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GATEHOUSE SCHOOL WEEKLY BULLETIN

Friday, September 13th 2019

Issue number 33. Welcome back!

HEAD'S WELCOME

Welcome back to the new school year! This week and last have flown by and we are delighted with how well everyone has settled in. Both those who know Gatehouse well and those who were new last week have done a wonderful job. A huge thank you to all parents for all of your help with this; it is invaluable to the smooth running of the school and is much appreciated.

There is already much going on! Swimming started this week and we have already had three of our trips to Kenwood (all went extremely well), not to mention the E-Safety talk that was open to all parents on Wednesday evening. It was good to see parents there and

taking advantage of the expertise that so many of the staff have. On Monday after school, Mrs Korbay will be presenting to Reception parents about the importance of Phonics in Reception and how best they can help their children learn their letters and sounds. Mrs Roper is then explaining the importance of reading to Upper Junior parents on Wednesday; explaining how Gatehouse uses and teaches reading skills as well as clarifying how pupils up to Year 6 can best be helped. Gatehouse is rightly proud of its library, reading areas within classrooms and ethos around reading but we would love to spread this even further into our Gatehouse Community. We look forward to seeing you

there.

Whilst we have had a super start to the school year, I am aware that there are still some niggles with the now-not-so-new PE Kit. I know that there have been some concerns around the stock of some items and the environmental impact of the new kit. Please do NOT worry about new kit for the moment; we are working with the uniform suppliers to ensure stock availability in the short and longer term and we are also in the final throes of being able to re-home all of the old kit in the near future. Please be assured that, at the moment, as long as your child is wearing new Gatehouse PE kit or old Gatehouse Kit, there will be no mention of there not being the

correct kit. In terms of swimming hats, ANY red cap is fine. If you ever require further clarification, please do ask a member of staff or email me directly – I would be more than happy to help.

Today sees the end of the Nursery's first full week in school – I have been in at least half a dozen times over the past week and a bit and I can tell that they are doing FABULOUSLY well and are showing great aptitude to learning and all that the Gatehouse EYFS has to offer. They make my day and I cannot wait to see them, along with ALL other Gatehouse pupils progress this term.

I hope that you have wonderfully relaxing weekends and that the sun shines brightly.

Mrs Whitlock

Roald Dahl Day

A very happy Roald Dahl Day to you all! We have had fun in school today sharing poems and stories and even listening to songs from *Matilda* as we came into assembly – thank you, Mr MacKinnon!

I emailed all the teachers to ask them

what their favourite characters from Roald Dahl's wonderful books are – do any of the teachers share your favourite, I wonder?

Miss Chambers & Ms Furneaux both chose the BFG, from *The BFG*.

Ms Wood chose Charlie, from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Ms Nicoll chose Danny from *Danny the Champion of the World*.

Miss Tighe chose Violet Beauregarde from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Ms Le Var and Mme Moisy both chose the Peach, from *James and the Giant Peach*.

Mr Baycanli chose Willy Wonka from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Ms Savva chose The Grand High Witch in *The Witches*.

Ms Dewar chose two, she just couldn't decide! Her favourites are either Sophie from *The BFG* or *Matilda* from *Matilda*.

Mrs Roper would definitely choose *Matilda*, too!

Miss Ballah chose *The*

Twits – both of them!

Last but not least, Ms Nazir chose Miss Honey from *Matilda*.

In assembly, I promised a quiz for any Roald Dahl fans...please bring you answers to the below to me in 5R by next Friday (20th) if you'd like to take part!

1. What country were Roald Dahl's parents from originally?

2. What is Miss Honey's first name?

3. What animal features in *Esio Trot*?

4. Mr Fox's enemies – Boggis, Bunce and Bean – work as... what?

5. Which city did James and his friends fly the Giant Peach to?

Good luck, and don't forget to name your answer sheets!

Mrs Roper

KS2 Reading Talk

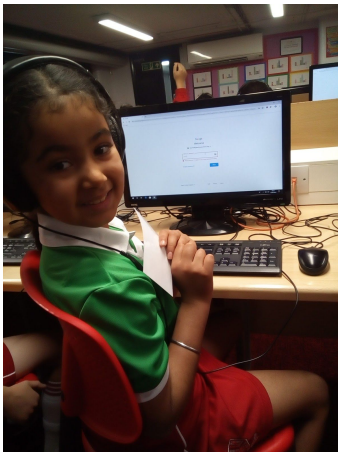
All parents of children in KS2 (Years 3 – 6) are cordially invited to join us for a reading talk on Wednesday, 18th September in the Wallbank Hall at 5.45pm.

Please join us for some information on how we deliver and support this area in school and to pick up some hints and tips for reading at home. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Roper

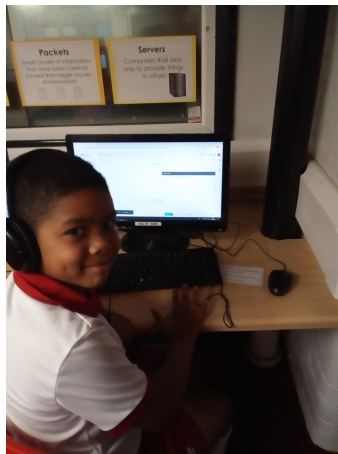
Computing

Year 3 have begun using their very own school Google accounts!



Over the next few weeks they will be learning how to send emails and use the

Google apps for school projects. Log in at home to continue your learning - look out for a copy of your log-in card that will be sent home this week.



Mr Mastan

Inspirations Day!

Watch this space for details - our first fundraiser of the year looks to be a lovely one!

The Unicorns

Year 4 and 5 English

We are off to a flying start in the turret, as Years 4 and 5 have leapt into their English lessons this term. From reading *Varjak Paw* and *Wonder*, to brushing up on our handwriting skills, kicking off our spelling programme, starting class readers, to tall tales to make the hair stand up on end, it has been go-go-go all the way!



Thank you to all the parents for their brilliant 'parent homework' assignments from last week - I have loved reading them and getting to know even more about my lovely incoming classes!

Mrs Roper

Phonics Talk

There will be a talk for

parents in the Wallbank Hall on Monday to discuss all things phonics. Please join us between 4-5pm for this presentation, with time for questions and queries afterwards.

Mrs Korbay

Dates for your diary:

Monday 16th:

2B, 3V & 5R at Kenwood

Phonics Presentation*
(4-5pm, Wallbank Hall)

Tuesday 17th:

Year 4 All Boys Football vs. St Paul's*
(at Mile End, 1.30pm - 3.30pm)

Wednesday 18th:

2M, 3L & 4D at Kenwood

KS2 Reading Talk*
(5.45-6.30pm, Wallbank Hall)

Thursday 19th:

2N, 3D & 4G at Kenwood

“And above all, watch with glittering eyes the

whole world around you because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it.”

Roald Dahl

