



# Godwin Newsletter 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## Head Teacher's Message

With only two weeks of term left, the children have still been really focussed on their learning. I know I have said it before, but it really is a credit to them how resilient they have shown themselves to be. We know that it can't have been easy returning in September after such a long period without the normal structure of the school day. In addition, where we have had to close bubbles or children have had to self-isolate due to positive cases in their household, this has disrupted learning further still. We welcome the government's announcement yesterday that they are cancelling the KS2 Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Test which our Year 6 children were due to sit in May, but the pupils will still have to sit reading and maths exams, despite having missed so much school.

All internal tests in other year groups will take into account the fact that children will not have covered the curriculum in the usual depth and breadth and will help us to plan what we need to focus our teaching on to support future learning.

Usually at this point in the year the children would be busy rehearsing for Christmas plays to share with you. Unfortunately, government advice means that we can't do that this year, but we will still be making the last days of term special. Please see the calendar dates in this newsletter to find out more.

This week's news about a vaccine being available in the UK, potentially beginning as early as next week, is very welcome but clearly there is a long way to go. Please continue to wear a mask on the school grounds and maintain your social distance from other households. Please do help us to keep the virus out of school - no-one wants to self-isolate over the Christmas holidays!

Best wishes for a peaceful weekend

## 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!

## Christmas Tree Express

### **Christmas trees to help the Friends of Godwin PTA fund!**

Very kindly the offer code has been extended to 13<sup>th</sup> December!  
Buy a real Christmas tree through [www.christmastreeexpress.co.uk](http://www.christmastreeexpress.co.uk) this year and receive £5 off any tree PLUS a further £5 donation to the school!  
Use this unique code: GODWIN when you place your order.



## Christmas Collection

Many thanks to those who have already donated and helped to start our Christmas Collection supporting RAMP.

You can deliver donations to the collection points at the Cranmer and Godwin Road gates.

The usual items are well received; tinned goods, packet foods including cereals, biscuits, rice and pasta as well as nappies and baby formula.

Please be generous and ensure that the use by dates extend into 2021.



## Gifts for Barnado's

As the festive period is fast approaching, our School Council has been thinking about those children who may not receive a gift this year. They ask that you bring in any **unused and unopened games, toys or books – in brand new condition.**

It will make a difference to a child who may not otherwise enjoy a festive present. Please bring in your gifts to the school by 11<sup>th</sup> December. Please do not wrap them so that Barnado's can see what they are and give them to a child who will enjoy them.



**UNCR Articles 26 and 27:** Every child has the right to a standard of living that meets their physical and social needs.

## Christmas Advent Trail

The Christmas Advent Trail (sponsored by Ewe Move estate agents) began this week.

What decorated windows have you spotted?  
Look out for more windows in the coming days.....



## Christmas Hat Competition

The School Council are pleased to announce that they will be running a Christmas Hat competition. Children need to design and make a Christmas hat at home, then bring it into school by Monday 14th December 2020. All entries will be judged by our esteemed panel of School Councillors. The best hats in each year group will win a prize! There will be a **£1** entry fee, which will go towards our fund for to re-development the school playground. We can't wait to see your fancy festive fedoras!



**Articles 29 and 31:** Every child has the right to a quality education and to enjoy cultural activities.

## Diary Dates

Thurs 17th December: Christmas Jumper Day  
Thurs 17th December: Traditional Christmas Dinner



Fri 18th December: Last day of term  
Fri 18th December: Online Christmas Pantomime (kindly funded by the Friends of Godwin PTA)  
Fri 18th December: Class Parties - children can wear party clothes (must be warm enough for playing outside at lunchtime and shoes suitable to run around in)  
Please bring in: individual bags of crisps, individual cakes/cake bars, fizzy drinks, juice, fruit, biscuits  
No products containing nuts or that MAY contain nuts please  
All food/drink to arrive in classrooms by Monday 14th

Tues 5th January School re-opens to pupils

## Achievement Awards

3B – Tayrino for showing perseverance with his learning.

3K – Ella for explaining her reasoning during taught comprehension lessons.

3M – Aqib for evaluating his work carefully and making improvements.

3Q – Nathanael for being a curious learner and persevering in maths.

4B – Zahra for evaluating her learning and improving her writing in English this week.

4I – Uchenna for being highly committed to his role as school councillor.

4T – Adil for an excellent use of showing how primary colours change shade.

4V – Rocky for being curious during our RE lessons and challenging popular views.

5K – Joyous for articulating her ideas in English clearly and projecting her voice.

5S – Michelle for an excellent Macbeth narrative story.

5T – Digbijoy for focused efforts towards his learning; showing real perseverance in his work and not giving up!

5Y – Mehrin for persevering and evaluating her work.

6B – Tamanna for considering choices and increasing her effort in writing.

6J – Maryam for thinking carefully about the choices she is making as a writer.

6W – Haider for persevering with his handwriting and producing a well presented long-write.

6Z – Jessica for getting ahead in maths at home – a great commitment!



## Friends of Godwin PTA

### **Raise Money for our school and be in with a chance to win a 10 inch 32GB Samsung Tablet!**

The Godwin PTA have registered with a site called easyfundraising, which means you can now raise money for the school at absolutely no cost to you when you shop online!

Easyfundraising has over 4,000 shops and sites which will donate to us at no extra cost to you. This includes lots of big name retailers like Amazon, John Lewis, Argos, Uswitch, eBay, M&S, Just Eat, Now TV, Domino's Pizza and Audible. All you have to do is sign up to support us using the link below – sign up is super easy too! Every time you shop online, go through the easyfundraising website or App and we will receive a % of your spend as a **free** donation, at no cost to you or us!

These donations really mount up and make a **\*\*BIG\*\*** difference! You can find our easyfundraising page at: [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofgodwinpta/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_content=en-e1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofgodwinpta/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=en-e1)

Alternatively there is also an easyfundraising app which is available to download on your phone.

#### **\*\*Competition Time\*\***

To encourage sign up and as a thank you Godwin PTA are offering all parents the chance to win a top prize of a 10 inch 32GB Samsung Tablet, 2nd prize is a large hamper and a small hamper for 3rd prize! Once we have reached a total donation award of £250 we will be popping all registered users who have used the site and generated a donation in to a raffle! Any users who have generate more than £5 in donations will have more chances of winning as they will be entered again for every extra pound received in donation from them. What better time to use the link to do all your online Christmas and New Year sale shopping and get those entries in!

Good luck and thank you from Godwin PTA!



## Important Information

Newham, along with other London boroughs, is back in the Covid-19 restriction category Tier 2.

### **What does this mean for the Godwin community?**

- School remains open as normal
- People must not meet with anybody outside their household or support bubble in **any indoor setting**, whether at home or in a public place.
  - The “Rule of Six” will continue to apply outdoors.

You can find more details on this new level at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-level-high>

Please remember to follow all of the advised safety advice to help prevent the spread of the virus –

1. Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds (or if water is not available use anti-bacterial hand sanitiser).
2. Wear a face mask – especially in enclosed places such as shops and where there are lots of people; this includes when you come into the school playground to drop-off or collect your child.
3. Keep a safe distance from other people – preferably 2 metres or 1 metre with extra precautions; again this includes in the school playground.

If anyone in your household displays any of the symptoms of Covid-19, they must get a test as soon as possible and ALL members of the household must isolate for 14 days or until a negative test is received.

**Remember: You only need ONE symptom to be required to isolate and get a test.**

**To book a test go to <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>**

Please inform the school office as soon as possible if anyone in your household displays symptoms.

