

Ready* Respectful * Safe

Welcome to our February Newsletter! As always, there has been a huge amount happening at school over the past term, but I would like to take this opportunity to share with you all some of the key progress, which has been made at Georgian Gardens over the past two years. On Wednesday evening we had a parent update meeting and a handful of people were able to come along and hear about the updates from my senior leadership team and myself. I appreciate that people are very busy and may not have been able to make it so I wanted to make sure that everyone else has a chance to read about the exciting things that have been going on!

Developing our Education

Over the past two years, teachers have had the opportunity to work with a range of consultants to review and update our curriculum in English and Maths. This has led to much greater consistency in our approaches across year groups and some of our work has even been published in a recent teacher-training book about mathematics!

This year we are focussing on updating our foundation subjects and staff have worked hard to create an overview of each subject to ensure good progression in skills and knowledge throughout the school. These are available on our New Website under 'Curriculum' that can be found by clicking the 'Learning' tab. You can also find an overview of each terms learning for every year group under this section. The Overview gives parents ideas about how they can support their child's learning at home.

<https://www.georgiangardens.w-sussex.sch.uk/web/curriculum/432667>

All of our pupils in year 2 – 6 now have weekly French lessons

We have introduced a new spelling scheme called no nonsense spelling (you may have seen many words written in chalk on the playgrounds!).

This daily intervention is having a good impact on raising the quality of spelling in the school.

We also have a new PE scheme and a new RE

Scheme which help to ensure that there is good challenge in these curriculum areas

Accelerated Reader has been introduced and is proving highly motivational for many of our readers. We also hope that our younger pupils have enjoyed the sharing stories project that has been running this year.

Pupils in all year groups have an Arts day once a term where the pupils are able to work with a music specialist and a dance specialist for the day.

The staff have continued to provide many exciting learning experiences across the year groups and ensure that we have a very much hands on approach to learning.

Staff work hard to track pupil progress using a system called Target Tracker and there is a termly meeting for each year group where the progress of every individual is discussed with the senior leadership team. This has allowed us to work with staff to think about how we can best utilise resources to help pupils across the school.



Data Headlines

Our Early Years continue to be largely in line with or slightly above National expectations

Our KS1 results have made rapid improvements over the past few years and this year our greater depth result for KS1 was above National

Our KS2 results were slightly below National Last year, but were actually above for pupils who attended Georgian Gardens all the way throughout the whole of their KS2.

Developing our facilities

We have managed to secure external sources and fundraise to replace all three sets of climbing equipment in our playgrounds!

We now have 60 laptops that are available to use for whole class teaching of IT.

Interactive whiteboards in every classroom have been replaced and all year groups now have access to their own group of i-pads. These have significantly influenced how pupils are able to access a range of learning on line. For example, Accelerated Reader and Times Tables Rock Stars.

We have recently been able to update some of our music equipment – including a drum kit and electric guitars, through a grant from Blue Spark Education.

We have also been able to find some generous sponsors for new Sports kits.

The huts have been completely refurbished – looking smart year 3!

Our new sensory area and bubble room are also looking fantastic.



Developing our Values and Behaviour Systems.

Staff have worked with trainers from Pivotal and Thrive to review the systems that we have in school. We use a positive approach to reinforce our simple rules of READY, RESPECTFUL and SAFE.

All of our pupils can explain our school rules and the simplicity of these is helping to create consistent expectations across the school.

Our pupils helped us to create a picture policy which is on display in the classroom so that everyone knows the steps that are followed for behaviour

We have several members of staff who are now trained as Thrive Practitioners and are able to offer additional support when it is needed.

Our hub and the work of the team continues to support families in any way that they can.

We are currently working alongside county to develop a Safeguarding4 Education System, which will be used by schools across West Sussex to help keep pupils safe.

What is the next big development?

We are now aiming to raise £25 000 to completely refurbish the school library and develop an outdoor reading area in the quad. This money will include developing a new potting area so that we can carry on with our gardening skills and replenishing many of the books in the library. This picture gives an idea of what it might look like! We are delighted to already have received many donations and are appreciative of all the hard work that the PTA are putting into this.



Many thanks for your continued support with everything!

Miss Bowers

Headteacher



Georgian Gardens February Newsletter

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Book Fair

Before and after school in the studio from Friday 28th February until Wednesday 4th March. The book fair will also be available in the reception area on Tuesday 3rd March during parents evening.

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| Monday 2nd March | Y5/6 Tchoukball taster @TAS 3.45pm-5.30pm |
| Tuesday 3rd March | John Kirk Storyteller Parents Evening 3.30pm—6pm—Please contact school office if you haven't already booked slot |
| Thursday 5th March | World book day Parents evening 3.30pm—6pm—Please contact the school office if you haven't already booked your slot |
| Friday 6th March | Year 1 trip to Weald and Downland museum |
| Monday 9th March | Year 5/6 netball competition at TAS |
| Tuesday 10th March | Year 4 mixed football Albion cup |
| Wednesday 11th March | Parent Forum 2pm |
| Thursday 12th March | Football/Netball @ ST Wilfred's |
| Friday 13th March | Sports Relief - wear your sports kit for a £1 donation |
| Wednesday 18th March | SGO quick sticks hockey competition @ TAS |
| Thursday 19th March | Year 5 Science day at Angmering |
| Monday 23rd March | Open Classrooms YR, 1 and 2 |
| Tuesday 24th March | Open classrooms Y 3 and 4 |
| Wednesday 25th March | Open classrooms Y5 and Y6 |
| Friday 27th March | PTA film night |
| Tuesday 31st March | YR Gaston Farm trip |
| Wednesday 1st April | Y5 Greek Day Y3 Fishbourne Roman Palace Trip PTA Easter event |
| Friday 3rd April | Y2 Arundel Castle trip Last Day of Spring Term. |
| Easter Holidays—Monday 6th April—Friday 17th April | |
| Monday 20th April | Inset Day Internal Club applications close at 9am. |
| Tuesday 21st April | First Day of Summer Term |

Important/Information/Reminders

- We have updated some of our policies on our website including our medicine policy and parent code of conduct.
- We would like every child to have an old shirt/ old t-shirt kept in their PE kits at school for using in art lessons. Please can we ask that PE kits are kept in school all week.
- Next week we have an exciting visit from Storyteller, John Kirk, the whole school are looking forward to his visit. To find out more please check out his website www.john-kirk.co.uk.
- Also next Thursday (March 5th) KS2 children are very excited to be walking to Waterstones, Rustington to spend their £1 WBD voucher.
- Some children are still outstanding walking around the local area consent. If you have received a reminder to fill out this form via Ping then please do so as soon as possible. If you are having trouble with Ping then please see Mrs Hall in the school office.
- Sports relief—Friday 13th March—wear your sports kit for £1 donation

Sport

- Before half term we had an incredible week for running.....
- On Monday 10th February, despite the threatening storm, the brave runners from Georgian Gardens assembled at The Angmering School ready to take up the challenge of the Angmering Mile.
- We had an impressive 47 runners competing for places as the grass got muddier.
- Well done to all the runners and to the parents for their continued support.
- On Wednesday 12th February, it was the turn of the Year 1 and 2 athletes. It was very chilly as the group of runners waited patiently as Mr Gwynn explained the course. It was a great sight to see so many children running and smiling, despite the cold.
- An extra special well done must go to Davi who finished in 2nd place, out of over 60 runners.
- Congratulations to everyone who represented Georgian Gardens. I know that all the runners who ran last time had improved their finishing position.
- Thank you parents for braving the cold.

Mrs Darney

Young Voices

On the 23rd of January the thirty five children of Georgian Gardens C.P School's Choir, directed by Mrs King and Mrs Mills, travelled to the O2 London, for Young Voices 2020!

They sang songs along side Tony Hadley, Ruti and The Shires! Popular songs of this year the Choir enjoyed included; 'Larger than Life', 'We Will Rock You' and 'Don't Stop My Now!'

"I thought it was absolutely awesome I had been looking forward to it for a long time. When the lights dimmed at show time I simply just sang my heart out!" – Toby. Year 4

We had a fantastic day at the O2; an experience which will stay with the children for the rest of their lives. There is something really quite magical about 8420 children singing together, and our children were a credit to the school. They had been rehearsing the songs since September as part of Choir, and have also attended lunchtime and weekend rehearsals to ensure they were fully prepared. Their enthusiasm and dedication was rewarded by this memorable experience. Thank you to all our families who have supported the trip.



PTA

Thank you for all your support during 2019, pupils are really enjoying the new play equipment and feedback on the pantomime and The Rainbow Theatre visit (the PTA supported the KS2 trip to the Pantomime and the KS1 visit from The Rainbow Theatre) was that all the children had a really fantastic experience.

There are so many ways you can support the PTA fundraising. From attending events, doing your online shopping via easy fundraising or seeing if your employer will offer matched funding:

Our PTA events booked so far for 2020 are as follows:

27th March – Film night

2nd April – Spring boxes

3rd June – Circus (details to follow, this fabulous event will be instead of summer fayre)

19th June – Sports day and family picnic

10th July – Disco

6th November – Fireworks night

To raise money via **easy fundraising**, copy and paste the link below which will take you directly to our fundraising page. Once signed up, just shop as normal on the internet and automatically raise funds for our school! <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/georgiangardenssch/?pageVersion=1&cat=cause-autosuggest&q=georgian%20gardens>

Match Funding to support our PTA at Georgian Gardens School

Match Funding could potentially **raise double the funds** for the PTA.

If you work for an organisation that has a match funding policy, any money you help to raise could be matched by your employer. Companies may match the fundraising total for an event, or for the stall that their employee is working on. Usually, the employee will just need to supply them with a letter from the PTA detailing the date and nature of the event, together with the total raised.

We understand that the high street banks, building societies, supermarkets and large corporations are likely to do match funding, but these schemes are not exclusive to big corporate companies. If you work for an independent company, they may be interested in charitable giving through match funding too.

We would be grateful if you could see if your employer has a match funding scheme, or if they are willing to match fund any of our events. If you can't help out this time, but you know the company you work for has a match funding policy, please let us know. This will be very beneficial for the PTA and help us raise even more money from all our fundraising events this year.

If you can help us this way, please get in touch with the school and we can discuss your companies' requirements.

Thank you for your continued support which really does make such a difference to the children at our school.

Laura Godley

Amie Bowers

PTA Chair – Georgian Gardens CP School

Headteacher



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It's main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity to become the iOS store's most downloaded app with over 33 million downloads. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about

TIKTOK



MATURE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up for the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are lighthearted or funny takes on dance routines which are designed to make people laugh. However there has been a slew of videos which have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and sexual content, including young teens dressing overtly sexually and behaving suggestively. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be quite common to come across explicit content on the 'For you' feed when logging into the platform.

INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-syncing and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.

TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.

ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



Safety Tips For Parents

TALK ABOUT ONLINE DANGERS

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use the app, make sure you also take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have a dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour for them. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding of them. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.



USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.



ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.



EXPLORE AND LEARN YOURSELF

Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with TikTok. You could then even use the app with your child and watch some videos with them. If you are the parent of a teen, even if it does not make you popular, keep a close eye on what they're viewing and sharing. That said, it's a brilliant chance to turn it into a bonding opportunity with your child also. You could even unleash your inner performer and make videos with them while (more importantly) keeping them safe online.



LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a safe space for your child to express themselves. However, just in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.



MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.



Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



NEW FOR 2020 FAMILY SAFETY MODE

TikTok Family Safety Mode allows parents to link their own TikTok account to their child's. It's a great way to oversee your child's digital wellbeing by giving you direct control over their safety settings and being able to remotely turn features on and off. This includes managing screen time, the ability to send and receive direct messages (and with whom) and the ability to restrict the appearance of content that might not be age appropriate.



SOURCES: www.tiktok.com

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Twitter - @natonlinesafety

Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Instagram - @NationalOnlineSafety

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Public Health
England



Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it
with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it
by washing
your hands with
soap & water or
hand sanitiser

You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks
& sport
activities



Before
cooking
& eating



On arrival at
any childcare
or educational
setting



After using
the toilet



Before
leaving
home



Try not to touch your
eyes, nose, and mouth
with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come
into contact with your mouth
such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items
such as bedding, dishes,
pencils & towels



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools

What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19. Parents can visit NHS.UK to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See NHS.UK for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately



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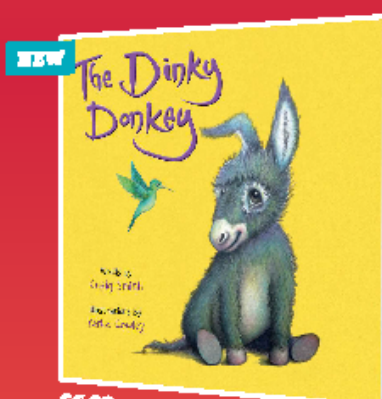
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Fundraiser

For



Wednesday 4th March, 3:15pm
at the school gates

Please buy our pretty mystery jars filled
with lovely treats to raise funds for arts
and crafts materials for Aldingbourne Trust.

Georgian Gardens CP School has a strong
partnership with Aldingbourne Trust, where
pupils and adults with learning disabilities
come together on a regular basis to create
art and foster positive relationships.

Thank you for your support



Parent's Forum

Join us for our Parent Forum where everyone is welcome! Ask questions, find out information, offer ideas and suggestions. We will be in the Family Room, just turn up. If you want to add anything to the agenda then please email it to the school office in advance!

Wednesday 11th March @2pm

Coffee, Tea and Biscuits provided



Spring Term 2020

Mon. 24th Feb. – Fri. 3rd April (2nd half of Spring Term)

Mon. 6th April – Fri. 17th April (Easter Break)

Summer Term 2020

Mon. 20th April – Fri. 22nd May (1st half of Summer Term)

Fri 8th May (Bank Holiday)

Mon. 25th May – Fri. 29th May (half term)

Mon. 1st June – Mon. 20th July (2nd half of Summer Term)

INSET DAY DATES - (School closed for children)

Monday 20th April 2020

Monday 20th July 2020