

GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

Learning and Achieving Together

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ISSUE 05
23rd NOVEMBER 2023

Message from Headteacher:

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope the newsletter finds you well especially as the days are getting darker and cooler in temperature. It has been busy in school since our last newsletter, not surprisingly as we were visited by Ofsted and a group of His Majesty's Inspectors. The visit from Ofsted was the first official graded visit since 2011 where we were deemed to be "outstanding". All in all it was a positive visit with the inspectors commenting on the impressive behaviour and attitude of the pupils. In spending time in the classrooms and playground they also reflected on their willingness to be involved in and discuss their learning. Thank you to all the parents who responded to the request from Ofsted to complete their questionnaire. Final judgements from this inspection should be made public before Christmas following a process of quality assurance and moderation.

A week prior to Ofsted arriving we were also visited by our new Consultant School Improvement Partner, Mr Simon Adams. Mr Adams brings with him a significant amount of experience in School Improvement and we look forward to working with him during the school year to further improve the provision and standards across the school. Time was taken to talk with leaders in the school about curriculum provision in readiness for his second visit when he will be looking at teaching, learning and the curriculum.

This week in Assembly both Mrs Bhudia and I have been speaking with the students about the importance of Keeping Ourselves Safe – Mrs Bhudia used Road Safety as the "vehicle" for her discussion while I focussed on the identification of different dangers and the way in which we react to them to avoid dangerous situations or injury. The conversation itself ranged from internet safety to walking safely to and from school. It was a great way to highlight one of our school values – "Self Development" as well as support the development of the whole child.

It's only a week to go before our annual Christmas Fair, the FOGs team have been working hard in the background as always to prepare for this. Entries for both the poster competition and Jolly Jars are open but will be closing very soon. There are also plenty of raffle tickets still to be sold with some amazing prizes including an Apple Series 9 Watch, £200 Toy Bundle and £150 Amazon voucher to name a few.

Tokens for this event will be available from the FOGs team in the carpark from Monday to Friday next week and inside the fair at the "token stations". The entry tickets will be available from Tuesday to purchase once the art competition for them has closed. These will also be available at the front door as you arrive at the fair.

I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible

Kind regards
Mr I Sutherland

"I'll be just two minutes"

Is not a good enough reason to block a driveway!

NOTICES

LOST PROPERTY

As many of you are aware the lost property box is overflowing. Our Year 6 prefects distribute items which are clearly named, but unfortunately they can not distribute items that are unnamed or unclear.

Lost items will be displayed outside on the last week of term. Items not collected will be disposed of.



SCHOOL CAR PARK



Just a reminder that children should not be playing in the school carpark. Gates open at 8:30am whereby children should enter the playgrounds.

Please be mindful of the dangers of a carpark and keep a close eye on your children.

School Donations

We just wanted to highlight that Mr Swift our Premises Manager has been liaising with a school in Uganda, offering them items of school equipment that we are no longer able to use.

Talents Academy School are the lucky recipients of the school equipment.

So far Mr Swift has sent, chairs, tables and cupboards.

If you have any items you think may be useful, please contact Sitesupervisor@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk

Well done
Mr Swift



Y5/6 Girls Football

On Tuesday 7th November, Grimsdyke hosted our first Girls Football League fixture on the field.

The matches were 7-a-side and the team played a total of four matches. The first match was a very close game with lots of great tackling and finished 0-0 against St John's. We then played St Teresa's who had just won 5-0. They were a tough team with a fantastic striker who scored three good goals. Despite this we scored a goal ourselves through Laura and our amazing goalie Amelia made some great saves. It finished 3-1 to St Teresa's. In our third game, we played out a close 0-0 draw against Pinner Wood. We were so close to winning with Kamila hitting the cross bar after dribbling past three players. In our last game, we managed a win, beating Norbury 1-0 thanks to a goal again from Laura. This meant that overall we finished second in the table and have qualified for the Tier 2 Finals Day. Well done to Amelia, Alara, Ottilie, Shona, Vanya, Laura, Kamila, Annabel, Maryam and Tiana.

Y5/6 Boys Barnet Cup

A week after the girls played their league fixtures, the boys headed to the Barnet Cup qualifiers at The Hive stadium. We were drawn in a tough group where we would have to play 5 matches. First up we played a great team in St John Fisher. Unfortunately they beat us 3-0 through some mistakes of our own doing. However, a debrief after the game made sure that we wouldn't make those mistakes again. A good learning point for the team.

In our next game we played another tough team, St Bernadette's. It was a very close match and ended 0-0 with both sides having chances to win. In our third game against Heathland, we were growing in confidence and got a win, thanks to a super strike from Charlie. He smashed the ball first time from outside the box into the top left hand corner. What a goal! We knew we were still in with a chance of qualifying for the finals day but needed two strong results to finish.

We played Longfield next and only a super solo goal separated the sides with Longfield edging it. Our last match was against Krishna Avanti and it was all Grimsdyke. Kiaan and Sebastian both scored to give us a 2-0 win but it should have been more. In the end, it wasn't enough as we finished just 1 point behind the qualifying positions for Finals Day. The team will learn from the experience and move forward into their league fixtures this month, when we host St Teresa's and St John's on our school football pitch. Well done to Musa, Shradan, Nayan, Lewis, Ben, Atharv, Charlie, Sebastian, Kiaan, Nikhil, Kamron and Petru.

The Y5/6 Girls Football team will also take part in their own Barnet Cup in early 2024. We'd like to thank Barnet Football Club for hosting and as part of the link, we have been chosen as their 'School of the Week' for their January matchup vs Chesterfield.

Children and parents from Grimsdyke School will be able to attend the match for FREE if they sign up to a Bees Membership which costs just £1. There are plenty of other benefits of signing up which can be seen in attached. We will also be given the opportunity for player visits to school, an educational trip to The Hive and allowed to nominate some children to be 'mascots' and 'flag bearers' for the match vs Chesterfield.

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

CURRICULUM IN ACTION

RECEPTION

We have had a very busy few weeks learning about lots of different celebrations. The children have learnt about Diwali and enjoyed making their own Divas out of clay. We made firework pictures and rockets for Bonfire Night. The children learnt about Remembrance Day and performed a poppy poem during the whole school assembly.

In science we have been learning about light and dark. The children named different light sources and made shadows in our tent using torches. They loved mark making on our light dome too.

In Literacy we read the stories 'Can't You Sleep Little Bear' and 'Owl Babies'. The children learnt about the differences between day and night as well as nocturnal and woodland animals. In maths we have been learning about the number 4 and 5. This week the children looked at different ways you can make the numbers.



YEAR 1

In Design Technology, children were refining their cutting skills, measuring and mixing in preparation for cooking party treats later on this half term.

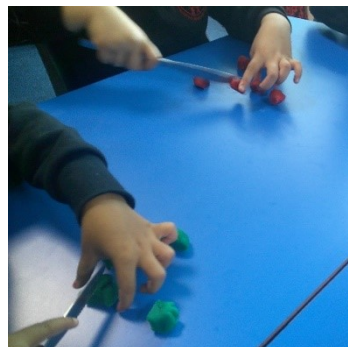
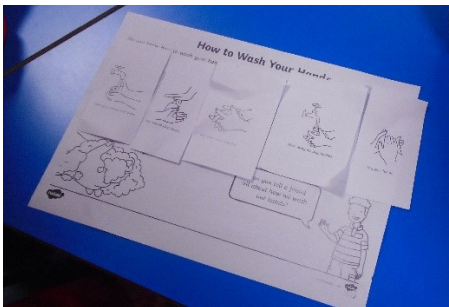
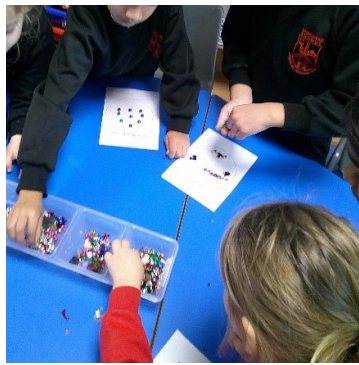
1DK



1ON



1M



They ordered instructions for how to wash their hands then practised this important hygienic kitchen skill.

YEAR 2

The children have been busy today creating their Tudor houses out of cereal boxes. Please see the photos today of them busy making their creations. Over the next couple of weeks we will have our 'Great Fire of Grimsdyke' where we will look how the fire spreads and compare this to the Great Fire of London.

In maths, we have continued our addition and subtraction work. Next week we will be moving onto our new topic which is shape.

In English, the children have been rewriting Vlad and the Great Fire of London. They have used drama and a story-board to help them remember the story. Our focus has been to use the correct punctuation.



2GK

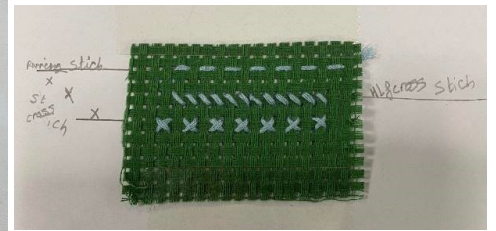


2C

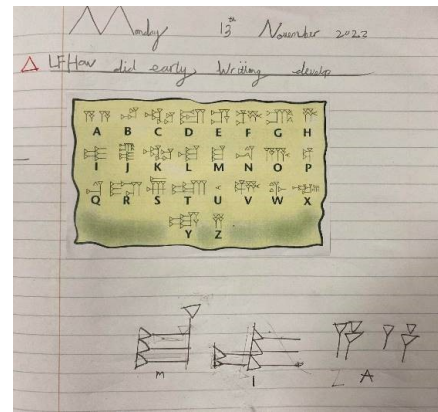


2E

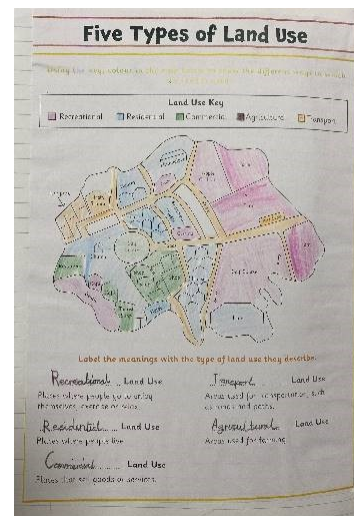
YEAR 3



In DT, we learnt how to use a needle threader, to sew three different types of stitch: running, half-cross and cross stitch and then we even practised our applique skills!



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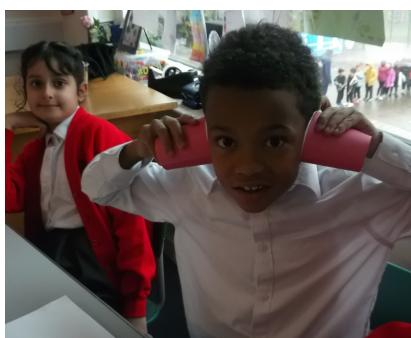
YEAR 4

Science - Sound

In Science, we have been exploring sound. We carried out an investigation to observe how sound travels in solids, liquids and gases. Take a look at the pictures below...



Another experiment we carried out was to test different materials to find out what makes the best ear defenders by filling cups with the materials to test how well they insulate the sound. Here are some pictures from the experiment



YEAR 4 cont....

Recycling Workshop

On Monday 13th November, we were very lucky to be involved in a recycling workshop where we learnt about what can and can't be recycled, which colour bin to use and they also had a chance to organise the rubbish into different groups. At the end of the workshop, the children planned their own recycling mascot. Maybe, we will receive some of these in school to remind us to recycle items!?



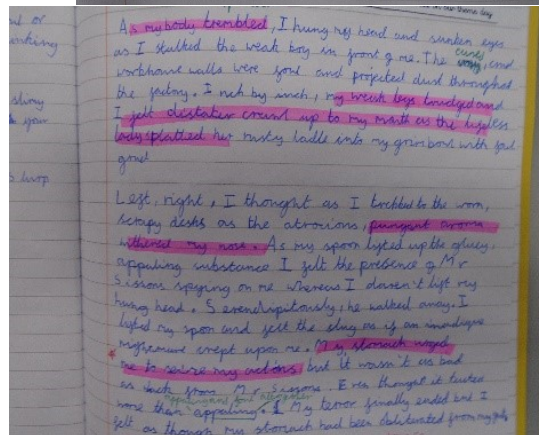
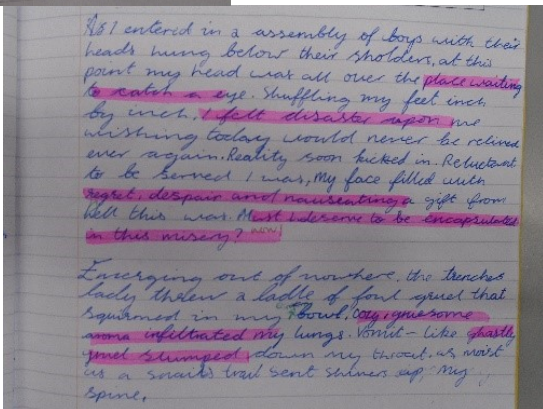
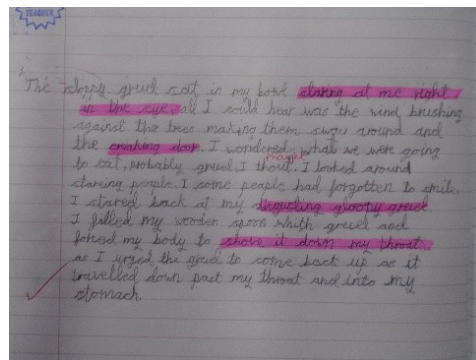
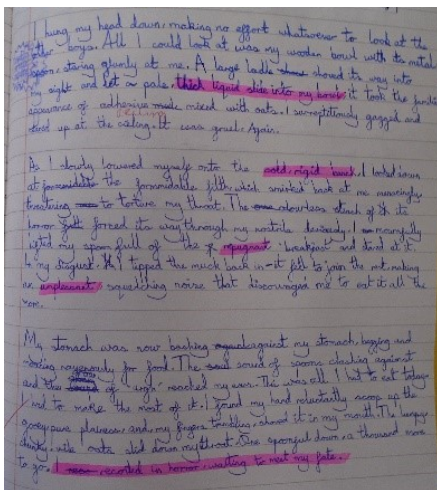
Respect Empathy Compassion
Three words can make a huge difference!

William Morris inspired artwork



In art this term, the children have been working diligently on their William Morris inspired patterns. They have created a wonderful collection of repeated patterns and digital art by using nature as their subject. They then went on to choose their final design and create a tile from polystyrene which was then used to print their patterns using the colours of their choice and finally, a gift bag was made using the printing ready to be used!

Descriptive writing all about gruel

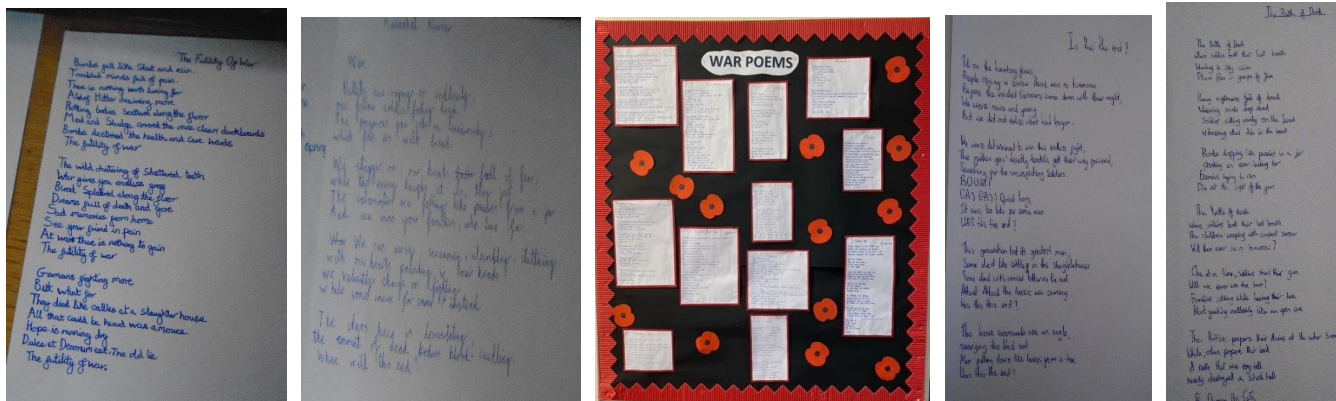


Victorian gruel would have been a staple food in an 18th century workhouse and not very pleasant to eat at all! This week the children put themselves in the shoes of Jim Jarvis (the main protagonist in our text *The Street Child*) and imagined what it would be like to be served a bowl of gruel. During our Victorian theme day at school all the children were able to taste some gruel and for many it brought back fond memories but for the majority, memories they would rather forget! Using a range of descriptive writing techniques such as similes, metaphors, adjectives, adverbs and sentence structures the children have written some wonderful descriptions to capture the imagination.

YEAR 6

In English, Year 6 students immersed themselves in the captivating world of war poetry. From the haunting verses of Wilfred Owen to the poignant words of John McRae, they delved deep into the emotions and struggles of those who had experienced war first hand. Inspired by the impactful war poems,

Year 6 crafted their very own masterpieces. Using poetic devices like metaphors, similes, and powerful imagery, they brought emotions to life on the page.



In geography, Year 6 children had the opportunity to explore sea defences using Chromebooks. They delved into the world of coastal erosion, tidal waves, and more, conducting research to understand the different ways humans protect the coast.



.In maths ,Year 6 children completed an exhilarating maths quiz, From solving mind-boggling problems to estimating, Year 6 students showcased their maths skills.



GRIMSDYKE CALENDAR

Autumn 2023

Wed 22nd Nov	Y5/6 Boys Football (selected only)
Thurs 23rd Nov	Y5/6 Tag Rugby (selected only)
	FOGs Non-uniform Day—Bring a gift for the Tombola
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
	Y5/6 Tag Rugby
Thurs 7th Dec	Reception Christmas Performance 9.30am
Fri 8th Dec	Reception local area walk
Tues 12th Dec	Y1 Christmas performance 10am—11am
	Y2 Christmas Performance 2pm—3pm
Wed 13th Dec	Christmas Lunch— further details to follow
	Reception Parents able to view Learning Journey
	Last extra-curricular gymnastics
Thurs 14th Dec	Y2 Christmas Performance 10am—11am
	Y1 Christmas Performance 2pm—3pm
Fri 15th Dec	Junior School Carol Concert at St Anselms (10am)
Mon 18th Dec	Rec/KS1 Panto
Wed 20th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Thurs 21st Dec	Last day of term—school closes at 2.30pm.
	ASC will NOT be running.

Spring 2024

Mon 8th Jan	Professional Development Day—children not in sch
Tues 9th Jan	Spring Term starts
Thurs 11th Jan	6R/6G visiting Battle of Britain Bunker

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