

Prep School

VIRTUAL ROUND UP



Friday 22nd January 2021

The Head's Update

I hope you are well and have had a good week. I wanted to let you know how proud we are of the girls for adapting so brilliantly to online learning. Many thanks to our parents for their tremendous support. A little reminder to girls that lessons start promptly so they should try not to arrive late, but if they do the lessons are recorded for them to catch up. Key Stage 1 lessons begin at 9am and 10.30am and the first lesson for Key Stage 2 begins at 8.50am.



I was delighted to hear from Mr Baker that so many students and families have embraced the Kilometre Challenge, despite the very wintery weather that we have had over the past week. We are now up to over 1775km travelled as part of Kilometre Club. [Click here](#) for more information.

Online Learning At Its Best

Mrs Darnton has been reflecting on the incredible progress we have made with our online learning since last March. [Click here](#) to read her reflections.

Holiday Club

Holiday club will not run over February half term; we will use this opportunity to deep clean the school. We are hopeful that we may be able to offer holiday club over Easter.

Live Assemblies

Just to remind you that Mrs Davis will deliver a live assembly each Friday at 12.15pm. On Mondays at 12.15pm, I will present my nomination certificates during my live assembly. You will have received links to these earlier this week, via schoolcomms.

The GDST Junior Rock Out 2021 for Years 4-6

As part of our commitment to make maths exciting and high profile in our school, this January we are taking part in a competition across the GDST Junior Schools – The GDST Junior Rock Out 2021 and it's all done online via play.trockstars.com.

For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your daughter 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). Winning classes in the school across the GDST 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 7.00am and 7.00pm on Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th January.

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.

Thanks for your support.

Museum Sleepover – Dino Nights: At Home

You are invited to a very special sleepover – experience a fun-filled night at the Museum from your own home. [Click here](#) for more information.

The Gruffalo

'Oh help, oh no, it's a Gruffalo!' Our Nursery girls have been working together using the story journey trail to retell one of our favourite stories. [Click here](#) for more information.

Nursery girls become Planet Crusaders

Nursery girls have become environmental scientists, investigating ice and the effects of heat. [Click here](#) for more information.

A Disgusting Lunch

Girls in Year 1 have been writing 'My Disgusting Sandwich Recipes' this week. [Click here](#) for more information.

The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch

This week Year 1 have been studying The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch. [Click here](#) for more information.

Year 2 Research Dinosaurs

Our Year 2 girls have been doing some serious research into dinosaurs this week; exploring websites, reading information from books and watching presentations. [Click here](#) for more information.

Cracking work from Emilia

As part of their Out of Eggs topic, the girls in Year 2 were asked to create a dragon's egg and Emilia spent a great deal of time creating a beautiful jewelled egg. [Click here](#) for more information.

Supercats The Musical

Georgia G, Year 2, had a very special music session recently via Zoom with one of the UK's leading musical directors. [Click here](#) for more information.

Xanthe's Gardening Success

The narcissus minnow bulb that Xanthe, Year 2, planted in school has started to grow a stem shoot! [Click here](#) for more information.

Sophie gains a distinction in her grade 2 violin exam

Many congratulations to Year 6's Sophie B who recently sat her grade 2 violin examination and gained a distinction. [Click here](#) for more information

Indian Wildlife in Year 4

Year 4 have been making some beautiful artwork during their Guided home learning. [Click here](#) for more information.

Changing States of Chocolate

In their science lessons this week, 4S have been exploring particle theory and the changing states of matter. [Click here](#) for more information.

Year 6 key worker students write thank you letters to their teachers

Our Year 6 key worker students wrote thank you cards to their amazing teachers on Wednesday 20th January. [Click here](#) for more information.

GDST Talks

The GDST Talks series continued last week with Professor Abi Gewirtz speaking on *How To Help Your Child When The World Feels Like A Scary Place*.

You may be interested in accessing a recording of the talk available [here](#). This will be available until 14th February. Professor Gewirtz's book is also available to buy [here](#).

The next GDST Talks event takes place on Monday 8th February. The speaker is digital rights activist and YouTuber Charlotte Robertson who can regularly be seen campaigning in the media, in parliament and in schools and organisations around the world to empower young people to survive and thrive online. To mark Safer Internet Day 2021, she will be giving a presentation on *How To Be A Tech Role Model For Your Child*.

GDST Talks with Charlotte Robertson: *How To Be A Tech Role Model For Your Child* will take place on Monday 8th February at 6pm via Zoom. This event is suitable for parents with children in Year 3 to Year 13

To book your place, please click [here](#).

If you would like to find out more about upcoming GDST Talks events, there is information [here](#).

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Judith Ashill, Deputy Principal, Head of Prep School