

GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

Learning and Achieving Together

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ISSUE 02
29th SEPTEMBER 2023

Message from Headteacher:

Dear Parent/Carer,

I trust that this week's newsletter finds you well. Such is the nature of Grimsdyke School, I have a lot to share with you in this weeks newsletter.

Library and IT Suite Extension...

Thank you to all those parents who have joined me over the past week for the tour of the new facilities that we now have available for the children. I hope you enjoyed seeing what we have created and that you are hearing some wonderful things from the students about their time in both the Library and IT Suite.

Award winner...

Firstly some great news, last week Mr Godfrey attended the annual Harrow Schools P.E. Conference where all of the P.E. Leads come together and look at the provision across the Local Authority. At this conference Mr Godfrey was awarded the Sport and P.E. Leader of the Year Award. I am acutely aware of the work that Mr Godfrey does in the background for all of the events, activities and experiences here at Grimsdyke School, so it is wonderful that he has been recognised for this. On behalf of the staff, students and parents I want to congratulate Mr Godfrey on this wonderful accolade.



New additions...

Secondly, both Mrs Joanides and Mrs Oumouassan have recently welcomed baby girls into their respective families, I am pleased to share that they are all doing well and we look forward to meeting the new members of the Grimsdyke family when they have a chance to visit the school.

Parent Consultations...

Next week is the first opportunity for parents to discuss the progress of their child in school – Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th October. I hope you have all taken the opportunity to register a time to meet with the class teachers via Arbor. Much of this first consultation will be based on discussions about settling and setting goals for the end of the year. I would also encourage parents to enquire about the different ways in which they can support their child at home.

We will be opening the gates for collection slightly earlier than normal at 3.15pm to support the beginning of the evening. Parents should only enter the school building through the main doors from 3.30pm.

School Values (SCORE)...

Since the beginning of the year we have continued to roll out our School Values (SCORE) that were designed in partnership with the Student Council last year. Every class now has a large display poster to refer to as well as individual character profiles. The values have been implemented into the assembly plan for the term, included within classroom learning experiences and are being used in conversations between adults and children across the school.



This week the value focus in assembly was "opportunity". During their time at Grimsdyke School there are plenty of "opportunities" to engage in a range of different activities that are either in addition to the curriculum or part of it. A great example of this is learning in general. The opportunity to learn in a supportive and caring environment where each child is recognised for the skills and abilities that they have is one that should be fostered.

Continued overleaf....

MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER CONTINUED....

Class Representatives...

Over the past two weeks teachers have been discussing the different roles that students can play in the development of the school. Roles such as; Student Councillor, Playground Pals, Reading Ambassadors, Eco Warriors, Healthy School and Junior Travel Ambassadors just to name a few, all contribute to different aspects of the school and offer a great opportunity for the students to get involved. In addition to this the Year Six students have all been presented with the opportunity to apply for a Prefect role, as part of this process they were required to write an application. As a result our Year6 students have given us an mammoth task, as we received 78 applications.

Curriculum Information...

To keep you further updated with the curriculum provision here at Grimsdyke School, we are continuing to update and refresh the Curriculum section of the school website -

www.grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk/curriculum

Some of the items you will find here include; Long term overviews, Curriculum Maps and the End of Year Expectations. All of these things are shared with you to give an indication of the content of the curriculum for the autumn term. They will also support the information that was shared with you at the recent Meet the Teacher meetings.

Hot School Meal Provision...

The Hot School Meal provision continues to run successfully, since the beginning of the year we have been averaging 480 meals per day, this has increased to well over 500 in the past two weeks. The percentage of pre booked meals has also increased over time, which in itself is a wonderful development considering it will become compulsory after the October half term break.

Attendance Headlines...

School attendance since the beginning of the year has remained positive at 97.1%. Over the past two weeks it has become more challenging with some sickness going around but has remained above the expected standard of 95% - sitting at 96.8%.

Year Group Attendance over the past two weeks looks a little like this... Well done to Year Three who just squeezed past Year Five for the "*Attendance Champions*" spot.

Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
95.5%	95.5%	97.2%	98.5%	97.6%	98.4%	94.7%

Finally as we get deeper in the Autumn term the calendar dates begin to fill up – do make use of the "Upcoming Dates" section at the back of the newsletter and transfer it into your own diary.

Take care and stay safe, I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards
Mr I Sutherland

Inconsiderate Parking

We are getting more complaints regarding inconsiderate parking and driving. We urge parents to follow the highway code and park and drive safely with consideration for both the children and our neighbours.



CURRICULUM IN ACTION

RECEPTION

Last week the we read the story 'Colour Monster'. The children discussed different emotions and what makes them feel this way. They enjoyed making faces for different emotions. In maths the children were learning about sorting and matching. The played lots of games where they had to match objects or sort them by colour, shape etc.

RH Making emotion faces



Physical Development



This week we have read the story 'The Rainbow Fish' by Marcus Pfister.

During carpet times the children thought about qualities that make a good friend and drew pictures of their friends in class. In maths the children have been learning to compare groups using language such as more, less, bigger smaller. The explored length, capacity and weight practically. The children were using key vocabulary words long, short, heavy, light, full, empty etc.

RECEPTION cont...

The Rainbow Fish Activities



Maths



YEAR 1

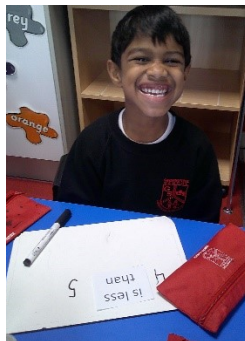
This week and next, our focus story is 'Peace at Last' by the late and famous children's author, Jill Murphy. We have looked at repetition, sequence and story mapping. The children are excited to change elements of the story to make it their own. In Science we have been looking at the 5 senses so the book fitted perfectly with its focus on sound. The children recognised Baby Bear from the book 'Whatever Next' that they studied in Reception. It is lovely when children make connections between their learning.

For maths, we are started to use mathematical terminology to compare numbers such as greater than, less than and equals. They then went on to use the symbols $<$ $>$ and $=$. Many children can form beautiful numbers but at a closer inspection, we realised they are beginning them in the incorrect place. Please continue to practise the correct formation of numbers where possible.

In history, children have been looking at houses from different time periods. We went on a local walk to look at features of houses. Maybe you can ask your child to point out a detached house, semi-detached house, terraced house, flat, bungalow etc.



We have been using the language of 'more' and 'less' to compare numbers



We have been enjoying our new school library. Look at all that space!

YEAR 2

The children have been working extremely hard over the first few weeks in Year 2. We have been continuing our work on famous people and it has been great to see how eager they are to learn about lots of different people.

In English, we have been focusing on fact-files. The children have been recognising the features and using this knowledge to write their own. They have written one for Emily Davison and also used their home learning research to write another about Nelson Mandela. We have been really impressed with the children's writing.

We have been artists in Year 2 and have been working on our own versions of LS Lowry's 'Cityscape'. Last week, the children learnt about perspective and experimented with mixing colours. Using this knowledge, they were able to sketch and paint their background. This week they designed their buildings and added matchstick people to their work. In science, the children have been learning about microhabitats. We visited our bug hotel on the school field to find some of its visitors.



2GK



2C looking for mini beasts in a micro-habitat

2C



2E

YEAR 3

Year 3 students have continued their fantastic learning this year...



In P.E., we have been learning how to play netball. We have been practising passing and catching the ball with accuracy, and most importantly, using the correct footwork.



In Geography, we have been looking at the globe. We have been locating European countries using the index of an atlas to find page numbers and understanding how to use co-ordinates.

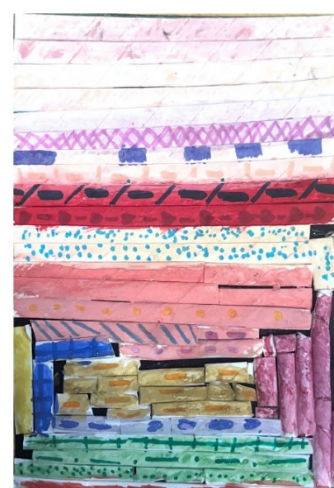


In Art, we used a variety of sketch pencils to create pictures of woolly mammoths from the Stone Age. We practised creating light and dark areas using cross hatching and stippling.

YEAR 4

Art- Marta Minujin

In art, we have been exploring Andy Warhol and Marta Minujin work. We have recreated Andy Warhol's work by colouring in our faces using different coloured felt tip pens. We have also used a variety of materials such as straws, water colours, felt tip pens and glue to recreate Marta Minujin's work. Here are some amazing examples from Year 4.

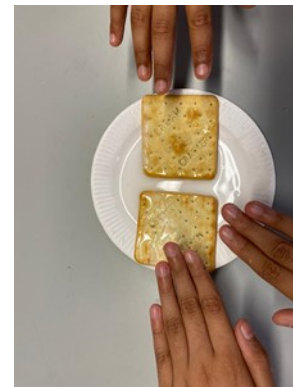
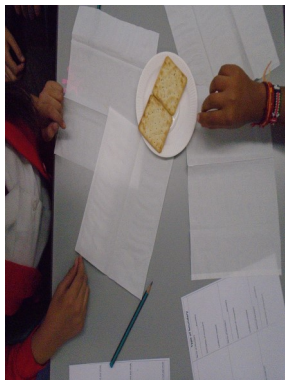


4C – Zahra D, Abigail and Vian

4M – Amelia A, Siah and Ayden

4H – Diana, Hermani and Alden

YEAR 5

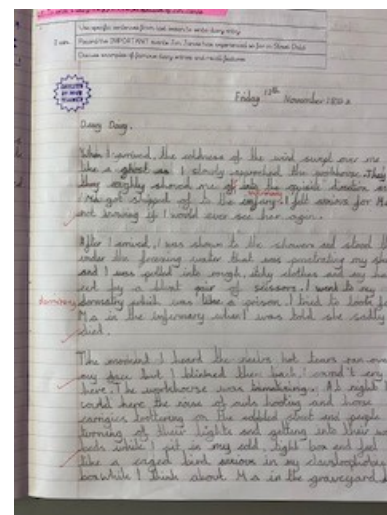
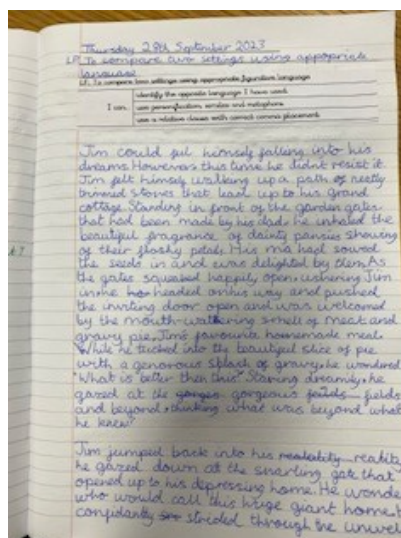
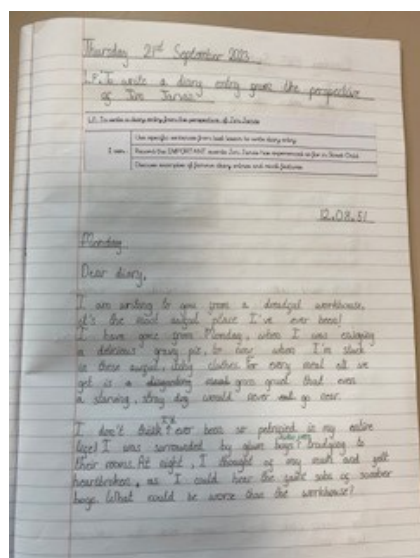


Geography-

The children have been finding out about the structure of the earth and the elements that make up the Earth's core. They completed an investigation to explore the movement of the tectonic plates of the Earth's crust and how this movement creates mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes.

English-

The children have been immersing themselves into life in the Victorian era by considering the life our character Jim Jarvis would have experienced through their diary entries and by comparing the two very contrasting conditions he would have lived in.



"I'll be just two minutes"
Is not a good enough reason to block a driveway!

YEAR 6

In art, Year 6 children dove into the realm of mark making techniques! Using pencils as their creative tools, they embarked on a mesmerising journey of lines, curves, patterns, and every stroke in-between to bring to life flowers from all angles.



In science, Year 6 children recently took on a heart-pumping investigation to find out which sport's activity raises the heart rate the most. In this exciting experiment, the young scientists put their working scientifically skills to the test. They planned and conducted experiments to measure their heart rates during various sports activities.



Year 6 enjoyed visiting the newly reopened library. The reopened library offers a perfect space for Year 6 learners to dive into the wonderful world of books, explore new genres, and broaden their horizons.



GRIMSDYKE CALENDAR

Autumn 2023

Tues 3rd Oct	Parent Consultation
Wed 4th Oct	RM only Parent Consultation
Thurs 5th Oct	Parent Consultation
	School Census (pls encourage your child to have HSM)
Mon 9th Oct	4H & 4C visiting Tower Bridge
Tues 10th Oct	Rec/Y6 Height & Weight Check
	Quadkids (selected only)
Wed 11th Oct	Y2 CREW visit—Florence & Mary
Thurs 12th Oct	Y5/6 Cross Country Qualifier (selected only)
Fri 13th Oct	FOGS Halloween Disco
Mon 16th Oct	Y6 Kingswood Residential starts
	4M visiting Tower Bridge
Wed 18th Oct	Y3 CREW visit—Stone Age
Thurs 19th Oct	Y1 CREW visit—Victorian Houses
Fri 20th Oct	Y6 Kingswood Residential ends
	End of Autumn 1
23rd—27th Oct	Half Term Break
Mon 30th Oct	Back to School—in line for 8:45am
	5BM/5SD visiting Gunnersbury Park Museum
Tues 31st Oct	Individual/Sibling Photos
Wed 1st Nov	Girls Football (selected only)
Thurs 2nd Nov	5CM visiting Gunnersbury Park Museum
Fri 3rd Nov	Y5 Victorian Themed Day
Thurs 9th Nov	Y5/6 Tag Rugby (selected only)
Fri 10th Nov	Remembrance Day Observance
Mon 13th Nov	Odd Socks for Anti-Bullying

2023—2024 TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Mon 4th Sept to Fri 20th Oct

Half Term : Mon 23rd Oct - Fri 27th Oct

Mon 30th Oct to Thurs 21st Dec

SPRING TERM 2024

Mon 8th Jan to Fri 9th Feb

Half Term : Mon 12th Feb - Fri 16th Feb

Mon 19th Feb to Fri 28th Mar

SUMMER TERM 2024

Mon 15 Apr to Fri 24th May

Half Term: Mon 27th May - Fri 31st May

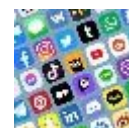
Mon 3rd Jun to Wed 24th Jul

PDD Dates:

- Mon 4th—5th Sept
- Mon 8th Jan
- Mon 3rd Jun
- Wed 24th Jul



Online and social media communication @ Grimsdyke School



School will...

Put all essential information for parents onto our website
Send regular communication to the email address parents share with us
Use the school Twitter account to share additional information
Use text alerts to parents where there is something important to share
Deal with any issues parents raise through the appropriate channels e.g. year group email, email to office or Head teacher

School does not...

Use or recommend any other social media platform is used for school related communication e.g. WhatsApp
Share information or monitor communication via these platforms
Give information to parents to be shared through year group or class parent social media accounts e.g. WhatsApp groups
Allow images or content from school to be used in private social media accounts

School recommends...

Parents share any concerns or queries directly with school staff or via school email accounts
Parents use any social media accounts related to school for networking and support
Parents model good and responsible social media use for their children
Parents monitor their children's use of social media across all platforms including those related to games they might play online