

# GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

Learning and Achieving Together

GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL, SYLVIA AVENUE, HA5 4QE  
T: 0208 428 1324  
E: OFFICE@GRIMSDYKE.HARROW.SCH.UK  
@GRIMSDYKESCHOOL



ISSUE 11  
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## Message from Headteacher:

Dear Parents and Carers

This week we have had a real reading focus at school, on Tuesday we held a workshop for parents about “Supporting your child with early reading” which was well attended. Thank you to not only the parents who attended but also to our resident experts; Mrs Karadia, Mrs Lane and Mrs Holgate for running the training. Watch this space for the follow up workshop!

We also celebrated World Book Day, students across the school came dressed in a wide range of book characters, even the teachers got dressed up with many Year Groups selecting themes for their costumes. It was a great way to celebrate the enjoyment and power of reading. As a school we would strongly urge you to do as much reading as possible with your children at home, out and about, even in the supermarket. Most importantly the discussion around the reading allows the students to gain a deeper understanding into the stories, characters and the reasons why they decide to do what they do.

In addition to the curriculum work on reading, SLT are also looking at the School Library provision – while the Library Extension is a long term project we want to make sure that what we do have is of an excellent standard and used effectively. On a positive note Mrs Nolan has reported a sharp increase in the number of books being issued and returned on time as well as students visiting that library during timetabled sessions. So part of our action plan will look at the variety and content of the books available as well as improving book corners in the classrooms by creating mini “satellite” libraries.

Next week we have the Parents Consultation Evening where you have an opportunity to meet with your child’s class teacher to discuss the progress and attainment since the beginning of the year. Unlike the previous evening the focus is much more about their development and what support can be given in order to meet the End of Year Expectations and prepare for the transition into the next academic year. In order to be more informed with these discussions please see the attached information about attainment and progress at Grimsdyke School. I hope you find these meetings worthwhile for you and your child/children.

As you may be aware next week it is going to be Sports Relief. The Student Steering Group and PE Team have been busy making plans for activities across the week. One of the things that they wanted to do was to sell Sport Relief bands, these will be available from the School Office before and after school next week, but will go quickly. As it is such a worthwhile organisation I would kindly ask you to help us support this by talking with your children about the work that the charity does and encouraging them to get involved in the fundraising.

Finally, I am sure that you have all read about the changing situation surrounding COVID-19 both nationally and internationally. Here at Grimsdyke School we are closely following all of the guidance supplied by the DfE, NHS and Public Health Harrow. We are also continually reinforcing the message of maintaining hygiene and hand washing with the students through the curriculum. We have hand sanitiser on order for each of the classes but in the meantime if you would like to send in a personal one with your child then you must make sure it is clearly named and under no circumstances should it be shared with another pupil, please ensure your child is aware of this. We will keep you updated of any changes to guidelines.

Kind regards

Iain Sutherland  
Headteacher

**Respect Empathy Compassion**  
**Three words can make a huge difference!**

# WHOLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM UPDATE

## RECEPTION

Last week we started our new topic 'Fantasy and fairy tales'. We listened to the story of the three billy goats gruff and the children had a chance to act out the story, which was a great way for them to learn. In maths, we looked at weight and were comparing objects and making predictions as to which item they thought would be the heaviest/ lightest. The children also enjoyed a visit from the space dome. It was a great way for the children to consolidate their knowledge of space that they learnt last half term.

This week we have been reading the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children were able to write character descriptions and have been ordering the story and writing captions. In science, we had the chance to learn about plants and the children planted a bean. We look forward to seeing our plants grow across the coming weeks. On Thursday it was lovely to see all the children dressed up for world book day, their costumes were fantastic! We have also been lucky enough to have lots of parents come in to read a story, thank you to those who have been able to do so far.

Next week our learning will be based around the story of 'Goldilocks and the three bears'. Children will be writing a letter as Goldilocks and will be describing different characters. In maths we will be learning about capacity and estimating how many cups it takes to fill up different sized containers. We also have all the exciting events for Sport Relief to look forward to.

## YEAR 1

Our topic this half term is "**How Does Your Garden Grow?**"

In **Science** the children will be learning about the parts of a plant and what plants need to grow. This week they have planted potatoes and next week the children will be growing beans.

In **Geography** we have started our new topic 'Our country- The UK'. The children have learnt the 4 countries that make up the UK and the different flag names.

In **English** last week we read the story 'Jaspers Beanstalk'. The children wrote a 'better' version of the story by up-levelling sentences using conjunctions and expanded nouns. We also practised spelling the days of the week. This week we are learning about adding suffixes to verbs. Next week we will be reading a different version of the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children will be thinking of their own alternative versions of the story.

In **Maths** the children have been learning about numbers to 50 and beyond. They have been identifying how many tens and ones make up 2 digit numbers. This week the children will be comparing numbers using the greater than/less than symbols. Next week we will be looking at measuring length and height which we will link to our growing plants.

## YEAR 2

### Year 2 English

This week the children have been studying the book Samson's Titanic Journey. We have read the story in parts to the children and finished it towards the end of the week. We have also completed a comprehension-based activity, on the story. We had lots of fun, as it was World Book Day on Thursday! The children looked fantastic and we spent the day doing lots of book related fun activities.

Next week the children are writing a letter home to family, as if the children were Samson using the personal pronoun 'I'.

### Year 2 Maths

This week the children have been working on multiplication. We started the week by looking at multiplication as repeated addition e.g.  $5 \times 3 = 15$  and  $5 + 5 + 5 = 15$ . Later on in the week we moved onto solving multiplication word problems using their knowledge of RUSC. Over the week we have been exposing the children to a variety of vocabulary which means the same as multiplication e.g. times, multiply etc

Next week in maths we will be linking multiplication with the inverse operation, division. We will start the week by making multiplication and division fact family houses for the x2, x5, x10 and x3 times tables. Later on in the week we will look at solving division word problems using RUSC. Throughout the week we will expose the children to a variety of vocabulary which means the same as division e.g. sharing, divide etc.

Cont overleaf.....

## YEAR 2 continued

Please can we ask the children to continue to learn their times tables (x2, x5, x10) as these are really helpful for the children to use when solving problems in maths. If you haven't already, please take the times table booklet out of your child's home learning folder as this can be continued to be used at home. If your child already knows their x2, x5 and x10 times tables, please feel free to move onto x3's and more!

## YEAR 3

Year 3 had a wonderful day celebrating World Book Day and the activities around them. We created 'Dream Jars' that relate to 'The BFG' which inspired us to do a creative writing piece using Roald Dahl's made up words. The costumes were very creative and we enjoyed celebrating our favourite books!

In English, we have started our two week unit on researching Roald Dahl, which correlates well with our Roald Dahl museum trip. 3B and 3C very much enjoyed their day out on Monday and 3S today, they learned a lot of new facts that they will include when making a Roald Dahl biography booklet in the coming weeks. In maths, we have learned about reading a calendar and knowing what a leap year is. Children should know how many minutes are in an hour, how many hours are in a day and terms such as 'fortnight'. We have also introduced reading scales that are numbered or partially numbered. Children should be able to decode and recognise the intervals between the numbers shown (2's, 5's, 10's or 20's). In geography, we will continue our unit on Parliament learning about what it is and what they do.

In literacy, we will look at features of biographies and create a biography on Roald Dahl. Children will be shown what subheadings are usually in biographies (Early Years, Career) and design their own booklet individually. In maths, we will soon start our new unit on two by one multiplication (ex:  $26 \times 3$ ) and two by two multiplication ( $26 \times 13$ ) with the 'magic zero'. Children will understand how multiplication and division relate to one another by inverse. Please continue to practise the times tables with your child each evening as this will help them understand these new methods. For science, we have been learning about plants, their different parts and what they need to grow.

We look forward to meeting with you again next week during parent's evenings.

## YEAR 4

This week Year 4 have been working on the skill of journalistic writing. They began the week writing their own headlines using rhyme, alliteration and puns! They then went on to writing hard hitting introduction paragraphs to reel the reader in. The children really enjoyed using journalistic language to persuade the reader. In maths, the children learnt about negative numbers and their real life use. They explored how to count back in to the negative numbers and how to add and subtract with minus numbers. In science, the children conducted an experiment in to the processes involved in states of matter. They were very enthusiastic to see condensation and evaporation taking place.

Over the next few weeks, the children will be finishing up their text *Arthur and the Golden Rope*. The children will be working on summarising and writing a book review of their thoughts on the book. We look forward to hearing what they thought! In maths, they will be revising rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 and practising dividing and multiplying by 10, 100 and 1000. The children will also be measuring their London landmark structures to add the panels later on.

### A reminder for parents:

Swimming takes place on a Friday and all children are required to swim. The children should bring a swimming cap, swimming costume, towel and goggles (if needed). The children walk to and from the pool, so in cold weather, they should have a warm coat, hat and gloves. Swimming is part of the National Curriculum, which states children **must be taught to** swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres; use a range of strokes effectively and perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.

## YEAR 5

Year 5 have nearly finished their class reader *Danny the Champion of the World* and will be reviewing it in the coming weeks. Over the past fortnight we have learned the difference between the active and the passive voice and used this knowledge to help us write a police-style report to solve a suspicious crime that occurred in our corridor. We have written newspaper reports about the birds going missing from Hazell's Wood and have been learning about the features of this genre of writing.

In science, we have learned the eight phases of the moon and why it appears to change shape. In maths we are continuing to look at shapes and their properties. Elsewhere in the curriculum, we have started our gymnastic sessions on Wednesday; we will be starting to build Norman castles in DT and in art we are finishing off our Georges Seurat inspired pointillism pieces.

## YEAR 5 continued

A big well done to all of the effort put into World Book Day costumes, it was lovely to see all the children dressed as their favourite book characters.

On a final note, our trip to the Tower of London is approaching fast as it is scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> March. A lot of the trip is outside so please ensure that the clothing the children wear on the day is appropriate for the weather conditions expected.

## YEAR 6

Over the past fortnight, Year 6 have been learning the story of Daedalus and Icarus – highlighting why it is so important you listen to your elders! Last week, the children enjoyed rewriting it as a narrative adding in engaging story opening techniques and action to keep the reader engaged. This week we put on our newspaper reporter caps on, allowing us to show off our skills between formal and informal writing styles that you would see in a report.

Some of the children have thoroughly enjoyed their Bikeability course this week – probably because they got to miss some lessons – as they have been learning new skills and how to be safe while riding their bikes. This course will continue next week for the remainder of the children that signed up for it!

We have also enjoyed World Book Day, showing off our amazing knowledge on a range of books in a 'The Chase' styled quiz and dressing up as some of our favourite characters.

## TEAMWORK CITIZENSHIP AND LEARNING AWARDS

### BRONZE AWARD

Congratulations to pupils who have achieved 10 merit points and received their Certificate of

**Congratulations to the 559 students, (93%) who have already earned their Bronze Award**



### SILVER AWARD

Having achieved 25 merit points we are very proud of the first children to receive their Certificate of Commendation

**Congratulations to the 393 students, (66%) who have already earned their Silver Award**



### GOLD AWARD

Congratulations to pupils who have achieved 20 merit points and received their GOLD Certificate of Commendation

**Congratulations to 27 children who have achieved their GOLD Award**

# SPORTS

Y6 Table Tennis

Thursday 13th February

Congratulations to the year 6 table tennis team who won the borough competition. They displayed excellent technical skills throughout and represented Grimsdyke superbly. Well done!

Team: Phoebe, Olivia, Lily, Shreeya, Shaurya, Esa, Taran, Arya, Caan.

# WORLD BOOK DAY



Congratulations to our best dressed pupils in

KS1

Karina RON, Ishaan RD, William RM, Arjun 1W  
Keanu 1KE, Kushal 1B, Sanjana 2D, Shona 2T  
and Katia 2R

And KS2

Avishi 3S, Aimee 3C, Shreeya 3B, Mollie 4V,  
Grace 4J, Lily 4M, Nyah 5H, Piya 5S, Akshay  
5B, Mili 6J, Olivia 6M



# GRIMSDYKE CALENDAR

9th March	Y6 Bikeability (3 days)
10th March	KS2 Swimming Gala (selected only) Parent Consultations 3-40pm—7.30pm
12th March	Parent Consultation 3.40pm—5.40pm Y5/6 Cross Country (selected only) Y1 visiting Kol Chai Synagogue (Hatch End)
18th March	Dance Showcase
19th March	3B visiting Houses of Parliament
20th March	Charity Staff Football match
23rd March	String Festival
24th March	Virtual Reality Talk
25th March	3C & 3S visiting Houses of Parliament Y5/6 Basketball Tournament (selected only)
26th March	Y4 Sea Life talk Y4 London Landmarks Exhibition (2.45pm)
27th March	FOGs AGM/Quiz Night
30th March	Y5 visiting Tower of London
2nd April	Last day of Spring Term—School closes at 2.30pm
3rd April	Professional Development Day—children not in sch
6th— 17th April	Easter Break
20th April	First day back—in line for 8.45am
21st April	Landscape Painting Talk
23rd April	Reception and Y1 visit from Ranger Stu Y1/2 Mini Football (selected only)
27th April	Y3 visit from The Globe Theatre
1st May	Parent Forum (9am)
6th May	Y1 visiting Wildlife Paradise Park
7th May	Y3/4 Rugby (selected only)
8th May	Bank Holiday
12th May	Y2 visiting Kew Gardens
15th May	Y3/4 Tennis Tournament (selected only) FOGS Casino Nigh—7.30pm
18th May	Class Photos Y5/6 Tennis (selected only)
19th May	Reception visiting Odds Farm
20th May	Y5/6 Quad kids (selected only)
21st May	Y3 visiting Pizza Express Y6 visiting HOAC School Census—special menu
22nd May	End of 1/2 term
25th—29th May	1/2 Term break
1st June	Back to school—in line for 8.45am
2nd June	Y5/6 Borough Sports Heets
3rd June	Y5/6 Boys cricket (selected only) Y4 Kingswood Residential
4th June	Y3 visiting Pizza Express
5th June	Y4 Return from Kingswood

## 2019—2020 TERM DATES

### SPRING TERM 2020

Monday 24 February 2020 to Friday 3 April 2020

### SUMMER TERM 2020

Monday 20 April 2020 to Friday 22 May 2020

**Half Term** Monday 25 May 2020 - Friday 29 May 2020

Monday 1 June 2020 to Tuesday 21 July 2020

PDD Dates:

- ◆ 3rd April 2020
- ◆ 20th and 21st July 2020

## 2020—2021 TERM DATES

### AUTUMN TERM 2020

Wed 2nd Sept - Friday 23rd Oct

Half Term Mon 26th Oct—Fri 30th Oct

Monday 2nd Nov—Friday 18th Dec

### SPRING TERM 2021

Monday 4 January 2021 - Friday 12 February 2021

Half Term Monday 15 Feb 2021 - Friday 19 Feb 2021

Monday 22nd Feb 2021 to Wednesday 31st Mar 2021

### SUMMER TERM 2020

Monday 20 April 2020 to Friday 22 May 2020

**Half Term** Monday 25 May 2020 - Friday 29 May 2020

Please use the following to communicate with the school—Year group emails are:

Reception@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk  
 Year1@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk  
 Year2@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk  
 Year3@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk  
 Year4@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk  
 Year5@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk  
 Year6@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk

After school club -  
 Asc@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk

Attendance@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk

## Other important 2020 dates

19th Jun	Summer Carnival
<b>23rd Jun</b>	<b>Sports Day (EYFS/KS1/KS2)</b>
<b>30th Jun</b>	<b>Y3 Performance—6.30pm</b>
2nd Jul	Y4 Performance—6.30pm
9th Jul	Y5 Performance—6.30pm
16th Jul	Y6 Performance