

GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

Learning and Achieving Together

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ISSUE 03
13th OCTOBER 2023

Message from Headteacher:

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the old saying goes, "if you blink, you might miss it". That is definitely the case for the first half of the Autumn term. It only feels like we started school last week and now the half term break is nearly upon us.

Things to be proud of...

My highlights from this half term are far too numerous to mention in this newsletter but if I were to choose any, I would have to say it has been wonderful seeing the students working in the new IT suite at different times of the day. Students have been using this new space for not only their curriculum work but also for timetable interventions during the soft start and Beebot investigations during Golden Time.

It has also been great to see the students making full use of the new Library. Mrs Bharadia has been working tirelessly with the support of her Year Six Reading Ambassadors to make this a wonderful place to go to both during class time and lunch time. I think this has been helped greatly by the new bean bags for the students to sit down and relax. A space that is much more reflective in the way in which Grimsdyke students value reading for pleasure.

Parent Consultations...

Last week we had the first of our Parent Consultation evenings, it was lovely to talk with many of the parents as I made my way around the corridors. I hope that you found this helpful in understanding the start to the year your child has made and how their progress is going to be supported as they move through the academic year. It is important to remember that progress at school is based on a triangulation of support that includes the school, the child and you as parents.

Pupil Voice...

Since the previous newsletter a number of different roles and responsibilities have been presented to the students across the school. Roles such as; Student Council, Reading Ambassador, Health School Ambassador, Prefects, House Captains, Senior Prefects and Head Teacher Prefects are all key roles in the development of the school. They give the pupils an opportunity to share their thoughts and impressions. Each of them have key aspects that they focus on which makes up part of the Pupil Voice at Grimsdyke School.



Year Six Residential...

Next week I will be attending the Year Six Residential in Ashford, Kent, I am hoping that the mild weather remains for the week in the run up to the half term. The residential is a great opportunity for the students to really challenge themselves with some adventurous activities. This is the one of two opportunities to attend a residential, the other takes place in Year Four. I look forward to sharing all of the adventures with the Year Six students who are attending.

Continued overleaf....

MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER CONTINUED....

Attendance...

Attendance over the past two weeks has steadily increased and in comparison to this time last year is much more positive. Regular attendance and excellent punctuality is a life skill that increases in importance as we grow older. Below is the average attendance percentage for each year group for the past two weeks.

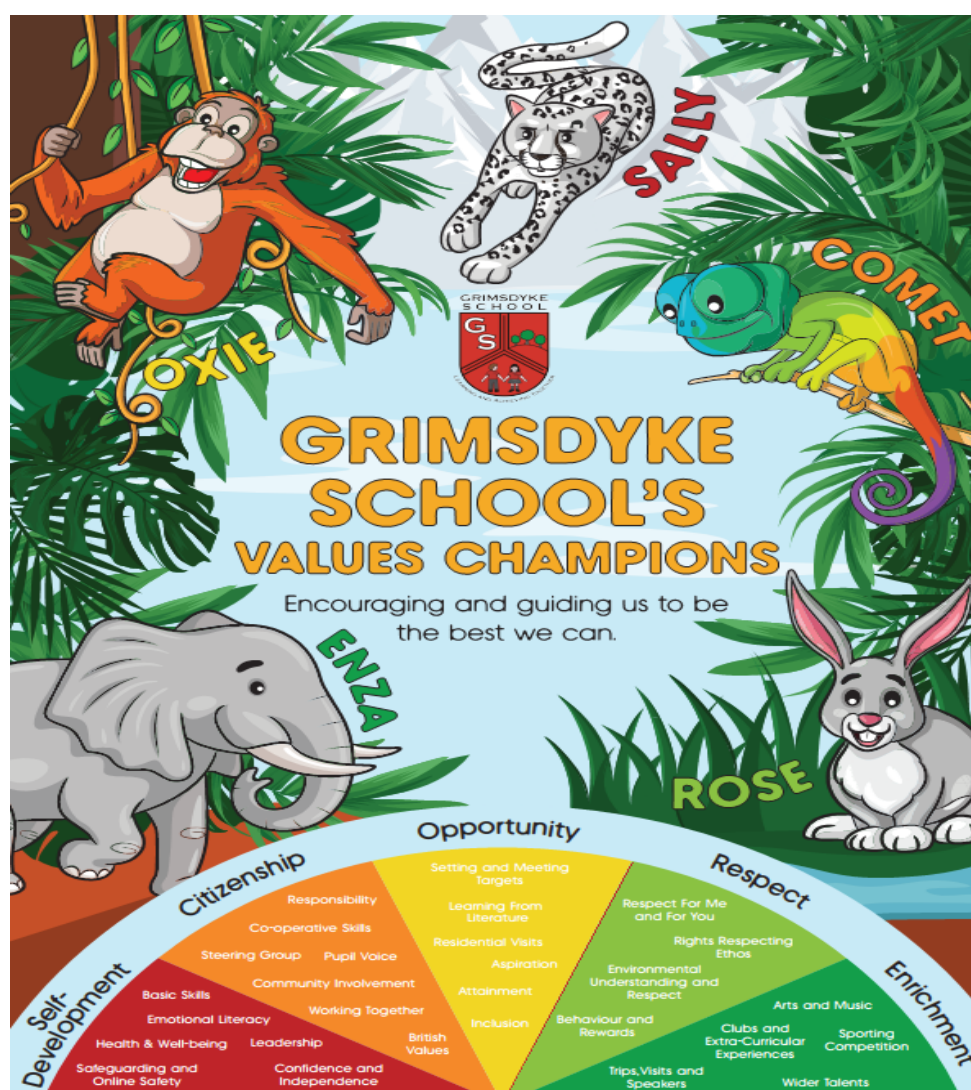
Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
95.4%	95.8%	97%	98.5%	98.2%	97.6%	97.8%
Whole School Attendance						
97.2%						

Huge congratulations to both **Year Four** and **Year Six** who have worked hard over the past two weeks to improve their previous attendance percentage. As we approach the half term, Mrs Patel and I will be looking closely at the attendance percentages of students across the school to ensure that everyone is making the most of their right to an education (Article 28).

Finally, I received a lovely email from a member of the public at the beginning of the week who came across two classes on their way to central London. Her email commented on how *"well they represented the school"* and that they *"were extremely considerate to the commuters around them"* with *"one pupil offering their seat to an older lady who was standing"*. Behaviour and attitudes such as this is something that we both instil and expect of Grimsdyke students. Citizenship is one of our SCORE values and this is a perfect example of this.



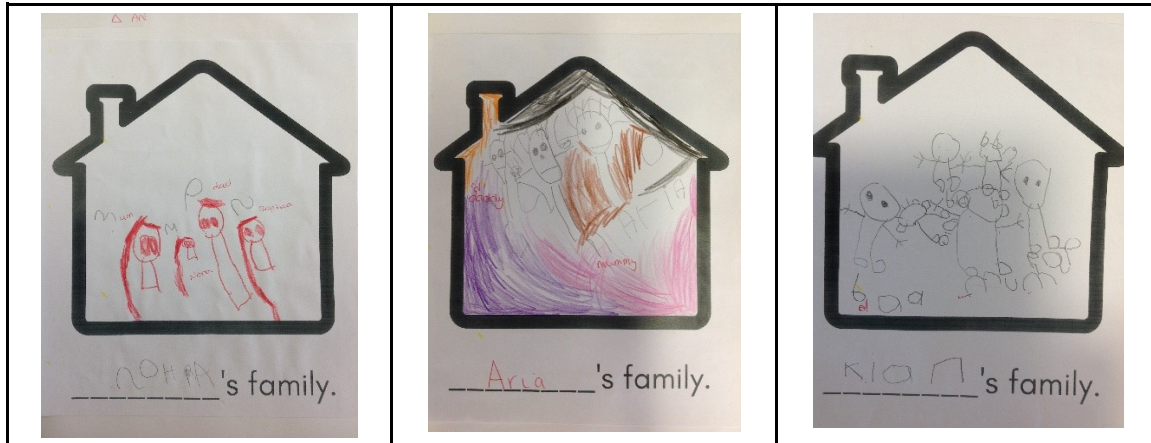
Kind regards
Mr I Sutherland



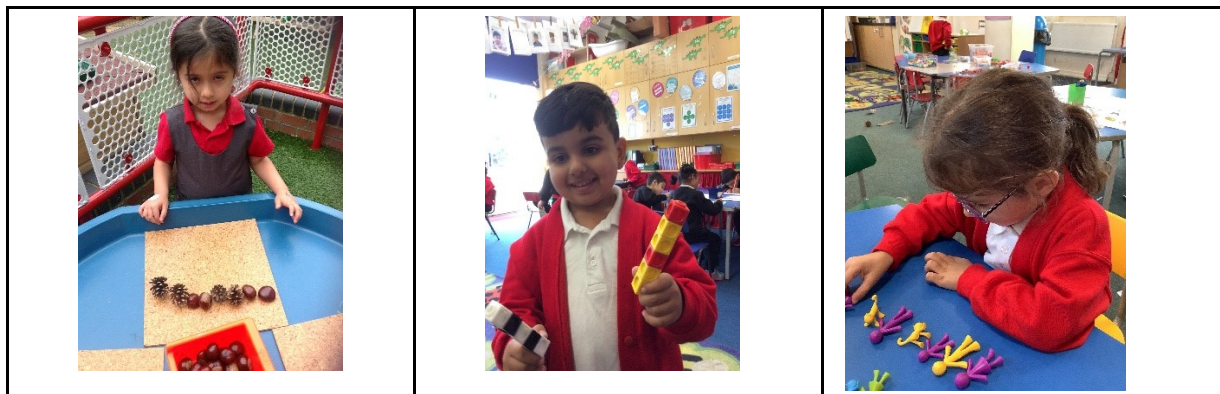
CURRICULUM IN ACTION

RECEPTION

Over the past couple of weeks, we have been learning about our families. The children have been talking about their family, who lives in their house and what activities they enjoy doing with their family. We drew pictures and wrote about our families.



In maths we have been making patterns. Here are some patterns we made using a range of objects such cubes, conkers and pinecones.



We have been enjoying learning about Autumn and have read many books about Autumn. We went on an Autumn walk around the school and saw lots leaves, pinecones, acorns and sycamore seeds.



YEAR 1

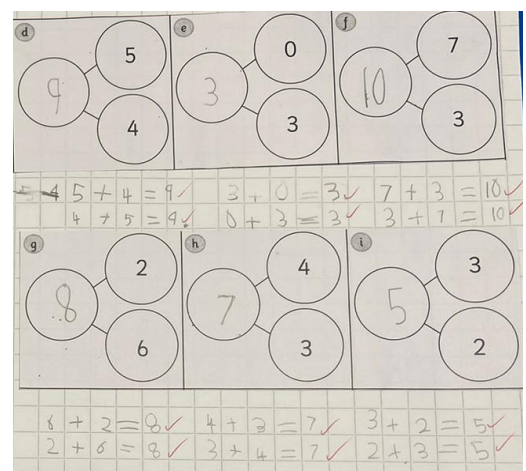
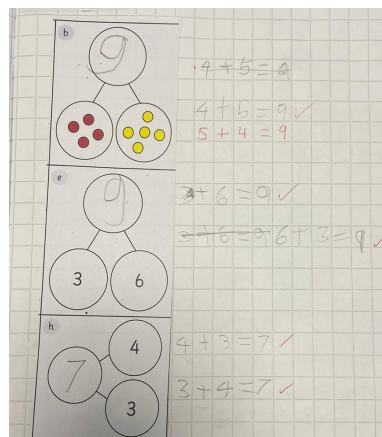
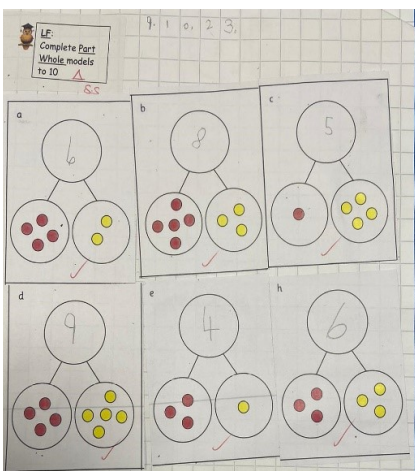
We are approaching the end of a fantastic first half term and our topic, 'Home Sweet Home'. Yesterday, we were lucky to have a visit from Mr Carstairs, the Victorian butler, who took the children back in time to when there were no washing machines, electricity or indoor toilets! We hope to share some photos soon.

This week, the children had the opportunity to share their 'home' projects with their peers. They were encouraged to share important information about their creations, how they made it, what was tricky, what bit they liked doing the most etc. Talking about their own creations promotes a deeper level of learning. Peer presentations help students develop essential communication skills as well as boosting students' self-confidence. Different children speaking enrich the learning experience for everyone and often results in higher levels of engagement.

In 1DK and 1ON



In 1M, the children have been using part whole models which is the concept of how numbers can be split into parts. Children using this model will see the relationship between the whole number and the component parts. This helps children make the connections between addition and subtraction. We will move on to subtraction next week.



Please note: We can only publish photos where consent has been given. Please update your consent form with the school office if you have changed your mind and would now like to give permission.

YEAR 2

We have been very busy over the last 2 weeks. The children all looked fabulous in their costumes for our dress up day and we enjoyed a visit from CREW where they learnt more facts about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole as well as demonstrating their own knowledge.

In English, we have been creating our own diary entries based on the book 'Speak Up'. The children have also begun the skill of editing and have been looking at ways to spot their mistakes as well as improve their writing.

In art, we have continued our study of the artist LS Lowry and the children have recreated his famous portrait 'Ann'. In science, the children have continued their learning about microhabitats and examining a habitat in closer detail.



2GK



2C



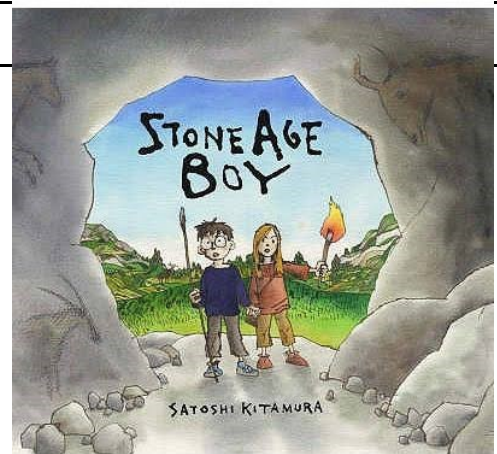
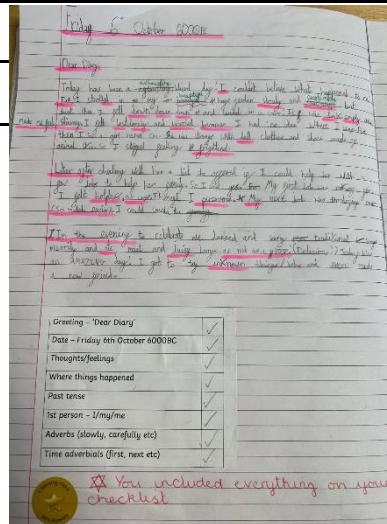
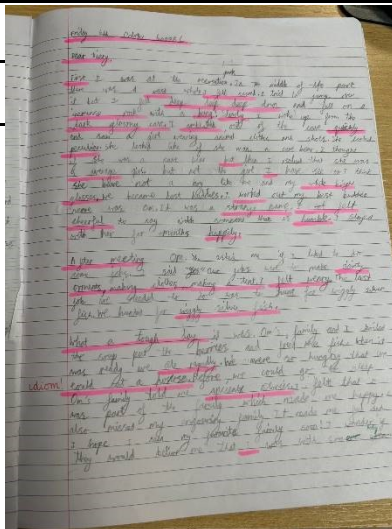
2E

YEAR 3

Here is just a small sample of what Year 3 have been learning about this past fortnight, as we approach the end of our first half-term...



In Science, we learnt how fossils are created and then had a go at creating our own. We did this by imprinting mini dinosaur skeletons in to clay. The results were very realistic!



In English, we took inspiration from reading 'Stone Age Boy' to write our own diary entries, describing a day spent in the Stone Age, foraging for food and hunting wild animals.



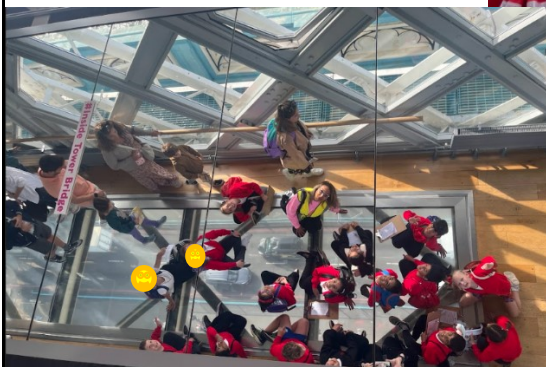
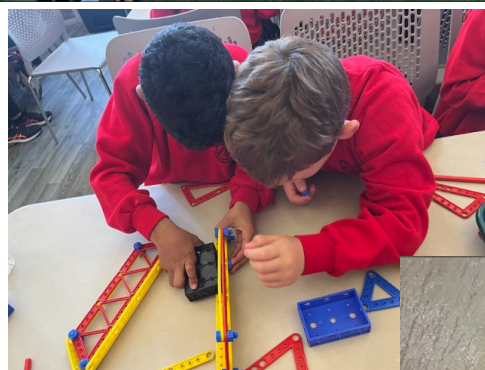
In Art, the children looked at prehistoric cave paintings. They then made templates of their hands which they used to create their own cave art with earthy paint colours.

YEAR 4

London Trip – Tower Bridge

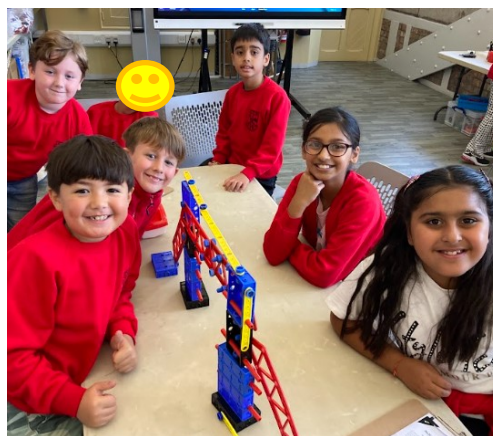
On Monday 9th October, 4C and 4H visited Tower Bridge where we explored Tower Bridge's impressive high-level walkways and magnificent Engine Rooms. The children also turned themselves into bridge building engineers and conducted experiments on creating different bridge structures. Have a look at some of the photos taken from our fantastic trip!

4C



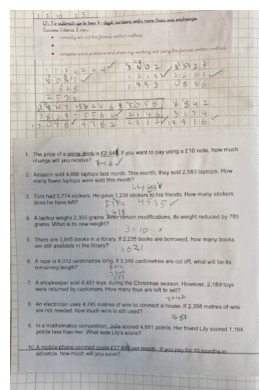
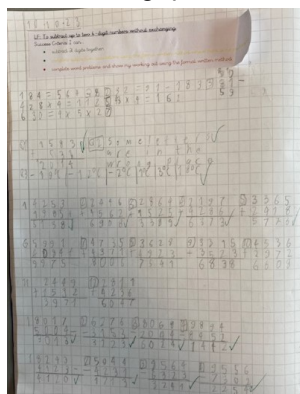
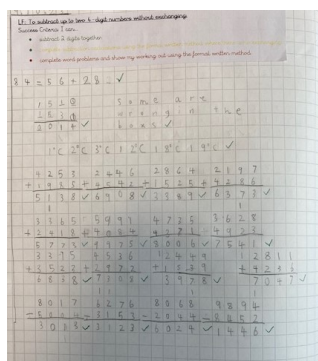
YEAR 4 cont...

4H

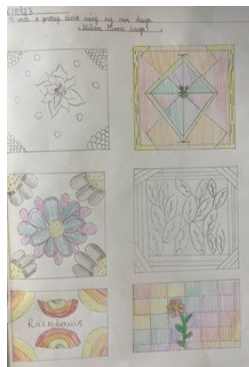


4M

This week, we have been look at adding and subtracting numbers with and without exchanging. The children worked hard solving fluency, reasoning and problem solving questions.



Year 5 Curriculum in Action

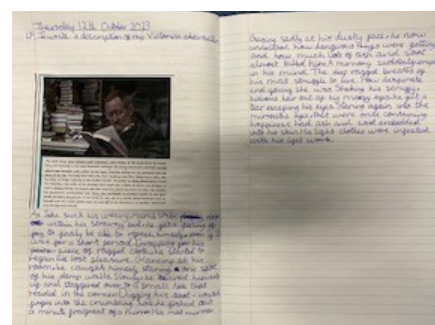
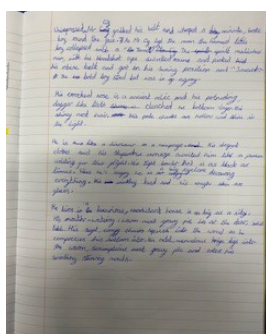
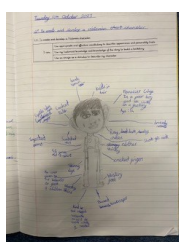
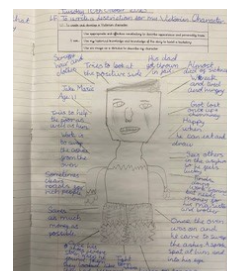
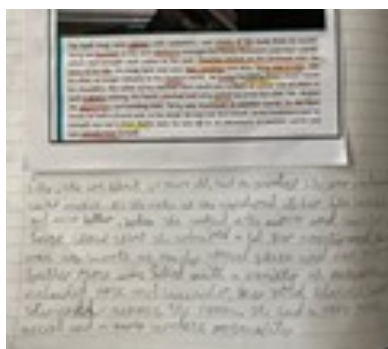


Art-

The children have been finding out about William Morris and have created a tile inspired by his work, they have used this within their computing lessons to create a wallpaper.

English-

The children have been focussing on describing a Victorian character; they have created their own characters and then have written descriptions using figurative language and ambitious vocabulary.



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

YEAR 6

In history, Year 6 children discussed the motion: Was it right for Chamberlain to follow appeasement? With well-researched points, they took turns to present their arguments and engage in a whole class debate. The debate was thought provoking and insightful, showcasing Year 6 pupils' critical thinking and public speaking skills.



In computing, Year 6 children learnt how to write and apply formulas to complete a range of mathematical calculations. They were able to demonstrate their Excel skills with some super cool calculations!

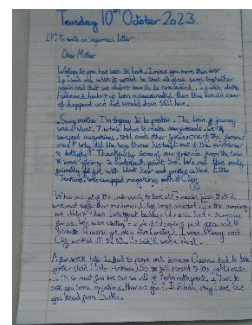
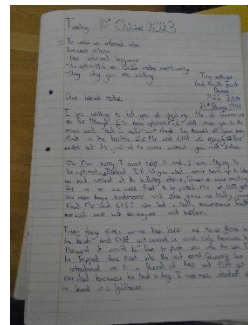
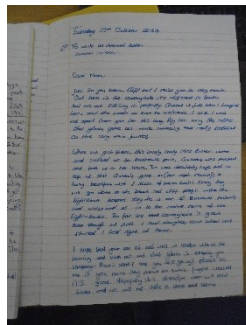
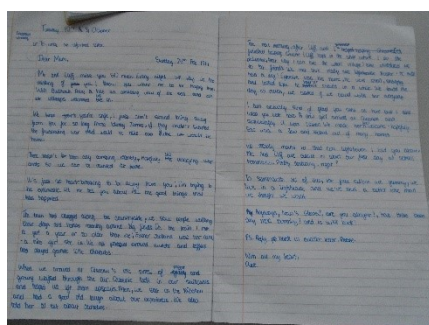
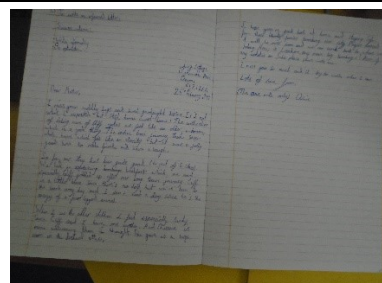
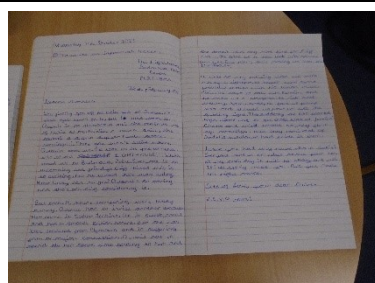
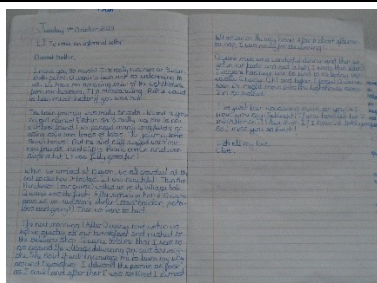
H2								=D2+E2+F2+G2	
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
1		Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Total	
2	Katie	0	0	9	8	7	8	32	

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Total	Average
Katie	0	0	9	8	7	8	32	5
Paul	10	6	6	7	7	8	44	7
Helena	9	6	7	8	9	10	49	8
Reina	10	9	9	8	10	6	52	9
David	5	6	7	5	4	6	33	6
Chloe	4	9	8	9	6	5	41	7
Abdul	7	7	7	7	7	7	42	7
Yannis	10	9	9	6	7	6	47	8
Gino	4	5	4	0	10	10	33	6

=H2/H6									
	C	D	E	F	G	H	I		
	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Total	Average		
	0	9	8	7	8	32	5		



Inspired by the book "Letters from a Lighthouse," Year 6 children wrote heart-warming informal letters on behalf of Olive to her mother. □□ They put their writing skills, creativity and imagination into practice, to capture Olive's emotions and experiences.



YEAR 6 cont...

Finally, we would like to congratulate our new prefect team 2023-2024. We are very proud of you and look forward to seeing you develop in your new roles.



Traffic and parking is everyones responsibility.
Do the right thing!

GRIMSDYKE CALENDAR

Autumn 2023

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
Tues 14th Nov	Band Festival
Wed 15th Nov	Parent Forum 2:30pm Y5/6 boys Football (Barnet Qualifiers)
Thurs 16th Nov	FOGs Non-uniform Day—Bring a gift for the Tombola
Tues 21st Nov	Y6 CREW visit—WW2
Thurs 23rd Nov	Y5/6 Tag Rugby (selected only)
Fri 24th Nov	NHS Flu Vaccination
Sat 2nd Dec	FOGS Christmas Fair
Tues 5th Dec	Reception Christmas Performance 9.30am
Wed 6th Dec	Y2 CREW— Great Fire of London

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

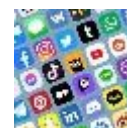
Mon 3rd Jun to Wed 24th Jul

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