



Gildredge House

Aspire
In all that we do



Gildredge House
Compton Place Road, Eastbourne
East Sussex, BN20 8AB

Friday 10th May 2024
Newsletter





Aspire House Points



BADER

23523



CARTER

18480



HOPKINS

19768



JOHNSTON

18704



RAVILIOUS

20910

Dates for your Diary

- **Monday 13th May** - Parent Partnership Evening 5.30-6.30pm
- **Wednesday 15th May** - Secondary Phase Library Launch
- **Thursday 16th May** - Y7 Environmental Survey Trip
- **Monday 20th May** - Y2 Library Trip
Y6(A) Safety in Action Trip
- **Tuesday 21st May** - Y6(B) Safety in Action Trip
Y7 Parents Evening
- **Wednesday 22nd May** - Brilliant Club Goldsmiths University Trip
Second Hand Uniform Sale 2.30-4.00pm

National Crime Agency - Information and Guidance on Online Blackmail

This week, the National Crime Agency have offered advice to parents and carers on the dangers of online blackmail. It is important to check in with your child(ren), having regular conversations to ensure that they are educated on this topic. For tips on how to approach this with them, please visit the [link here](#).

Nut free school

In order to safeguard our students, staff and visitors, it is imperative that peanuts, nuts and anything nut based are NOT bought into school or consumed on the premises.



✓ Attendance

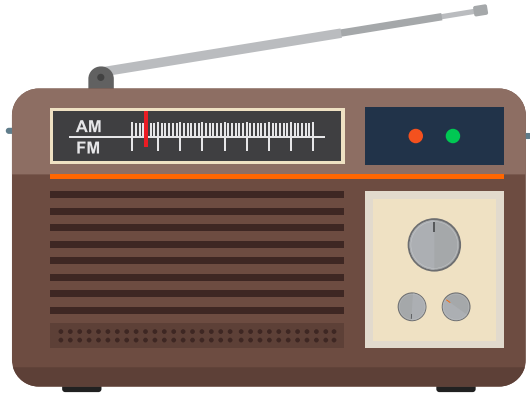
At Gildredge House, we believe that outstanding attendance is important to ensure children are safe and have full access to the educational provision made for them. We closely monitor attendance for all students in both Primary and Secondary. We celebrate, weekly, the top two classes with the highest attendance rates in both phases of the school.

Gildredge House Attendance week commencing: 29 th April 2024	
<u>Top class Attendance</u>	
<u>Primary Phase</u>	
6B and 3A	100%
2B	99.2%
<u>Secondary Phase</u>	
7B	98%
9J	97.1%
<u>Top year group Attendance this week</u>	
Primary	Year 2 & 3 = 99%
Secondary	Year 7 = 95%
Whole school Attendance this week	94%

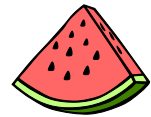


ASPIRE Radio - Teacher Takeover: Episode 2 ft. Mrs Stoakley!

Check out this week's episode of ASPIRE Radio- where we talk to our Year 6 teacher, Mrs Stoakley! In this episode, we were joined by some special guest Primary students who asked questions and had discussions with Mrs Stoakley. Tune in now!



REMINDER - sQuid overdrafts



We have noticed a growing number of parents and carers being in a negative balance with their catering purses for their children(s) sQuid account. Please could we remind parents to top up their sQuid accounts to ensure the accounts are topped up and not in a negative balance.

If you haven't already, we recommend turning on sQuid notifications, which will allow sQuid to send you top up reminders. Thank you for your cooperation and diligence.



Year 3, 4 & 5 - Free Brass Taster Session - Create Music - Tuesday 21st May

Create Music (formerly East Sussex Music) are offering a free taster lesson children in Years 3, 4 & 5 on the trumpet or cornet. The taster lesson will give them the opportunity to have a go at playing their first notes and rhythms, and hopefully inspire them to continue in regular lessons. Most lessons are in small groups, though we also offer individual lesson options. Lessons follow a carefully structured curriculum that encourages good sound production, listening, singing, improvisation, and most importantly having fun with music.



The standard fee for a group lesson is just £10.10! There are discounts available for families with limited income, FSM or Pupil Premium. Please ask about discounts.

Learning to play a musical instrument has many benefits both educationally and socially. It can also be a challenging and rewarding experience as well as helping to improve confidence, so I do hope your child will be able to take advantage of this opportunity

The taster session on Tuesday 21st May will be an opportunity for the children to try out playing the instruments and get to know more about me and the lessons. I will then email you information about fee assistance and how to apply.



To reserve your child's place or receive more information please email christina.kearley@createmusic.org.uk



LISTEN TO YOUR

IMAGINATION

Learn an instrument with
createmusic.org.uk

Supported using public funding by



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



DF

EYFS Church Visit

The Foxes and Hedgehog class enjoyed their visit to St Mary's Church last week to support their RE learning. The children sketched the church from outside adding in all the different shapes that they could see. Once inside, we shared a story together before going on a hunt to find the many different features of a church. The children really enjoyed their visit and described the church as beautiful, peaceful and calm.

A big Thank You to St Mary's Church for allowing us to explore the church and for all the parent helpers who could accompany us on this trip.



Year 4 May Day Park activities

On Friday 3rd May, for the annual collaboration with the friends of Gildredge park, Year 4 visited our local park. Since May Day is traditionally a celebration of the beginning of summer, we chose to explore signs of the start of summer from nature within our local park. We drew pictures of our interpretation of the park and used available nature to create some art.



We also wanted to localise our learning, and so Mrs Punter-Bruce read “The secret of me” to the children (a book written by Eastbourne author Amy Sparkes), followed with a discussion of their dreams and aspirations for the future. Finally, the children utilised their performance skills developed earlier this year to perform poetry to one another.



😊 Beechwood Care Home

On Friday, some of our Primary students visited the residents of Beechwood Grove Care Home. They took part in activities to celebrate Intergenerational Day and World Earth Day, this included sewing, word searches and thinking of ideas to help our world.

Many thanks to the staff and residents for inviting us and for the delicious snacks, we had a fabulous time.



Fishbourne Roman Palace - Year 4



Year 4 recently went all the way to Chichester to visit Fishbourne Roman Palace and Gardens. We took part in lots of different activities to finish off our Romans topics, including an archaeology workshop and exploring what it is like to be an archaeologist.

We also explored the lives of Romans including how they made clothes, what materials/structures they used to create buildings and how they



wrote things down. As well as this, we explored the museum, saw real Roman mosaic remains of the original palace and the Roman gardens.





World Culture Day for Diversity: Friday 3rd May

Gildredge House celebrated World Culture Day for Diversity last week. It was embraced very well by all, just take a look at these brilliant photos courtesy of Mrs Libatter.





Gildredge
House

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In all that we do

We're Hiring



Join Our Amazing team

- Head of Languages ●
- Head of English (Mat Cover) ●
- Teacher of Drama/PSHE (HOY) ●
- Teacher of PSHE (HOY) ●
- P/T & F/T TAs - Primary ●
- Literacy Intervention Specialist ●

For more information please visit:
www.gildredgehouse.org.uk



Gildredge
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APPLY NOW

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HELLDIVERS 2

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
18+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Within weeks of release, *Helldivers 2* had become one of 2024's biggest gaming success stories. The sequel to a top-down shooter from 2015 has smashed sales expectations, owing to its frantic gameplay and tongue-in-cheek humour. However, the game comes with several risks to younger players, as indicated by its 18+ rating.

PEGI 18 RATING

Due to its intense violence and the presence of in-game purchases, *Helldivers 2* carries a PEGI 18 rating. While players are generally fighting fantastical enemies like giant bugs and robots, their characters can be killed in various gruesome ways, up to and including dismemberment. It's certainly worth considering whether such a game is appropriate for younger players.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In *Helldivers 2*, players can use real money to buy in-game currency, with which they can unlock cosmetics and new weapons. At the time of writing, all the in-game items can be acquired without spending so much as a penny – but excited young players wanting to keep up with their friends may still feel the temptation to purchase new weapons more quickly, rather than laboriously earning the in-game currency through play.

VOICE CHAT AND MESSAGING

Helldivers 2 is always played online with others, who often use voice chat or in-game texts to coordinate, strategise or just joke around. This does mean that children who play without their friends will be put in contact with strangers. Unfortunately, this represents a roll of the dice, as the game can't control how people treat each other online. However, you can easily report other players for abusive behaviour via the game's 'Social' tab.

FRUSTRATION TRIGGER

The thrill of barely scraping through a dangerous mission in one piece is integral to *Helldivers 2*'s appeal. To accentuate this feeling of achievement, the game includes some very difficult levels that could prove to be too hard for some players – even those who are legitimately old enough to play. Losing streaks can be incredibly annoying, so repeatedly failing in missions could easily provoke frustration or anger in younger players.

LACK OF ACCESS

The game is available on PC and PS5, but not (as yet) on other consoles. Some people will naturally be disappointed they can't get involved and might look for similar alternatives to play on their own console – alternatives which may contain similar levels of violence and gore but lack the same balanced approach to user misconduct and in-game purchases as *Helldivers 2*.

Advice for Parents & Educators

GIVE IT A GO FIRST

Helldivers 2 is a third-person shooter with intentionally humorous elements, but much of its comedy is rooted in satire which may go over the heads of some players. Consider playing the game first yourself – while shooting bugs and robots feels too unrealistic to be upsetting, seeing your character get torn to pieces may be too much for young players.

SET EXPECTATIONS

At the time of writing, *Helldivers 2* costs £34.99. It could turn out to be an expensive and wasteful purchase if a player gets irritated and gives up shortly after receiving the game. If a young person tends to become frustrated easily, it's worth considering whether *Helldivers 2* is really the game for them.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES

If playing on Xbox – where *Helldivers 2* isn't available – consider something like *Halo: The Master Chief Collection* as an alternative. One of its game modes – Firefight – replicates *Helldivers 2*'s mechanics to some degree. Alternatively, younger players may be better suited to the more light-hearted *Deep Rock Galactic*, which sees them play as fantasy dwarves in space, involving far less gruesome violence.

KEEP AN EYE ON PAYMENTS

Many titles offer in-game purchases, but *Helldivers 2*'s are comparatively cheap. You'll still need to monitor your payment information (or use a prepaid card on the account), in case your child buys the in-game currency in bulk; on the whole, however, the game's selling methods are far less egregious than most similar titles on the market.

MONITOR COMMUNICATION & ADJUST SETTINGS

Thanks to an in-game 'Ping' system (allowing players to highlight important details without speaking), communication isn't as integral to *Helldivers 2* as it is in other games. You can turn off the chat options in-game on PC, or on the PS5's own settings, and feel more secure in the knowledge that your child won't be speaking to people they don't know.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of *GGRecon*, and has been working in the games media industry for five years. As well as being an avid long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and many more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



UNIFORM SHOP

PRIMARY & SECONDARY

The second hand uniform shop will be open on the following dates this term.

Come and visit us in Master's House between 14:30 and 16:00;

Wednesday 22 May

Friday 21 June

Wednesday 10 July

Please note that the shop is cash sales only



CLOTHING DRIVE

We need your PE kits, fleeces and blazers for resale please! All good quality donations are welcomed and can be handed in to the secondary school reception.

We'd also like your pre-loved dressing up clothes! Anything medieval, roman, space, superhero and Victorian related for resale and swap is welcome.





Supporting our students - Ready to Learn

Pencil Cases



We are really proud of the effort and commitment our students are showing by being fully prepared for their learning and ensure their books following our "beautiful books" expectations. However, some students are not always coming to school with the correct equipment. It is compulsory for all secondary students to bring a pencil case to school every day. Students having their own set of essential writing tools readily available, empowers them to actively engage in classroom activities and create an optimal learning environment.

To assist in ensuring that student pencil cases are well-equipped, compulsory items include: blue and/or black ink pens, several pencils, erasers, a ruler, a pencil sharpener, and green and purple pens (for peer and self-assessment). Additional items which are not compulsory, but recommended, include a white board pen, highlighters, coloured pencils, and a glue stick. For Years 10 and 11, exam-level students, we highly recommend that pencil cases meet the external examination requirements set by the Joint Council for Qualifications which states that all pencil cases must be see-through.

Uniform

Please can I take the opportunity to remind you of our uniform policy, a copy of which is available on our website. Uniform is one of the outward signs by which the local community recognises and makes judgements about our students and it is important that our students present themselves positively and in a way that conveys a disciplined and well-ordered learning environment. Smart uniform ensures that all students are prepared for work, both in school and beyond.



Supporting our students - Ready to Learn

Secondary Uniform Reminders:



Students should wear the school blazer every day and it should be worn at the start of the school day and at the start/end of each lesson. Students may ask a teacher if they can remove their blazer if they are too warm in class.

Students must wear smart black shoes and not trainers.

Plain dark grey or black tights are permitted only; students do not need to wear tights and could opt for socks instead. Socks should be plain dark grey or black only. Strictly no white, coloured or colour-patterned socks all year round.

We appreciate that as we approach the end of the academic year students may be growing out of uniform. Please ensure that replacement blazers and shoes are purchased early to ensure students are not left without these uniform items. If you need support in sourcing uniform please contact your child's Form Tutor. Our uniform expectations remain the same throughout the year. The decision to vary school uniform in the light of weather changes lies at the discretion of the Head Teacher. This will be communicated home prior to the school day.

Jewellery



Jewellery is not permitted except for one pair of small (no larger than 5mm in diameter) plain, silver, gold or pearl ear studs worn centrally in the ear lobe. No other Jewellery (around the neck, wrist or other body parts) or body piercings are permitted. Students are not allowed to cover piercings (e.g. with plasters) and may not use sleepers.

Thank you for your continued support. Mrs Graffham.



 **REMINDER: First round of heats for the 'Young Chef' competition after school on Tuesday 14 May. More info:**



Do you like cooking? Could you be our Young Chef of 2024?



Olympic / Paralympic Games 2024

This year the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games are to be held in Paris with athletes from across the globe competing. Every country in the world has its own special food dishes and flavours and as people have travelled, these different flavours have travelled with them. You should select one country and prepare a dish that best represents the food from that country. You will need to explain your choice of country and dish choice to the judges and why you have chosen these.

Your teacher Mrs Chalk will organise the first round of the competition in your school, one finalist from each year group (years 7/8, and 9/10) will be chosen and then you will get together with the finalists from other schools where a team of judges will choose the overall Eastbourne Young Chef of 2024.

What will you need to do?

You will need to explain your choice of dishes to your teachers and the Judges

You will need to create and cook two portions of a hot main course meal

You will need to work out the cost of the ingredients of each meal

You must also choose and cost (but not prepare) a suitable starter and dessert which will be considered should there be a tie break with other finalists

SUMMER CONCERT

WEDS 19TH JUNE AT 5PM

£5 TICKETS AVAILABLE ON 19TH JUNE
MAXIMUM OF 3 TICKETS PER PARENT

AUDITIONS



Yr8-11: Thurs 16th May (1st & 2nd break)

Yr7: Weds 15th May (1st Break only)

Any questions, please see Mr Willis. See you there!

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National Windsurfing Competition

At the weekend, Joshua competed in the Eric Twiname National Windsurfing Competition against sailors from all over the UK. The event was particularly challenging for Josh, being one of the taller sailors in very light winds.

Joshua came 2nd overall in the U17 fleet, at the age of 15 and his team, London and South East, won the overall windsurfing trophy. Huge congratulations, Joshua!



Year 13 First Aid Training

I was delighted to see twelve of our Year 13 students completing their first aid qualification on Friday 26th April. First Aid is such an important life skill. They worked incredibly hard on it and learnt a great deal of skills throughout the day, including the following as some examples of what they covered...

- CPR
- Recovery Position
- Dealing with bleeds
- Dealing with Diabetes
- Choking
- Dealing with burns



Hopefully they will go through life and never have to use any of the things they were taught, but it is great to have learnt them...just in case! *Mrs Maxwell*





Year 13 Leavers Meal!

On Friday 26th April, we held the leavers meal for our Year 13 students. We all went to Pomodoro for a lovely 2 course meal and a chance to celebrate the end of the year. We had the celebration early as we wanted to have as many of our Year 13 students there as possible, and if we had done it after the exams some would have been off on their travels due to the nature of staggered finishing of exams. It was a lovely evening. Special thanks to Laya for organising the decorations and also the prize winners as well as a special thanks to Josh for his speech!

You have been a great group of students to work with over the last two or seven years (depending on whether you were with us for secondary too). We are all very proud of your dedication and are sure that you will go on to achieve in a variety of directions over the years. Whilst I know these next few weeks will be tough, you have had the preparation and are ready to face these exams. Remember we are all here to support you through the process and will be looking forward to helping you celebrate on results day in August.

All the best Year 13! *Mrs Maxwell*