

*Our Fourths enjoying some team building on Monday*



## A letter from the Headmistress

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to welcome all of our pupils back to school at the start of this week.

For the Upper Thirds, the week began on Sunday morning when they departed for what has clearly been an amazing week at Cranedale on their residential Science and Geography Trip. From the happy and tired faces in the Reception area at 4pm this afternoon it is clear that the trip has been a great success.

For our boarders the week began on Sunday evening and it was wonderful to welcome our boarders back in summer uniform with the sun shining and interesting tales of holiday adventures.

On Monday term began in earnest and the focus for assembly was making the most of this final term of the year and being ready for whatever changes we are all going to encounter once this academic year finishes. It is difficult to explain just how wonderful it feels to have restrictions lifted and what is shaping up for a 'normal' summer term ahead.

I enjoyed visiting Lodge and spending some time with Beginners who were working on their Hungry Caterpillar stories and moving to quite the opposite end of the year groups, it has also been interesting to visit some Fourths classes to talk about their revision and how they are feeling about their last term at Godstowe.

I am looking forward tremendously to the weeks ahead and in the meantime wish you all a brilliant Bank Holiday weekend.



It has been lovely to see the children back at school this week, full of enthusiasm. Hopefully the good weather will continue, allowing us to bring our learning outside when possible. As a reminder, the children should be wearing summer uniform, including short plain white ankle socks not tights.

It has been an exciting first week back in Nursery as we have welcomed some new friends to our class. We have worked a lot on friendships and have all worked as a team to help our friends get to know us. For the sound of the week 'j' we have made jellyfish. In Maths we have been comparing lengths of objects and have explored different ways to measure length. In our cookery lesson the children made pizza swirl snails, which were very delicious!

This term in Beginners our learning is based around the theme of Minibeasts. This week we are looking at caterpillars and butterflies, thinking about the way they grow and change and introducing the vocabulary that describes these changes. We are using familiar caterpillar stories in our writing as well as exploring the natural patterns that can be spotted when looking carefully at these minibeasts. In Maths we are focusing on learning how to count on from a number, perfecting our subitising skills and working hard to write our numbers the right way round. In Phonics we are revisiting some of our trickier sounds and working hard to use them in our sentence writing. We are hoping the sun will shine and allow us to head to the woods to spot the wild life that tends to prefer the warmer months. If the sunny weather continues please ensure you put sunscreen on your child before they come to school.



Kindergarten have made an excellent start to the Summer term. As part of their new Science topic on Plants, the children will be investigating what plants need to germinate and grow. They spent a hugely enjoyable lesson planting a sunflower seed each and will monitor the growth of their plant over the coming months. Hopefully each child will have a fully established sunflower to take home by the Summer holidays! Kindergarten also started their exciting new Geography topic on Rainforests, initially focussing on the locations of rainforests around the world. Finally, the children learned about Saint George and enjoyed a variety of creative activities based around the legend of George and the Dragon.

Transition have started their new Maths topic this week on Fractions. We have been looking at splitting a whole into equal parts, and have been identifying and finding different ways to make halves and quarters. We are continuing to revise our multiplication tables and will be starting to learn  $\times 3$ . In our Art lessons, we have been looking at the work of Claude Monet. The children have been developing their brush skills to create their own paintings based on 'The Water Lily' series of paintings. Our Science topic this term is 'Animals including humans', and we have started this topic by comparing our heights with our shoe sizes, to see if taller people have bigger feet.

# Weekly Awards

## Artwork of the Week

Vivian Z  
Amelia K  
Rosie P

## 100% AR Winners

Lower School    Leona W  
                         Lottie D  
Upper School    Olivia P  
                         Gayatri R

## Boards of the Week

Highlands    Carmen M  
Turner        Nancy K  
Walker        Paulina M

## Friday Badges

IC            Elodie B  
IH            Taliya A  
IM            Leela-Lorraine R

## Sports Star of the Week

Ai-Li C        Victoria S  
Grace C        Jacqueline D  
Felicity A

## House Points

Winner: Adlington



Form II have been creating some impressive artwork on amphibians. Vivian (above), Amelia (top right) and Rosie (bottom right) were chosen as Artwork of the week for their amazing chameleons and frog.

## Music

Melanie Martin, Director of Music



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Congratulations to Arabella T (left) for her participation in the North London Festival of Music, Drama and Dance. She performed in the Piano Grade 2 competition and was awarded third prize!



Also congratulations to Gloria I (right) for achieving Distinction in her LAMDA Level I (Grade 3). Gloria performed two solo acting scenes and was commended for her maturity and understanding of the texts

Congratulations to the following girls on their achievements in their ABRSM exams last term:

Sofia W	Hermione R	OJ A
Sula M	Blanca O'D	Alice I
Rosanna R	Eleanor B	Lucy B
Eleanor C	Athena L	Jasmine S
Aryana T	Annabella E	Alexandra L
Wendy J		

## ABRSM Exams at Godstowe Summer Term 2022

This term our exam dates are

Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st June.



If your daughter learns an instrument outside of school but would like to take their exam at Godstowe on those dates, please let Mrs Martin know the instrument and grade by Tuesday 17th June



## Spotlight on our Sisters

At Godstowe, we are very lucky to have a team of hardworking dedicated Nurses that support the children, and staff, with any health related queries or concerns. Now that we have a complete team, we thought it would be a great opportunity to introduce them all to you.



Hi I'm Nicky, the newest member of the nursing team at Godstowe School. I started here in November 2021. I qualified as a paediatric nurse in 2001, and I have worked on children's wards in different locations and then in 2016 I completed a degree as a Specialist Community Public health nurse in the speciality of school nursing. For a few years, I worked in the community for the school nursing team traveling to see children in different schools to take PSHE classes in puberty, health promotion and promoting good mental health and many other things.

I am a mum of 3 boys and a dog called Freddie, so I spend a lot of my time outside walking Freddie or watching football, so working in a girls school is very different for me. I am enjoying being a school nurse at Godstowe as I can really get to know the girls, as I see some of them regularly. It's always good to talk to them to just say hello or help them if they are feeling unwell or hurt.

Hi, I'm Alison and I have been qualified as a Paediatric Nurse for 25 years. My first role was working on the Paediatric Cardiothoracic Unit at the Royal Brompton Hospital, a job and speciality that I loved and I will always have fond memories of the children and families I nursed there.



I am a mum of 2 boys and a puppy spaniel called Walter. When my eldest son was born I moved to the Paediatric unit at Wycombe Hospital. You may have seen me in Children's outpatients and the Children's blood clinic. 9 years ago, I became a Specialist Nurse supporting children with Cystic Fibrosis and their families in hospital and in the community covering the South Bucks area.

I have always had an interest in School nursing and was delighted to have the opportunity to join the School Nurse team at Godstowe in January 2021. It's been a challenging year with Covid but it has been lovely to gradually see the school open up and become normal again. It's been lovely to meet and get to know your girls and I look forward to supporting them with their healthcare needs in the future.



Hi, I'm Sister Ros Sharkey and I have been qualified as a nurse for a very long time! When I trained we did not specialise but did general training. Since then, I have worked driving ambulances, giving immunisations to teenagers and working with babies. As well as being a mum.

The best thing about being a nurse at Godstowe is seeing the girls (and boys) grow up. When everyone first arrives they are of course shy and sometimes can not speak any English. It is lovely getting to know them and seeing them blossom into confident, usually happy young people ready to face the world. It is also very satisfying helping people and hopefully making them feel better.

At the beginning of the year I brought my new puppy, Maggie, to stay with me at the weekends and lots of boarders (and adults!) enjoy playing with her. Some of the girls like to cuddle her and talk to her too. I think Maggie would make an excellent nurse!

Hello, I'm Sarah and I joined the Godstowe Nurse team in January 2021 during the Covid / Lockdown period when the school was much quieter! It's been lovely seeing the school fully reopen and meeting all the children. I have been a nurse for 28 years and I specialised straight away in Paediatric nursing at St Bartholomews Hospital (Bart's) in London. I have worked in a variety of hospital and Community settings in London and the South Bucks area.

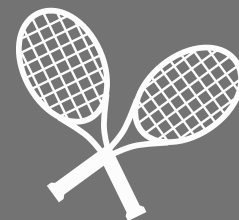


I also have 3 children of my own, 2 at university and 1 at secondary school and I'm a 'Mum' to a very fluffy standard poodle called Duke.

The best thing about being a school nurse at Godstowe is definitely seeing the children who always bring a smile to my face. They all have unique personalities and everyday is different. It is my pleasure to look after them!

## Sports Results

On Wednesday 27th April, our U13 Tennis team, consisting of 8 pairs, played against Wycombe Abbey. Our 1st pair, Annika and Angel, won both their matches with ease, but overall Wycombe Abbey were the victors. Having had very little practice, the girls can be very proud of their performance in their first tennis match of the season.



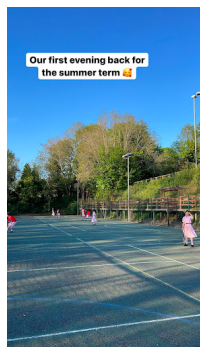
## Boarders Corner

Highlands House

The first week of Summer Term brings warmer weather, longer evenings and an altogether different atmosphere at any boarding school. Outside play becomes the norm each evening. At Godstowe, the girls make the most of the site's natural hills on their rollerblades and challenge each other in games of tennis until it's time for lights out.

At Godstowe this week, Middles who are considering boarding in Year 7 and 8 have joined us for trial nights. They've experienced tasters of what our evening and weekend activities look like and how they could make the most of the opportunity in the next two years. We've enjoyed Sports Hall Games, biscuit-decorating, board games, movie nights, tuck and treats and our usual low-tech evenings in the house. For the girls involved, we hope they have reported back positively about their taster nights and we look forward to seeing them again in Highlands and Turner.

First Exeat has come around early this term due to the Bank Holiday and so the planning is underway for our three weekends at school before Half Term. There is much to look forward to a Boarder's Wimbledon, water sports at Bray Lake, a trip to Virginia Water, summer festival fun and an ongoing 'Best Garden' competition. We look forward to seeing all of the girls return between 6.00-7.00pm on Monday 2nd May.



## World Book Day Competition Winners

For World Book Day 2022, Mrs Harris set the girls of Main School a challenge to redesign a book cover.

The winners were:

Mia S, Clemmy W, Emiliya P, Annabel P-W, Cecily V, Annabel T-P and Isabella B.

Mia S's redesign of "The Fault in our Stars" (opposite)

