



5th November 2021
Autumn 2 - Issue 8

Gooderstone Gazette

The Newsletter from **Gooderstone C of E Primary Academy** – Your School, Your News!

Worship Theme:

Celebration

Weekly Attendance Award:

Skylarks 100%

Star of the week:

Owls – Luna, for being so enthusiastic to try some new maths activities.

Skylarks – Lilly, for showing great attitude towards improving her big write and taking lots of time to edit it carefully.

Kestrels – Freddie for being exceptionally helpful this week.

Wow of the week:

Owls – Rivers, for setting into nursery so well.

Skylarks – Billy, for fantastic use of adverbs to describe a picture.

Kestrels – Phoebe for dedication in writing her wonderful story.

Maths Week

For Maths Week England we want to make maths exciting and high profile in our school. We will be taking part in a friendly competition against other schools from Monday 8th November to Thursday 11th November, using Times Table Rockstars: <https://trockstars.com/> For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your child will earn their class a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours, subject to a daily 60-minute limit (see below)). Winning classes in the school and in the competition as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

All game modes (Gig, Garage, Studio, etc.) will count but only from games played between 7:30AM GMT and 7:30PM GMT on Monday 8th, Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th. To support player wellbeing, there is a daily time limit of 60 minutes per player. In other words, each player can earn competition points for up to 60 minutes between 7.30am and 7.30pm. Once the player goes beyond 60 minutes of play on a given day, they will still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition.

In the spirit of the competition, please don't play on their behalf but by all means encourage and support them to the extent that it doesn't cause high stress levels or impact on family plans. We suggest a limit of half an hour a day outside school hours – some will play more, some will play less.

PRIZES TO BE WON!

ENGLAND ROCKS 2021

PLAY **NOVEMBER 8TH-11TH**
FROM 7:30AM TO 7:30PM DAILY

1-HOUR TIME LIMIT PER PERSON PER DAY

ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE

WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PUPIL

PLAY IN **ANY** GAME TYPE

TIMES TABLE ROCK STARS

ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR FULL DETAILS OR VISIT:
[TTROCKSTARS.COM/PAGE/ENGLANDROCKS2021](https://trockstars.com/page/englandrocks2021)

Our learning- What have we been doing this week?

Owls: We have enjoyed learning about maps and we went on an adventure to discover the post box and create a map to help the jolly postman.

Skylarks: This week in history we have started considering some of the most important events in the history of space exploration. We were amused to learn that a fruit fly was the first animal to go to space! We put the events in chronological order and some children considered which event they thought was most significant. We also started learning about how illustrators work and the types of marks they make when sketching to show different textures. We then used some of these skills to draw observational pictures of different rocks in science.

Kestrels: This week in Kestrels we started off our new topic of 'What do people do all day?' by posing questions around different occupations. We want to learn about lots of different topics such as scuba divers, farmers and space scientists. We have started our work in Geography and are practising being cartographers.



Remembrance



We are selling Poppies to mark Remembrance Day and raise money for the British Legion. Other items are available to purchase from Reception. The children are welcome to bring in donations during the next couple of weeks. We will be having our Remembrance service at the monument on Thursday 11th November at 10:50 a.m. please feel free to join us.



Poppy reflector 50p – Zip Pull 5p – Wristband £1.00 – Snap Band £1.50
Coloured Pencils – 50p – Rubber 50p – Pencil Sharpener 50p – Pencil 50p



After School (3.15-4.15)

Monday – Singing Club, Mrs Buckley (Yr2-Yr6)
(Everyone)

~~Tuesday – Art Club, Miss Stanley (Recep-Yr6) FULL~~
(Everyone)

Lunch Time

Tuesday – Mindfulness, Mrs Skilton

Thursday – Dance Club, Mrs Chisman

Thursday – Taekwondo, Mr Foulter (Recep-Yr6)

Reading- Phonics

Reading is a life skill that unlocks all areas of learning for children. Each week we will be sharing information to help you support your children at home in becoming a fluent, enthusiastic reader.

There is no doubt that reading is a hard skill to master due to our complex language:

- English has a complex alphabetic code: 26 alphabet letters have to do duty singularly or in combination to represent the 44 or so sounds of English and they do so inconsistently.
- In Spanish, German and Welsh for instance, one grapheme almost always represents the same phoneme. English has more than 70 common correspondences between phonemes and graphemes and hundreds of rare ones.



This is why we spend the first few years in school teaching phonics, giving the children sound knowledge to aid reading fluency by breaking words into manageable chunks. As pre-mentioned: the alphabet contains only 26 letters. Spoken English uses about 42 sounds (phonemes). These phonemes are represented by letters (graphemes).

In other words, a sound can be represented by a letter (e.g. 's' or 'h') or a group of letters (e.g. 'th' or 'ear')

Once children begin learning sounds, they are used quickly to read and spell words. Children can then see the purpose of learning sounds. For this reason, the first six letters that are taught are 's', 'a', 't', 'p', 'i', 'n'. These can immediately be used to make a number of words such as 'sat', 'pin', 'pat', 'tap', 'nap'

As a parent, your involvement in supporting your child's learning will be a vital factor in determining their success in learning to read.

Blending—for reading



To learn to read well children must be able to smoothly blend sounds together. Blending sounds fluidly helps to improve fluency when reading. Blending is more difficult to do with longer words so learning how to blend accurately from an early age is imperative. Showing your child how to blend is important. Model how to 'push' sounds smoothly together without stopping at each individual sound.

It is also recommended to talk to your child about what blending is so they understand what they are trying to achieve.

Segmenting—for spelling



Segmenting is a skill used in spelling. In order to spell the word cat, it is necessary to segment the word into its constituent sounds; c-a-t. Children often understand segmenting as 'chopping' a word. Before writing a word young children need time to think about it, say the word several times, 'chop' the word and then write it. Once children have written the same word several times they won't need to use these four steps as frequently.

Children will enjoy spelling if it feels like fun and if they feel good about themselves as spellers. We need, therefore, to be playful and positive in our approach – noticing and praising what children can do as well as helping them to correct their mistake.

CURRENTLY READING

Reading is our biggest priority this academic year, it is the key to unlocking all curriculum subjects for children. As with last year we are using the Power of Reading as a way to encourage children to love books and broaden their reading horizon. We want every child to be a confident reader with a passion for books. We use our Power of reading book as the basis for our English teaching and incorporate it into other subject areas. We also have a class reader which is a shared class book that is read to the children every day.

Current Books:

Power or Reading books

Owls: Hello Friend

Skylarks: One Plastic Bag

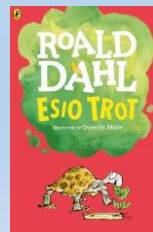
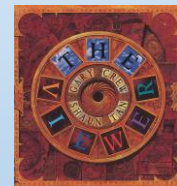
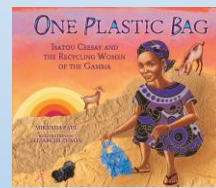
Kestrels: The Viewer

Class Reader:

Owls: Esio Trot

Skylarks: The Creakers

Kestrels: Boy Giant



Diary Dates

Virtual Sharing Assembly: Every Friday morning, the class bubbles get together via Zoom to share their learning and celebrate the stars and wows of the week.

Thursday 11th November: Remembrance Service 10.50am – Church Monument

Friday 19th November: – BBC Children In Need

Thursday 25th November: – Flu Nasal Spray Vaccine Reception - Yr6

Monday 20th December: – **Wednesday 5th January:** Christmas Holidays

Wednesday 12th January: – NHS Height/Weight checks Recep & Yr6 –
Vision and Hearing checks Recep only – (NHS letter to follow)

*Every effort is made to stick to the planned dates, but occasionally circumstances beyond our control may affect in-school events. We will always inform you as soon as possible of any changes.
Thank you for understanding!*

Let every light shine