

# GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

Learning and Achieving Together

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ISSUE 07  
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## Message from Headteacher:



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that the final newsletter of the Autumn term finds you well as we get close to a well-deserved break for all. Typically, the Autumn feels the longest of the three terms, this is partly because of the change in seasons and the shortened days. At the end of each term I like to take some time to reflect on the progress we have made and the activities that have been presented. Some school terms are much quieter than others but the Autumn term always tends to be packed.

It's hard to look past our most recent Ofsted visit, the first in 12 years for Grimsdyke – and what an amazing result it was! Naturally, we are extremely pleased with the result of this but what we are more pleased about are our collective achievements as a community, a community that cares and a community that has the students at the centre of it.

In addition to the successful Ofsted Inspection, there are many events that are a cause for celebration; the completion of the new Library and Computing Suite, which will continue to be developed but I am happy that they are more than fit for purpose and that students can start to benefit from using them.

The final installation of the Wall Art Project, supported by our FOGS, which is a visual representation of the curriculum offer in History, Science, Geography and R.E., has allowed the students to speak about their learning beyond the classroom. The development, introduction and implementation of the Grimsdyke **SCORE Value** characters, which was predominantly down to the hard work of the School Council, who last year set the foundations for this in preparation for its launch.



In the past few weeks it has been wonderful to host the Christmas Fair; which was superbly organised by the FOGS team. Currently, the amount raised from this event **exceeds £10,000**.

This year we had an even larger and more determined group of Year Six pupils who elected to be part of our own business enterprise challenge called "Be Your Own Boss". Working alongside these students to the run up to the Christmas Fair was amazing. I was impressed by their maturity and ability to forward think and problem solve. As a collective group, they raised nearly £3,000.

Well done and congratulations to all of the students who participated in the art and design competitions that were offered in the run up to the fair, there were so many amazing entries that we have also considered some highly commended prizes in order to recognise the wider effort and achievements of those students. The festive atmosphere has seamlessly woven its way through the school corridors and classrooms as we recently witnessed the amazing performance of the Infant School Christmas shows. These delightful showcases not only infused the school with the true essence of Christmas but also continued to foster a sense of community spirit that was truly heart-warming.

It was a spectacle to behold as our young stars dazzled us with their skills and talents during the performances. The confidence displayed by each participant as they delivered their lines, sung their songs and remembered their cues, was truly commendable. I know that the staff worked tirelessly to bring these together and are ever grateful for the support received from the parents with the costuming and practice at home. All this made for an absolutely delightful experience for all those attending.

Continued overleaf...

## HEADTEACHER Message continued



Beyond the joyous celebration of the season, this year's performances have served a dual purpose by providing a platform for the Student Council to spearhead our annual "Christmas Charity" initiative. This year we are supporting the British Red Cross and the work that they do internationally. In a testament to the generosity and goodwill of the school community, we are on track to surpass the impressive £1000 we raised last year, and we still have Christmas Jumper Day to look forward to on the 20<sup>th</sup> December. A heartfelt thank you extends to all parents and families who have supported this cause. Your contributions have played a pivotal role in making a positive impact on the lives of those in need.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a safe, restful and festive Christmas period, I hope you are able to enjoy some time with your loved ones and that the students return ready to go, for the Spring term. Don't forget that the first day of the term is a training day for the staff, the gates will open at 8.30am on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

Kind regards

Mr I Sutherland  
Headteacher



## SPORT

### Boys Football

Grimsdyke hosted Norbury on a sunny December afternoon. Despite the heavy rain in the days before, the pitch was playable but very muddy. Grimsdyke knew a win would put them top of the table and qualify for the Champions League Finals Day.

Grimsdyke started sluggishly, with Norbury quicker to some of the 50/50s. However, Grimsdyke were having the better of the chances, with Nikhil, Charlie and Kamron all seeing efforts missed or saved. Norbury were looking dangerous on the counter attack and had a couple of chances to shoot inside the Grimsdyke box, but couldn't find the back of the net. It was 0-0 at half time.

The half time team talk seemed to do the trick and Grimsdyke were playing with more energy and fight in the midfield.

Eventually, Rory took one of the chances, slotting past the keeper with his left foot. Grimsdyke look to hold on and with the last kick of the game, put the result to bed, Rory finding the back of the net once again.

That is 5 goals in 3 games for him now!

That saw Grimsdyke move to top position where they can't be displaced with one game remaining.

# Go team!

Pool 1										
Results		Pos	Team	Played	Won	Draw	Lost	For	Agains	Point
St 1 - 3 Grm	St J 2 - 1 C Ln	1 <sup>st</sup>	Grimsdyke	3	3	0	0	6	1	9
St J 0 - 1 St T	St J 4 - 0 N	2 <sup>nd</sup>	St Teresa's	4	2	1	1	9	2	7
Grm v C Ln	Grm 1 - 0 St T	3 <sup>rd</sup>	St John's	4	2	0	2	7	5	6
Grm 2-0 Nor	C Ln 1 - 1 St T	4 <sup>th</sup>	Cannon Lane	3	1	1	1	7	4	4
C Ln 5 - 1 Nor	St T 7 - 0 Nor	5 <sup>th</sup>	Norbury	4	0	0	4	1	18	0

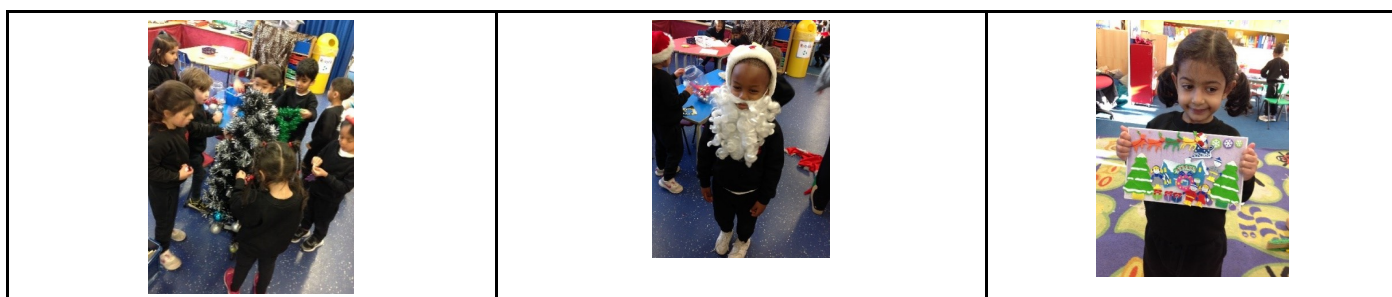
# CURRICULUM IN ACTION

## RECEPTION

Last week we really enjoyed performing our Christmas Play 'Whoopsie Daisy Angel'. The children were amazing. We are so proud of them.



We have been decorating our classrooms for Christmas, dressing up in Christmas costumes and taking part in Christmas themed activities.



In maths we have been learning about 2D shapes. We used circle and star shapes to make mince pies. We noticed what happens to dough once it has been in the oven.



The elf on the shelf has come to stay in the Reception classrooms. The children are very excited to see what he has been up to when they come to school each morning.



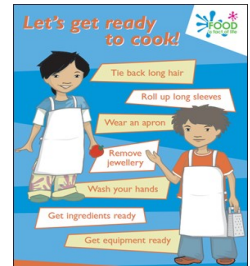
We wrote a letter to Father Christmas and then had a lovely walk to post our letters in the post box.





# YEAR 1

In Design Technology, children continued practising kitchen skills and made tiger treats for our book of the week, 'The Tiger who came to Tea'.



Thank you for coming to see the children in their Christmas Performance 'The Christmas Selfie Contest'. We are so proud of all the children. The singing, acting, dancing and loud clear narration was really impressive. Thank you to the parents for all their support too.



*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*

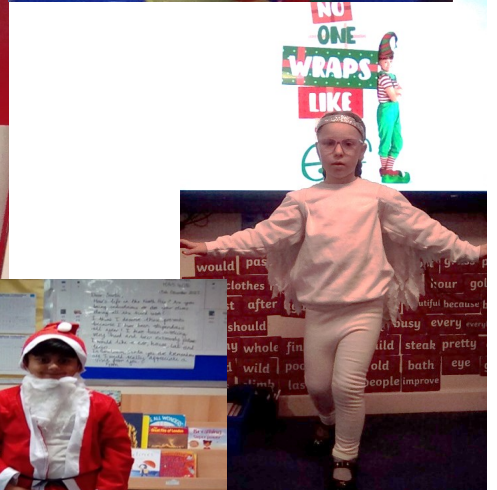


## YEAR 2

It has been a busy end of the term for Year 2.

We had a wonderful time performing 'No one wraps like an Elf' and the children did so well with the singing, acting and dancing.

Thank you with all your support with costumes and learning lines .

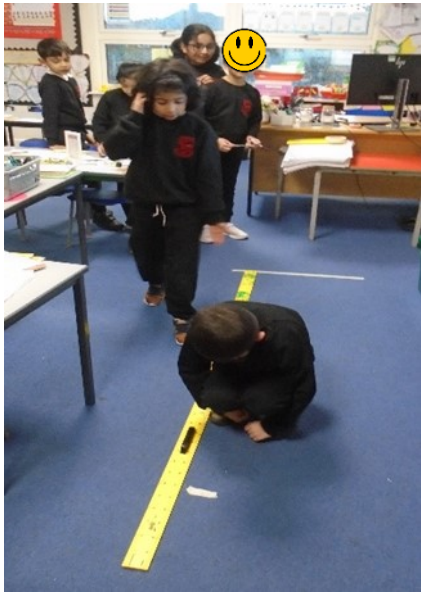




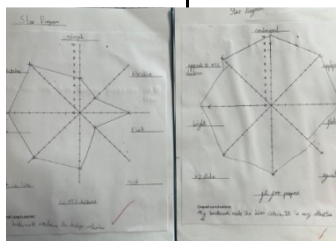
## YEAR 3

We approach the end of a very busy and successful Autumn term in Year 3, with a combination of curriculum learning as well as some fun, festive Christmas activities.

**The Year 3 team wishes you all a happy holiday and a very happy new year!**



The children enjoyed a practical Science lesson this week. We conducted an investigation to see if there is a connection between the length of our femur bones and how far we can jump. The results weren't as conclusive as you might think!



In DT, the children have been hard at work researching, designing, making and evaluating their hand-sewn bookmarks. We think they have done a fantastic job and can't wait to see them being used every day in 2024!



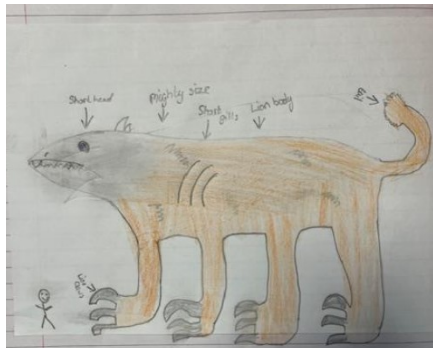
## English – Mystical Creatures

To start our new learning of our class book 'Arthur and the Golden Rope', the children created their own mystical creatures and described them using ambitious vocabulary. We are looking forward to next week, where the children will be creating character descriptions of their created creature.

**Musawir 4C**



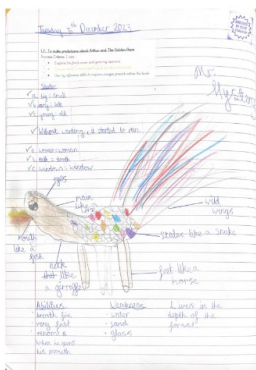
**Aren 4H**



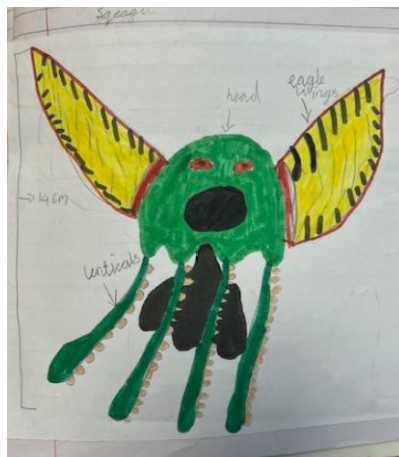
**Akira 4M**



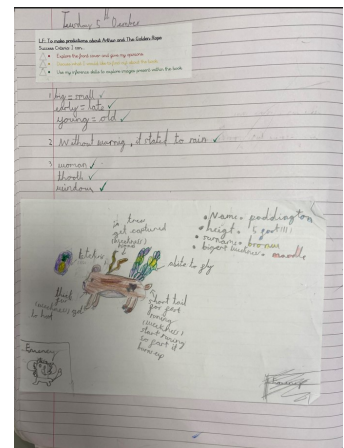
**Kaiya 4C**



**Charlie 4H**



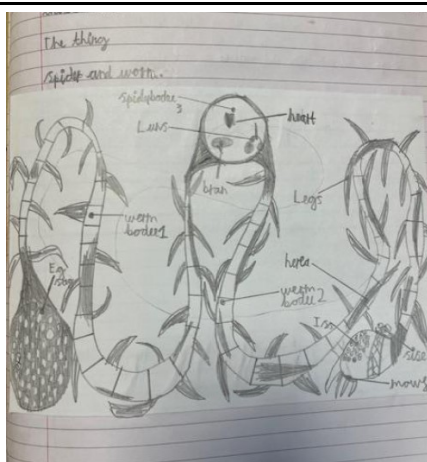
**Nela 4M**



**Anna Maria 4C**



**Alden 4H**



**Rian 4M**



The Year 4 Team would like to wish you all a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year!**  
We look forward to seeing you all in 2024!

### Musical geniuses



In preparation for our Carol Concert, the children have been working hard to prepare for their performances. Jazz hands, solos and a beautiful Christmas story await our audience...there will be plenty of sparkle!

### Computing-video productions



As part of our computing curriculum, the children have been beavering away with their storyboards and will be learning how to use brand new recording devices. Techniques such as panning, long shots, zoom and camera angles are just a few of the skills they are working on to incorporate into their very own videos.

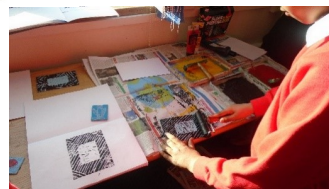
# "I'll be just two minutes"

## Is not a good enough reason to block a driveway!



## YEAR 6

Year 6 children have integrated their history learning of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Conflicts with art, creating lino prints. During this process, children have evaluated lino print images linked to historical conflicts, and practiced the techniques needed to bring their designs to life. Their journey of creativity and learning also involved creating mood boards to aid them in the design process. Taking inspiration from their historical studies, the children designed images for lino printing, and then carved these designs into lino tiles. It all culminated with them printing their images, infusing history and art into beautiful pieces of work.





## YEAR 6 cont...

We are incredibly proud of the amazing success of Year 6 children at the Christmas fair with their 'Be Your Own Boss' initiative! They put their creative and entrepreneurial skills to the test and raised lots of funds for the Friends of Grimsdyke.



Wishing all our children and parents a joyous Christmas and a happy New Year! May this festive season be filled with love and laughter.



# GRIMSDYKE CALENDAR

## Autumn 2023

Mon 18th Dec	Rec/KS1 Panto—Peter Pan
Tues 19th Dec	Junior School Disco—PM
Wed 20th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Thurs 21st Dec	Last day of term—school closes at 2.30pm. ASC Closed.

## Spring 2024

Mon 8th Jan	Professional Development Day—children not in school)
Tues 9th Jan	Spring Term starts
Thurs 11th Jan	6R/6G visiting Battle of Britain Bunker
Fri 12th Jan	6D visiting Battle of Britain Bunker
Thurs 18th Jan	Spring Census
Fri 19th Jan	Parent Trip Training
Wed 24th Jan	Parent Forum 2.30pm
Thurs 25th Jan	Y1 –CREW visit—Toys Y5/6 Cross Country
Tues 30th Jan	Y2 SATS meeting (9am) Guitar Festival
Thurs 1st Feb	Y6 SATS meeting (9am) Y5 visiting Hatch End High School Performance
Fri 2nd Feb	Y1 visiting Kol Chai
Mon 5th Feb	Reception Vision Check
Tues 6th Feb	Reception Vision Check
Wed 7th Feb	Reception Vision Check
Fri 9th Feb	Y5 visiting Whipsnade Zoo End of Spring 1
Mon 26th Feb	Y6 Harrow Citizenship (60 pupils)

## 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