

# GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

Learning and Achieving Together

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ISSUE 14  
26th APRIL 2024

## Message from Headteacher:

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a busy return to the summer term with plenty of preparation taking place across school as we look towards a packed term. With this in mind, I would continue to encourage everyone to use the calendar on the school website or the diary dates at the end of the newsletter to make sure that nothing is missed. These tools are two key elements that make up part of the communication process for the school. If all else fails please don't hesitate to ask a member of school staff.

Along with National Testing/Screening Arrangements in both KS1 and KS2, this term we also have a number of exciting events that are planned; Sport Days, the Summer Carnival, Y5 and Y6 Summer Performances, Y4 Kingswood, Y2 Whipsnade Zoo trip, Y1 Hertfordshire Zoo trip as well as visits from Ranger Stu and a Freestyle Footballer. In addition to this, we also have various sporting events including two that we are hosting for schools in the Pinner area. These are always wonderful experiences and I know will continue to add to the learning of the students involved.

Many years ago, when I first began my career as a teacher, a very good friend of mine and mentor shared with me an insightful quote; "In order to continue to move forward, we sometimes have to look behind to see where we have come from". It was this time last year when I shared with the parents the news of the Library and Computing Suite Project. A project, which for a school of our size was quite a commitment. It fills me with a deep satisfaction when I see the children utilising these spaces, knowing that as we continue to move forward they will be used to contribute to the educational provision of every student at Grimsdyke School. The process of active reflection is something that I will continue to use as I move through my career and it is something that further embeds the Grimsdyke School Values across our curriculum as we encourage the students to do the same thing.

As we are all aware, attendance has an important role to play with the progress and attainment of any individual student. As we begin the Summer term I want to congratulate the students across the school that have continued to maintain their 100% attendance record. We currently have **74** students who have been able to do this, with a further **160** students registering an attendance percentage greater than 98% so far this year.

Yet again attendance has proven to be challenging across the Spring term because of the difficult winter period. As it currently stands, over **60%** of the students have maintained an attendance percentage above the expected 95%. Below you will be able to see the comparison data for each year group between the Autumn and Spring terms.

Rec		Y1		Y2		Y3		Y4		Y5		Y6	
Aut	Spr	Aut	Spr	Aut	Spr	Aut	Spr	Aut	Spr	Aut	Spr	Aut	Spr
92.8%	94.9%	94.5%	94.2%	95.1%	94.6%	97.2%	96%	96.6%	96.2%	96.6%	96.4%	95.1%	94.6%

A huge congratulations goes to the following classes for the best attendance across the Spring term in their respective phases.

EYFS / KS1	Lower KS2	Upper KS2
RH – 96.1%	4C and 4H – 96.9%	5CM – 97.5%
1DK – 95.6%	3R – 96.2%	6R – 96.4%
1M – 95.3%	3D and 3T – 96%	5SD 96%

Continued overleaf.....

## HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE cont..

With the longer days and hopefully warmer weather we have included in the newsletter information around the summer uniform. I appreciate that parents may not want to dust this off from the cupboard just yet, especially with the chilly temperatures that we are currently experiencing. If your child is wearing the summer uniform, then they must be wearing this in its entirety and not part of. Please view below for clarity on this.

Before the Easter break I shared with you that following our Red Nose Day celebration and Spring Term performances we had raised in excess of £700. As an update, I am pleased to inform you that this week we have sent off to Comic Relief a cheque to the value of £1427.33. A huge thank you goes to all those who donated and to the Student Council for the decisions they made to ensure that this event took place.

This week an email was distributed to all parents to inform you of a fundraising project for the school library. We are presenting every family with the opportunity to purchase an image of a book spine or cover on which your name, your child(ren's) names or the name of your family can be printed on. In looking at some of the submissions already made, it is lovely to see how some parents have been creative and turned these into potential book titles with their children as the author or used quotes from famous authors. I am sure it is going to be a lovely feature of our new library space. I look forward to sharing with you the images of the first instalment. These will then become part of a display around the walls in the library. The funds raised from this are going to be invested into non-fiction books specifically for the library in support of the curriculum. To get involved in this wonderful opportunity click on the link below.

### Grimsdyke School Library Fundraiser

Finally, some more wonderful news, we recently had an impromptu visit from the Food Standards Agency. The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is the independent government department working to protect public health and consumers' wider interests in relation to food. Part of their role is to ensure high standards of food production. I am pleased to announce that during this visit the Catering Team retained their 5 star rating.

As we make our way through the Summer term I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at many of the upcoming events and celebrations, fingers crossed for some warmer weather.

Kind regards

Mr I Sutherland  
Headteacher

## UNIFORM

**ALL ITEMS BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL SHOULD BE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILDS NAME**

### Summer Uniform

- \* Red and White 1/4 inch checked summer gingham dress/playsuit (child must be able to undress themselves)
- \* White socks or white tights

### Everyday Uniform

- \* Charcoal grey tunic/skirt or grey trousers/shorts
- \* White button through blouse/shirt
- \* \* Red Grimsdyke sweatshirt/cardigan
- \* White/Grey socks (ankle/knee length)
- \* Tights (black/grey/red)
- \* Sensible black shoes (no boots)
- \* Long hair must be tied back, plain hairbands may be used
- \* Children should not wear jewellery unless it is of religious significance. Small stud earrings only may be worn.

### PE uniform

**Should be worn on the days that you have PE only**

- \* Black shorts (white shorts can still be worn at present, but should be changed to black once renewed) or Black jogging bottoms (plain or with a Grimsdyke logo)
- \* White short sleeved (round neck) T-shirt (must be plain or with a Grimsdyke logo)
- \* Black round neck sweatshirt (plain or with a Grimsdyke logo)
- \* Trainers or black plimsolls



**Logoed sweatshirts/cardigans are available to order from [www.beatschooluniforms.co.uk](http://www.beatschooluniforms.co.uk)**

Google Form

# Be part of Grimsdyke School History

Your name or the names of your children will be displayed as an ongoing memory of your contribution.



OPTION 1 - £60

**Book Front**

Up to 80 Characters  
(including spaces)



OPTION 2 - £35

**Book Spine**

Up to 30 Characters  
(including spaces)

A great way to support the school and make a difference for years to come.

All funds raised will be reinvested into new non-fiction books for your children in support of the effective delivery of the curriculum.



Please make payment via Arbor and complete the google form

Google Form

Google Form

Google Form



# CURRICULUM IN ACTION

## RECEPTION

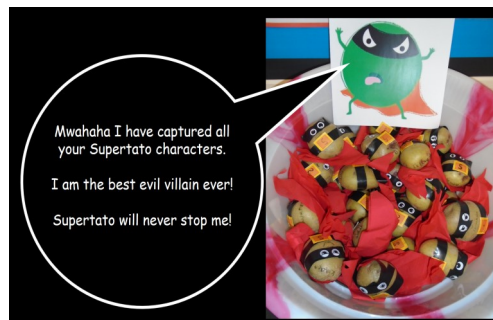
Welcome back to the Summer Term! Our topic this half term is called 'All Creatures Great and Small'. We have begun our topic by learning about minibeasts. We read the story 'Mad About Minibeasts' by Giles Andreae and the children wrote sentences about their favourite minibeast from the story. We learnt about insects and labelled their body parts. The children really enjoyed going on a minibeast hunt around school and found a woodlouse, snail, spider, ant, ladybird and lots of slugs! We spent one day focussing on bees and we made honey sandwiches which the children loved eating as part of their snack time.

This week in literacy we read the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. The children created their own versions of the story and retold them to their friends. We learnt about the lifecycle of a butterfly and the children were encouraged to use scientific vocabulary. We have also got our own class caterpillars which we are observing daily and making predictions about what might happen to them.

In Maths we have been learning about numbers beyond 10. The children have been completing missing number tracks, using tens frames to make numbers and finding tens and ones for teen numbers.



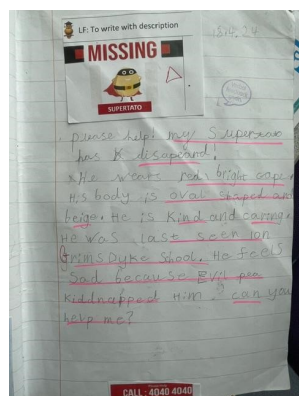
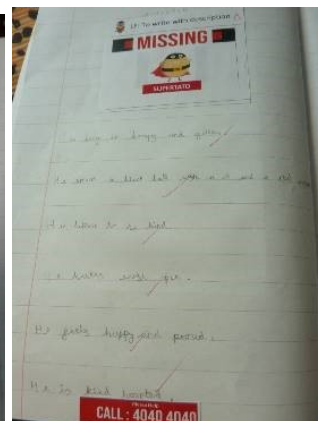
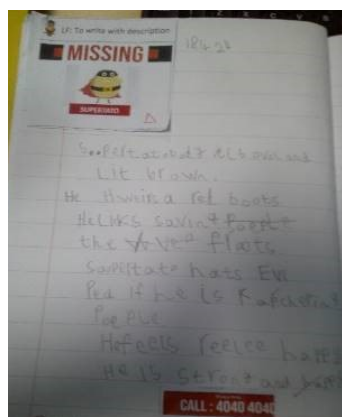
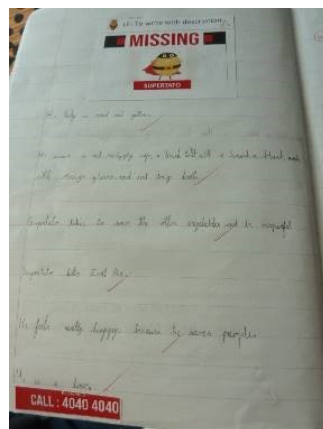
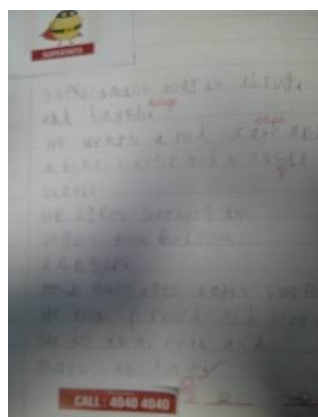
# YEAR 1



## BREAKING NEWS: Evil Pea Strikes, Kidnaps Year 1's Supertatoes!

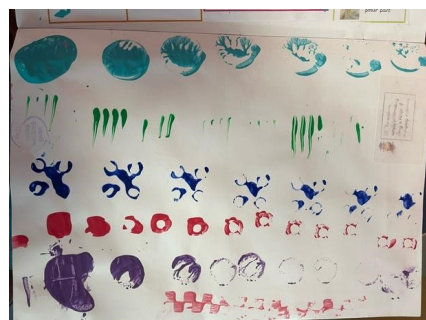
*In a shocking turn of events, the notorious villain Evil Pea has struck once more, this time kidnapping Year 1's beloved superhero Supertatoes. The incident occurred late night last Wednesday in the Year 1 classrooms, sending waves of panic through the community.*

Year 1 pupils of Grimsdyke School launched a massive hunt to locate Evil Pea and rescue their Supertatoes from his clutches. Missing reports were created and the suspect was found.



## Design Technology:

We have been looking at the traditional Kente patterns that originated in Ghana. Last week we looked at printmaking. This week the children have been designing their own patterns, ready to make next week.





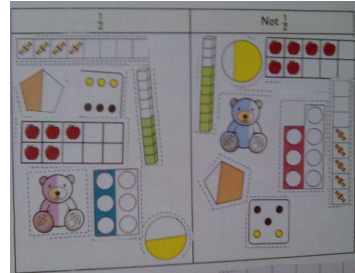
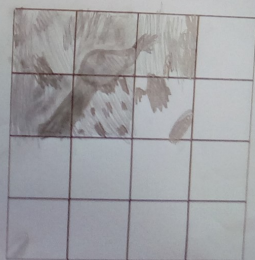
## YEAR 2

We have had a great start to the new Summer term and have been busy learning lots of new things in year 2!

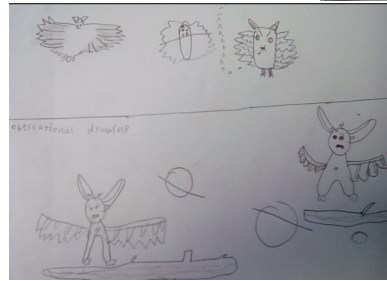
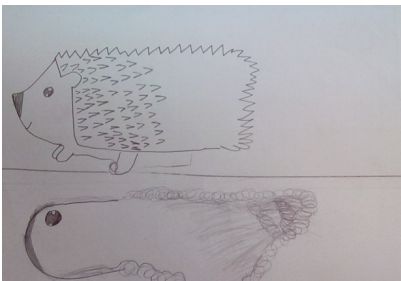
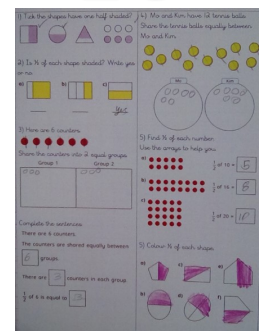
In English we have started our new text 'The Journey Home' which focuses on different animals and their struggles in the wild. This has linked nicely to our topic of animal adventures.

In Geography we have been looking at fieldwork and we used our knowledge and skills on this to go on a local walk to observe and identify the different plants and animals we could find. The children worked as a group to record their results and answer questions about their findings.

In Art the children did observational drawings of a hedgehog, whilst in Computing the children are learning how to make music on the computer.



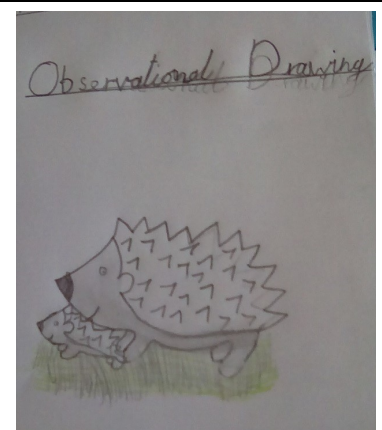
# 2C



# 2E

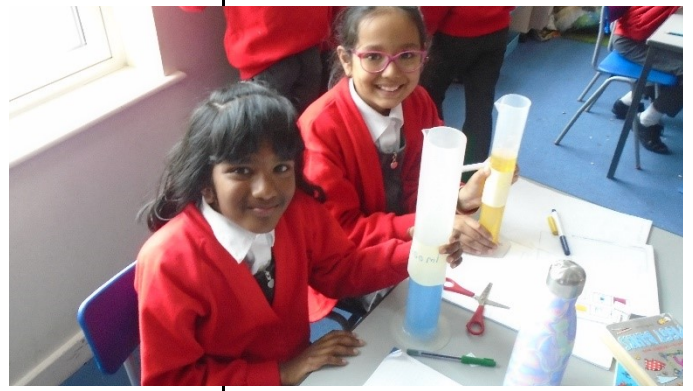


# 2GK





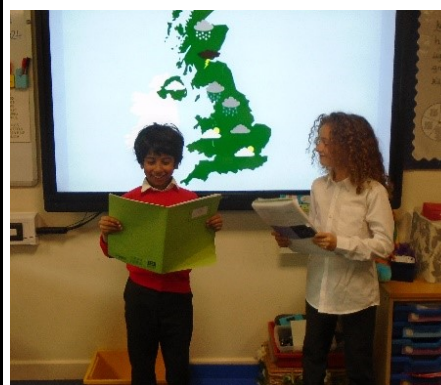
## YEAR 3



Year 3 have enjoyed many practical maths lessons this fortnight: practising measuring various volumes of coloured water in different sized jugs, adding and comparing numbers and finding the difference in capacity.



Recorder club proved to be a popular option for Year 3's Golden Time last week. The children learnt how to hold the recorder correctly and play the simple tune 'Hot Cross Buns'.



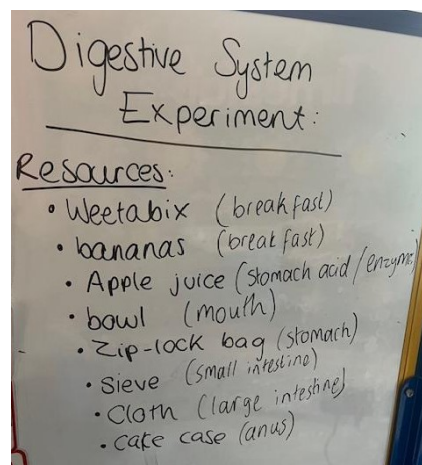
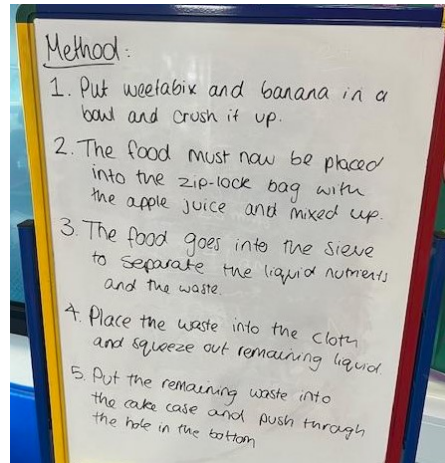
In our Geography lesson this week, Year 3 became weather reporters. They enjoyed reporting on the recent weather – let's hope for some sunshine and warmer weather soon!



## Science – Digestive System

In science we have been learning about the human body, in particular, about the digestive system! This interesting human bodily function was a great opportunity to ask the children to help us with a very memorable experiment. The children were able to identify which part of the experiment was representing a different part of the body and digestive system.

Please see the method and resources in the images below which show what we needed in order to do this experiment and maybe your child can show you how to do it at home!



# "I'll be just two minutes"

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



## NSPCC visit



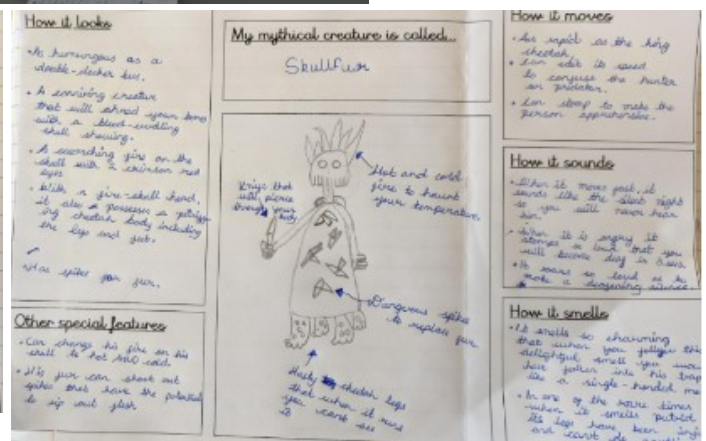
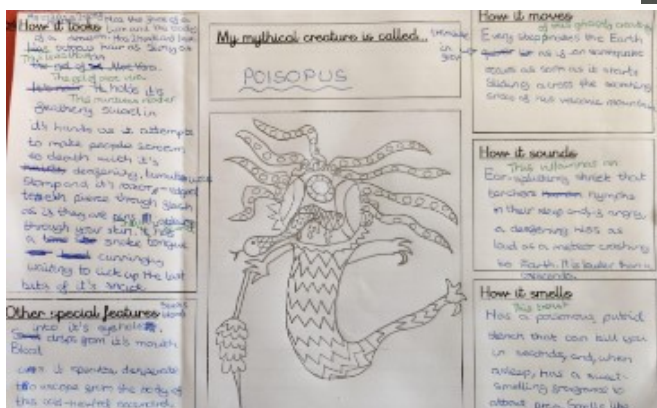
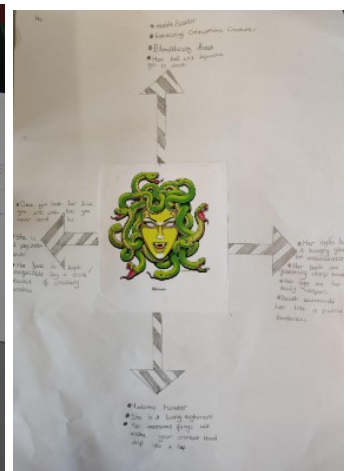
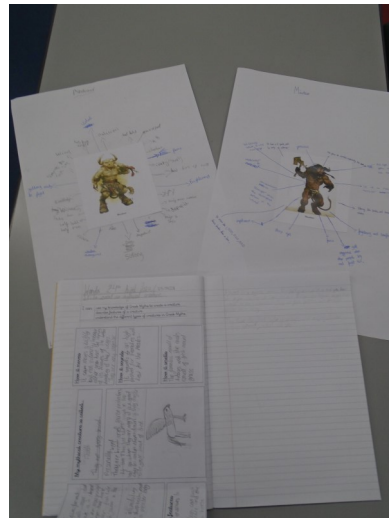
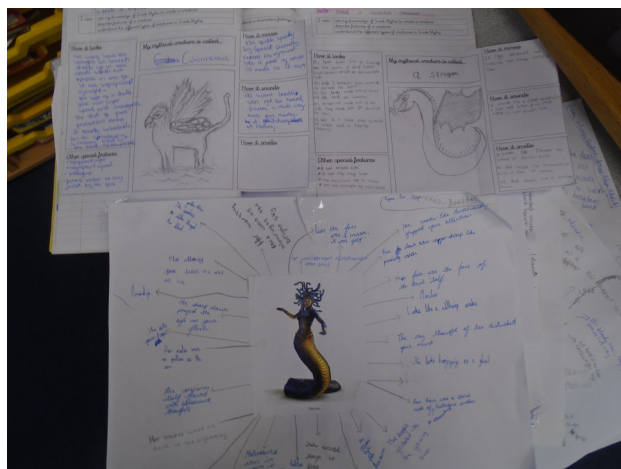
This week during our assembly, a team from the NSPCC organisation visited the children. The session revisited the support they could get from the volunteers for their **'Speak out. Stay safe.'** Programme.

The children were reminded that they always have a right to feel safe, and that they can speak to a safe adult or Childline if they ever need help or support. We then took this learning back to the classroom and created our own **'Speak out. Stay safe.'** Posters.

## Greek Myths

This term we have started our topic of 'Ancient Greeks' the children have written reviews on their favourites.

This week we have been focusing on mythical creatures and the children have created their own, ready for the next writing task. They have been considering how the creature may look, any special abilities it may have and whether it was sent to assist the hero or to challenge the hero.



## YEAR 6

In science, Year 6 children engaged in a scientific classification lesson using liquorice allsorts. They sorted them into groups based on different criteria like shape, colour, or size. This introduced them to how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences.



In geometry, year 6 children drew different types of quadrilaterals: trapeziums, rhombuses, squares, rectangles, parallelograms and kites followed by proving the sum of angles are 360 degrees.



In the athletics unit, Year 6 children are consolidating their knowledge, understanding and ability to sprint and run effectively individually and within a team.





# GRIMSDYKE CALENDAR

## Summer Term

Mon 29th Apr	Y2-6 Freestyle Football Activities with Jamie Knight
Tues 30th Apr	Reception visit from Ranger Stu
	Y2-6 Freestyle Football Activities with Jamie Knight
Wed 1st May	Parent Forum (2.30pm)
	Y5 visit from Father David
Thurs 2nd May	Y1 visit from Ranger Stu
	Family learning hub—parenting programme
Mon 6th May	Bank Holiday (children not in school)
Thurs 9th May	Family learning hub—parenting programme
Mon 13th May	Y6 SATS Weeks starts
Tues 14th May	Reception Parent workshop—Harrow EYS
Thurs 16th May	Summer Pupil Census
Fri 17th May	Y2 visiting Whipsnade Zoo
Mon 20th May	Y6 Bikeability (registration via CycleConfident)
Tues 21st May	Class Photos
	Y5/6 Quadkids Qualifiers
Wed 22nd May	Y1 visiting Hertfordshire Zoo
Thurs 23rd May	Rec visit from Fossil Man and a baby T-Rex
	Y5/6 Boys Cricket Qualifiers
Fri 24th May	Y1 Amazing Africa Theme Day
27th—31st May	1/2 Term Break
Mon 3rd Jun	PDD (children not in school)
Tues 4th Jun	Y6 (one class) visiting the Zoroastrian Centre
Wed 5th Jun	New Reception Parents meeting (5pm)
Thurs 6th Jun	Y6 (one class) visiting the Zoroastrian Centre
	Y5/6 Girls Cricket Qualifiers
Fri 7th Jun	Y6 (one class) visiting the Zoroastrian Centre

## 2023—2024 TERM DATES

### 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 3rd Jun**      **Wed 24th Jul**

## 2024—2025 TERM DATES

### Autumn Term 2024

Term time: Mon 2 Sep - Fri 25 Oct

1/2 term break: Mon 28 Oct - Fri 1 Nov

Term time: Mon 4 Nov - Fri 20 Dec

### Spring Term 2025

Term time: Mon 6 Jan - Fri 14 Feb

1/2 term break: Mon 17 Feb - Fri 21 Feb

Term time: Mon 24 Feb - Fri 4 Apr

### Summer Term 2025

Term time: Tues 22 Apr - Fri 23 May

Half term break: Mon 26 May - Fri 30 May

Term time: Mon 2 Jun - Tuesday 22 Jul

### PDD dates

**Mon 2nd Sept 24**      **Tues 3rd Sept 24**

**Mon 6th Jan 25**      **Mon 21st Jul 25**

**Tues 22nd Jul 25**



## 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