like, including ones they have written themselves.

Next week, each teacher will support their pupils to polish up their performance skills, thinking about projecting their voices and making conscious choices about body language as well as tone, speed, the effect of pauses and much more.

Year group heats will take place for Year 6 on Monday 3rd July and for all other year groups on Thursday 6th July.

The whole-school final will take place on Monday 10th July and parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Please ask you child about the poetry slam and encourage them to take part.





# Award-winning Godwin!

We are delighted to share with you that our commitment to the development of sports competition across the school and in to our local community has once again been recognised through us achieving the School Games Gold Mark again.

With a total of 184 children competing in inter-school competitions this year, in addition to the half-termly year group fixtures and our 5-a-side football tournament, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport.

As part of our eligibility for this award, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs and we are so pleased that the hard work of everyone at Godwin has been celebrated.

A very sincere thank you to everyone who supported our recent sponsored event which saw international athlete, Frederick Afrifa inspire our children to be more physically active. We raised an amazing £1390 which will go towards new PE equipment for our children to use, as well as supporting aspiring athletes and para-athletes to follow their dreams.

An Olympic-sized cheer to our PE Subject Leader, Ms Yeboah-Dzah, whose organisation and dedication made all of this possible.



# Dates for Your Diary.

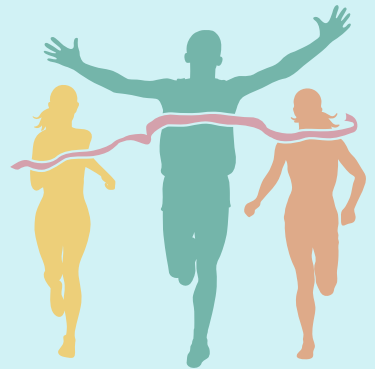
Year 3 sports day - Weds 19th July pm

Year 4 sports day - Mon 17th July pm

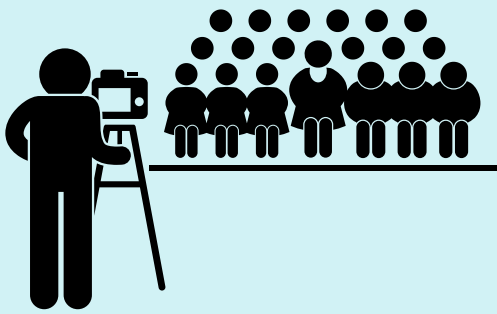
Year 5 sports day - Mon 17th July am

Year 6 sports day - Weds 19th July am

Join us on Wanstead Flats to cheer the children on!



Class Photographs -  
Monday 26th June



Year 6 production - Mon 17th  
and Tues 18th July (evening)



Year 3 - 5 music  
assemblies - Tues 11th  
July times TBC



Year 6 disco -  
Weds 19th July  
(evening)



Poetry Slam Whole School Final -  
Monday 10th July (afternoon - exact times  
TBC)



# Summer Reading Challenge

After half term, each class will be visiting The Gate Library to kick off the summer reading challenge.

Please ensure your child brings their library card to school that day. If they have lost their card, we will issue them a new one.

3B - Monday 5th June ✓

3I - Monday 12th June ✓

3K - Friday 16th June ✓

3Z - Friday 16th June ✓

4Z - Thursday 8th June ✓

4T - Friday 7th July **NEW DATE!**

4Y - Thursday 22nd June ✓

4K - Thursday 6th July **NEW DATE!**

5J - Tuesday 13th June ✓

5V - Monday 26th June

5M - Friday 30th June

6O - Monday 26th June

6B - Monday 19th June ✓

6K - Monday 19th June ✓

6W - Monday 3rd July





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AI VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Artificial intelligence – particularly in terms of how it generates natural language – has seen significant development over the last six months, with companies releasing new AI-based software or adding an AI element to existing apps (such as Snapchat, for example). One form of AI to become especially popular has been the ‘AI friend’ or chatbot, as children eagerly experiment with these new-found computer-generated companions. There are now numerous apps available with this ‘virtual friend’ functionality, with the likelihood of it being added to other successful platforms soon.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### CONTENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AI chatbots may not always be able to recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and should be filtered out. So there’s a possibility that children could be exposed to offensive language or explicit material while conversing with their virtual friend. The companies producing such AI solutions are also unlikely to take responsibility for any content that their algorithms generate.

D@\*#!

### REDUCED SOCIAL CONTACT

An excessive reliance on chatbots for social interaction could potentially cause a child to begin reducing the amount of face-to-face communication they have, leading to social isolation. If young people become dependent on chatbots to provide companionship, it could very likely hinder the development of their real-life social skills.

### LACK OF SENSITIVITY

Chatbot software isn’t always sophisticated enough to pick up on subtle emotional cues or recognise signs of distress in children, as most humans would. It might therefore fail to respond appropriately. AI misinterpreting what it’s being told or replying insensitively to a young user who’s already struggling could potentially impact a child’s emotional wellbeing or exacerbate any existing emotional issues.

### UNINTENTIONAL BIAS

AI companions are only as reliable as the information they’ve been programmed with. The algorithms they use, therefore, may unintentionally promote bias, stereotypes or discriminatory behaviour (as many originate from the USA or the UK, for instance, they can display a distinctly western-centric worldview). This could lead to children developing skewed attitudes and behaviours.

### COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS

Although many are now undeniably advanced, AI-powered chatbots still have limitations in terms of understanding complex concepts, context and nuance. Depending heavily on chatbots to help with learning or solving problems may stunt the development of a child’s own powers of critical thinking, creativity and ability to engage in open-ended discussions with other people.

### PRIVACY CONCERNS

Chatbots typically collect data about users, including personal information and conversations. This is ostensibly to improve their performance as they gradually learn about our behaviour – but many experts are warning that there may be significant risks associated with how this information is stored and used (the possibility of potential breaches or misuse by third parties, for instance).

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### CHAT ABOUT CHATBOTS

If your child is already expressing an interest in AI apps, a relaxed, natural chat should help you to discover which ones they’re aware of and how they’re using them (or are planning to). Discuss these options with your child and perhaps do your own research to ensure you think they’re suitable. Once you’re totally happy, you could sit with your young one and begin exploring AI chatbots together.

### CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If your child is keen to engage with AI chatbots, encourage them to do so in a safe environment: ideally in a shared space at home, so you can easily keep an eye and ear on their progress. Set up appropriate content filtering measures in advance – and gently remind them that you’ll be close by and ready to help with any questions or concerns that may arise.

### FIND A BALANCE

Work alongside your child to establish the right balance in terms of how they might use AI-powered chatbots – and when it’s appropriate. It’s important to make sure that children are still getting plenty of opportunities to learn to solve problems for themselves, as well as building their interpersonal skills through face-to-face conversations with friends, family members and teachers.

### TAKE CONTROL

As with any form of app or game, when it comes to AI chatbots we’d strongly recommend that you consider employing parental controls (either on the device being used or within the software itself) to manage which apps your child can download and use. This is particularly important for younger children, who may be more at risk of being upset or frightened by inappropriate content.

### RECOGNISE THE RISKS

It’s unlikely that most children will have even considered the potential risks attached to having a virtual companion. So it’s probably wise to explain some of the possible hazards and challenges of AI chatbots to your child. In particular, emphasise that AI isn’t a real person (however much it might sound like one) and may occasionally tell them something that isn’t entirely impartial or accurate.

## Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that we become more aware of the risks around technology, as well as the benefits.





LORD MAYOR'S COMMUNITY WEEKEND

# Celebrating Diversity in FOREST GATE

## LET'S GET TOGETHER

Live Music, Food and family activities

FOREST GATE COMMUNITY GARDEN

136 Earlham Grove, E7 9AD

Saturday 24th June  
11.30 - 2.30

[info@fgcommunitygarden.org](mailto:info@fgcommunitygarden.org)  
[www.fgcommunitygarden.org](http://www.fgcommunitygarden.org)

 **COMMUNITY  
GARDEN**  
*Forest Gate*



QUEEN ELIZABETH  
OLYMPIC PARK

SATURDAY  
**1 JULY**

12-7pm

**THE GREAT  
GET TOGETHER**

FREE EVENT

DANCE • MUSIC • SPORT

CRAFTS • ARTS



Register  
your interest



WESTFIELD EAST BANK  
**CREATIVE**  
FUTURES FUND



This half term, our weekly competition invites children to create a poem of their own. Entry forms are available in all classrooms and can be handed in to Ms Smith.

We have had so many wonderful entries this week. Everyone who composed a poem should be very proud. The week's winner is Minha from 3Z:

### My Amma and Me

I love my amma because she is as fast as thunder.  
She looks after me and my whole family.  
When I'm scared she hugs me like I'm a teddy bear!

My amma loves me because I am so fun!  
I help her around the house when she feels as small as a mouse.  
When my amma is sad, I'm sad.

I will always love my amma because she loves me.

By Minha







### **Teachers2Parents - Apps on Google Play**

Keeping parents & guardians updated with important updates from schools.

The Teachers2Parents App is a free-to-download messaging app for viewing messages received from your child's school and providing additional information about the school. The app is divided into three main sections: Messages, Term Calendar and Noticeboard:

- **Messages** contains all the messages that you have received from the school and will notify you when you receive a new one.
- **Term Calendar** includes the term dates the school has posted.
- **Noticeboard** contains general announcements to inform app users like you about important school events and information.

### **How to Download and Register**

1. Go to Google Play (Android) or App Store (iPhone)
2. Search for 'Teachers2Parents'
3. Download the free Teachers2Parents App
4. Enter your mobile number e.g. 07532542423.
5. It will send you a Verification Code which you enter on the next screen
6. You will then see a welcome message providing information on each section
7. Once completed (or skipped), you can now use the Teachers2Parents App.

If you receive the error message "The number you have provided was not recognized" then you should double-check with the school that the mobile number you are entering is the one saved for your child in their Teachers2Parents Text Service.

Once you have downloaded and registered with the Teachers2Parents App, you will no longer receive SMS messages from the school. Instead you will receive messages directly to the app via your phone data or Wi-Fi connection.





# Article of the Week



The United Nations has declared June 20 to be **World Refugee Day**, honouring refugees everywhere. Every year on June 20, it honours the courage of those who left their own nations because of war or persecution. Tragic events occurred last week in Greece when a ship carrying 750 refugees sank, bringing attention to the risks and difficulties encountered by those fleeing for their lives.

In addition, a new controversial illegal immigration bill in the UK has spurred discussion on how to handle refugees and asylum seekers. These incidents highlight the importance of Refugee Week in the UK, which coincides with World Refugee Day and celebrates the contributions and resilience of refugees and asylum seekers. Children who are refugees have extra protections under UNCRRC Articles 10 and 22.

## 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 Mental Health Foundation: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk>

"I can only control my own performance. If I do my best, then I can feel good at the end of the day." *Michael Phelps*

# Punctuality and Attendance

CLASS	ATTENDANCE
3B	95%
3I	96%
3K	88%
3Z	94%
4Z	98%
4K	94%
4T	97%
4Y	96%

CLASS	ATTENDANCE
5M	93%
5J	99%
5V	94%
6O	93%
6K	92%
6B	94%
6W	99%
total	95%

for the week  
beginning 12th  
June



Congratulations to 5J and 6W on their 99% attendance. Well done to 4Z with 98% and 4T with 97%. It was disappointing to see so many classes in the low 90s and we hope to see better next week.

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



## Lining Up Cup

This week's winners are:

4Z and 5M

Congratulations!





# Achievement Awards

3B – Ahmad: for making good choices on the visit to Kew Gardens

3K – Maryam: for always being a collaborative learning partner

3I – Emmanuel: for persevering with his learning and working extremely hard all week

3Z – Eva: for considering her choices in her learning

4K – Elwood: for persevering in English and using onomatopoeia in his poem

4T – Hanna: for considering her choices and persevering with maths learning on symmetry

4Y – Mahjabin

4Z – Dylan: for always articulating his ideas in maths

5J – Jace: for persevering with his independent poetry writing

5V – Kourtney: for persevering with her learning and being curious

5M - Alilah: for persevering with her writing to produce a great poem

6W – Zahra: for persevering to understand algebra

6O – Zaryab: for demonstrating curiosity in science

6B – Tiana: for explaining her reasoning and making thoughtful contributions to class discussions

6K – Ieva: for perseverance and excellent progress in French