

GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

Learning and Achieving Together

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ISSUE 03
10th OCTOBER 2025

Message from Headteacher:

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this week's newsletter finds you well. It has been a very busy and productive time in school over the past two weeks, with pupils fully engaged in their year group curriculum. Alongside this, there has been great energy around sporting tournaments, trip planning, and a number of exciting themed days already added to the school calendar.

Last week, we were pleased to welcome our Governors on site for a *Governor Strategy Day*. They met with pupils and staff to look at areas including the Quality of Education, Pastoral and Wellbeing, and Leadership and Management. It was a very positive and constructive day, and I look forward to sharing more formal feedback with you in due course.

Looking ahead, there is much to be excited about: Boogie Bounce workshops next week, upcoming year group trips and visits, our Parent Consultation Evening, Christmas Performances, the Junior School Carol Concert, the Christmas Fair, and of course, our whole-school trip to the pantomime.

Parent Consultations –

As we return from the half term, we will be hosting our first Parent Consultation meetings on the 4th and 6th November. These can be booked through Arbor.

The booking system will open Wednesday 15th October at 6pm.

This first consultation meeting is typically a discussion about how the students have settled and sharing some of the progress that they have made so far. More importantly, it is about the things that they can continue to work on as they move through the rest of the academic year and how school and the parents can work together to achieve this.

On both of these days, we will open the gates for collection slightly earlier than usual at **3pm**, to support the start of the evening, and close them promptly at 3.15pm. Parents should leave through the gates and re-enter the main building through the front doors by the school office.

Library Wall Art / Fundraiser –

This round of the library fundraiser closes on Friday 28th November. If you would like to participate, then click on the link below and make your payment via the Arbor Shop. Once completed, we will share some photos so you can have a better appreciation of the final product.



Google Form

All funds raised will be reinvested into the School Library to purchase non-fiction books that reflect the curriculum your child studies during their time at Grimsdyke School. This will further enrich their learning experience.



Continued overleaf....

Headteachers message cont....

Online Safety –

One of our key responsibilities, as set out by the Department for Education (DfE), is to teach pupils about Online Safety. This important aspect of learning is delivered in several ways through the Computing curriculum, as well as during key events such as Safer Internet Day (SID) and Keeping Ourselves Safe Week.



As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting families, I will be sharing a range of resources over the coming weeks to help you promote online safety at home. The first of these focuses on parental controls – how they can be used effectively and reviewed regularly to help keep your children safe online. You will find attached to this newsletter a Parent's Guide produced by The National College, which I hope you find both practical and informative.

In addition, I have included important information about age restrictions for popular apps and online platforms. Please take a moment to review these details and discuss them with your child where appropriate.

If you have any questions about this or any of the future resources we share, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

13 is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps.

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| X (formerly Twitter) | Facebook | Instagram | Pinterest | Messenger |
| TikTok | Discord | Snapchat | Twitch | Yubo |
| Reddit | YouTube | BeReal | WhatsApp | |

School Games Mark —

We are very proud to announce that Grimsdyke School has been awarded the **Gold School Games Mark** this year. Following a validation call, our application was upgraded from Bronze to Gold in recognition of our strong commitment to providing an inclusive and high-quality PE and sport offer. The award celebrates our well-planned approach to ensuring pupils are active for at least 60 minutes each day, with structured opportunities before, during and after school. Our wide-ranging extracurricular programme caters for all abilities and interests, with clubs such as gymnastics, kickboxing, netball, dance, cricket and football offering both participation and competitive opportunities.

The School Games assessors also praised our focus on developing pupils physical literacy and self esteem, recognising that sport at Grimsdyke is not only about competition but about enjoyment, inclusion and helping every child develop as a confident and active individual.



Mrs B Bhudia
Headteacher

Black History Month



Mary Seacole



Rosa Parks



Black History at Grimsdyke School

Benin



Whilst we mark October as Black History Month, at Grimsdyke we strongly believe that Black history is not confined to a single month, but is something to be recognised, celebrated and embedded throughout the year. Black history is celebrated and woven into our curriculum every day, all year round and we reflect this in every subject area, from literature and the arts to science, PSHE and beyond. Through inclusive teaching, diverse resources, and meaningful discussions, we ensure that the contributions, experiences, and voices of Black individuals are recognized and valued throughout the entire school year.

The Caribbean



Harriet Tubman



Ghanaian Music



Benjamin Zephaniah



The Civil Rights Movement



Soldiers in WW2



The Windrush Scandal



The Black Lives Matter Movement



Have a look at some of the ways we incorporate Black history into our curriculum.

SPORTS

Cross Country

At the end of September we took part in the Cross-Country tournament at Newton Farm.

Our team made up of Y5s were very excited but nervous on arrival. It was the first time for many representing Grimsdyke at a sports event and they did us proud.

Both races took place in lovely sunshine and field conditions, unusual for Cross-Country. First up were the Y5 girls and after a blistering start, every one settled in to a good pace and completed the race without stopping.

A special mention to Esmee who finished inside the top 10 with Umika and Jayna shortly behind her.

The boys took on the 2km by running in a group together before Avir, Theo and Eric pulled away to stay in touch with the front runners. Avir also finished in the top 10 with Theo and Eric in close succession (despite Eric losing a trainer half way around).

Well done to Esmee, Umika, Jayna, Kaliyah, Nyla, Avir, Theo, Eric, Haris, Martin and Musa for competing so hard.



HOCKEY

At the start of October, our Y6s had their first event of the school year. Two teams travelled to Harrow School to take part in the Hockey tournament. The teams were split evenly and placed in different sides of the competition. During the group stages, both teams performed excellently, winning all of the 5 games combined.

One team were moved into the final league stage for the West London Qualifying berths, whilst the others played against another group winner in the 'B' final. Grimsdyke 2 were successful in that 'B' final beating Roxeth.

In the West London Qualifying final group stage, we had to face Stanburn and St John's.

First up we played Stanburn, nailing a narrow 2-1 victory late on. That win meant we knew if we could avoid defeat to St John's we would qualify.

It was a close game but after taking an early lead, the team managed to see the game out with some comfort to ensure victory and qualification and also to be crowned as Harrow Champions.

Well done to Simar, Leyla, Reya,

Eleanor, Evani, Julia, Christian, Adam, Ismael, Casey, Nihal and Thomas who have put in good effort in training and were rewarded with those performances.

The West London Finals do not take place until June 2026, so there's plenty of time for the team to hone their skills even further.




HARROW HEALTH & WELLBEING FAIR

Meet your integrated neighbourhood teams (INT), share your views, and discover support available in your area.

TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER

11AM – 3PM

 VICTORIA HALL, SHEEPCOTE ROAD, HA1 2JE.





(Main entrance next to St John Baptist Church)

**FREE
EVENT**

TAKE PART IN:

- Q&A sessions with a local GP
- Practical exercise and lifestyle tips- 5 steps to a healthier, happier you
- Free blood pressure checks
- Fun, creative activities promoting wellness and relaxation

COME ALONG AND GET ADVICE ON:

- Cost of living 
- Fuel poverty 
- Debt & Housing 
- NHS App support 

Food and refreshments will be available

Dami - 07823570914

Khadijah - 07468753054



supported by Victoria Hall



LONDON BOROUGH OF
HARROW

Respect Empathy Compassion
Three words can make a huge difference!

CURRICULUM IN ACTION

RECEPTION

The last few weeks have been full of exciting learning and exploration in Reception.

In Literacy we've started our new topic on Nursery Rhymes. The children have really enjoyed learning some new rhymes and taking part in a range of fun and engaging activities. In our writing we've been using our phonics to listen for and write initial sounds, as well as beginning to write simple CVC words.

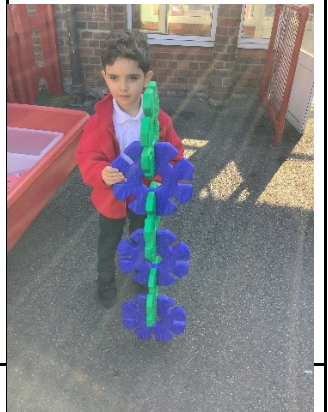
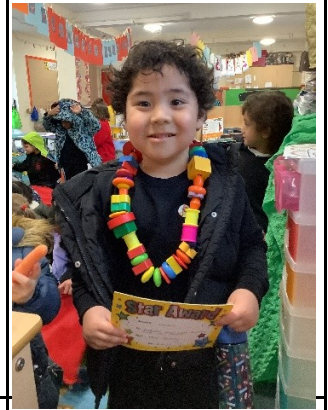
In Maths we've been exploring repeating patterns. The children loved creating their own patterns using objects such as cubes, Lego, beads, conkers and pinecones. This week we have been focusing on the numbers 1, 2 and 3. We've been learning to recognise, represent and subitise these numbers in different ways.

As part of our ongoing topic about Autumn and Harvest we went on an autumn walk to observe the seasonal changes. The children enjoyed exploring pumpkins and have been busy in our new Farmer's Market role play area, using their imagination and developing their language and social skills.

On Friday we celebrated Mental Health Day by wearing yellow. It was lovely to see the children showing their support and talking about the importance of feelings and looking after our well-being. We're looking forward to more autumn adventures in the coming weeks!



RECEPTION cont...



YEAR 1

We are really immersed in our first half term's topic, 'Home Sweet Home'. On Monday, we were lucky to have a visit from Magic Granddad, the Victorian butler, who took the children back in time to Lord and Lady Ponsonby's house. To a time when there were no washing machines, electricity or indoor toilets!

1K



1M



1D

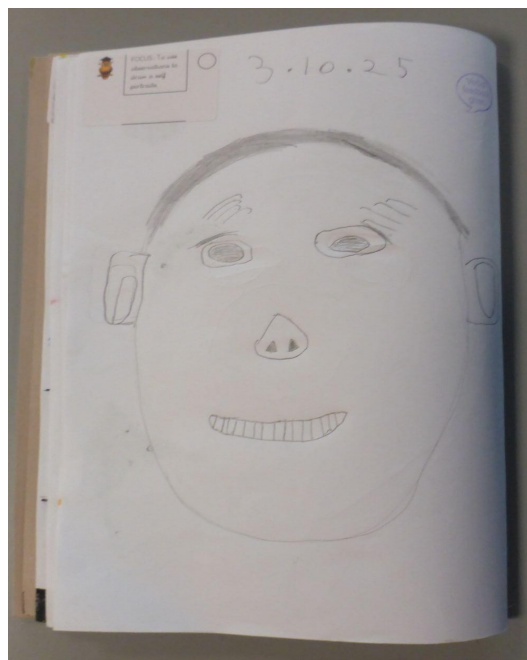
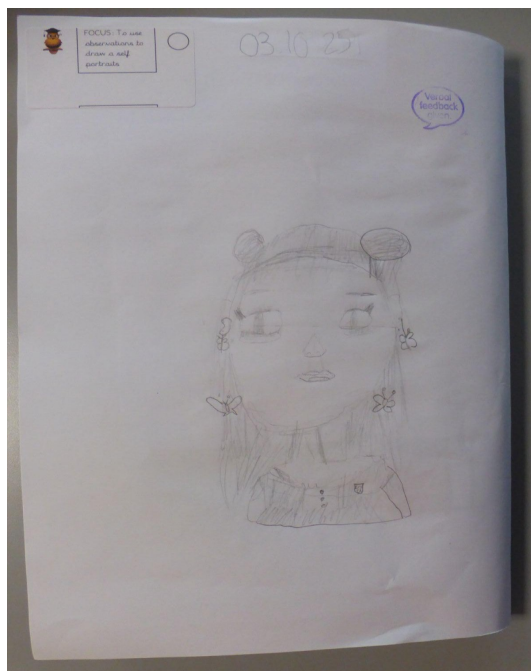
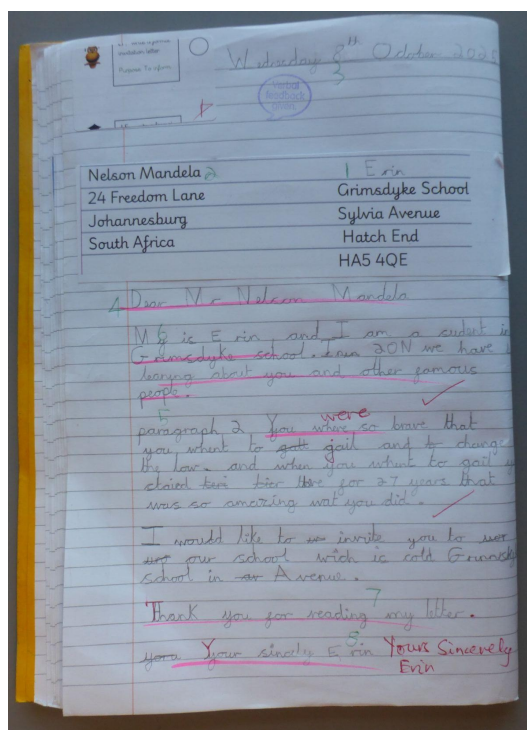
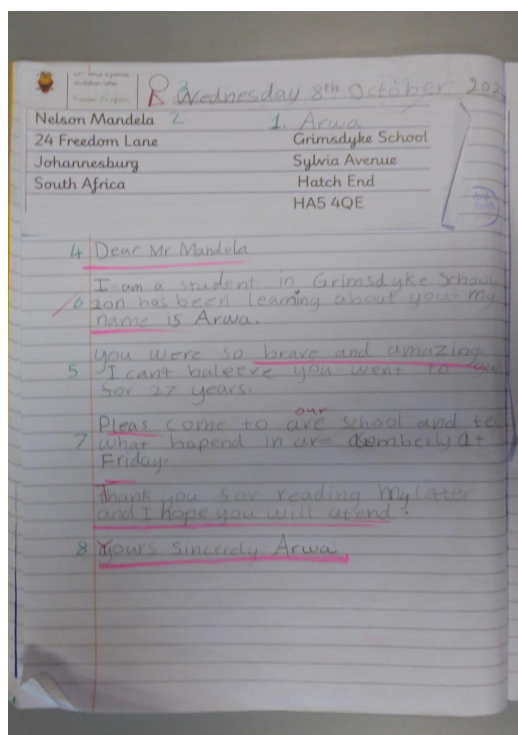


YEAR 2

In year 2 we have been very busy over the last 2 weeks. In computing, we have been looking at the IT we use around us and how to use it safely. In maths we finished off our place value topic with counting in 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s. We have now started our new topic on addition and subtraction with looking at number bonds.

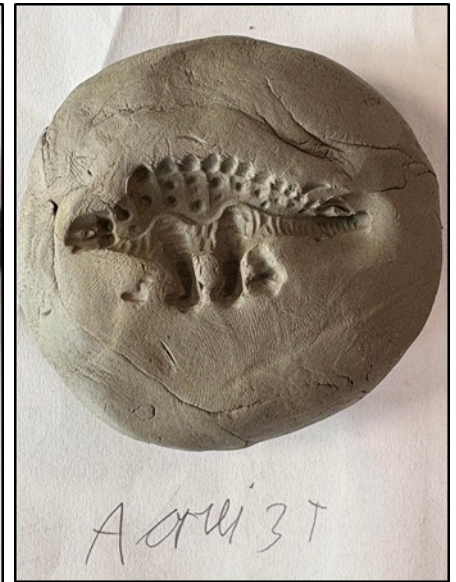
In English, we have been writing letters to famous people. The children have been learning all about Nelson Mandela and have written letters to celebrate all he achieved. They have also started editing their writing and have been looking at ways to spot their mistakes and make corrections.

In art, we have begun to look into self portraits and used mirrors to carefully draw ourselves and add detail. In science, the children have continued their learning about microhabitats and we have looked at food chains and the food journey. In history this week the children learnt all about Martin Luther King Jr and Malala Yousafzai. The children learnt about their dreams and how brave they had to be to make them come true.



YEAR 3

We are very proud to showcase some fantastic learning in Year 3 this past fortnight...



In Science, we have been studying how fossils are formed.

Fossils are the imprint of a living thing that died millions of years ago. We learnt that even after the bones of a skeleton have rotted away, its imprint remains embedded in the rock.

We then had a go at making our own fossils! We did this by imprinting mini dinosaur skeletons in to clay.

Here are some super realistic efforts from our year 3 students.



Science

This week, year 4 took part in an exciting **'States of Matter' workshop** with the *Science Boffins!* The children were completely captivated as our visiting scientist led a series of fascinating **hands-on experiments** to explore solids, liquids, and gases — even using **dry ice** to show how materials can change state in unique ways.

To everyone's amazement, we were also introduced to a **fourth state of matter — plasma!** The scientist demonstrated this in the form of **fire**, helping the children understand how particles behave differently in each state. It was a truly memorable session that sparked lots of curiosity and brilliant scientific thinking throughout the session.



English

In English this week, we have been learning how to use **direct and reported speech** in our writing. To practise these new skills, the children became reporters and created their own **newspaper articles** based on our class text, *Viking Boy*. The focus of their reports was a dramatic event - the moment when the main character was captured!


To help gather information for their articles, the children took part in an engaging **hot-seating activity**, where they each pretended to be a witness to the crime. This role-play brought the story to life and gave everyone the chance to practise turning spoken words into reported speech. It was wonderful to see such creativity and enthusiasm as the children worked independently to produce their final newspaper articles.

4A

VIKING NEWS

Kaupang's Mystery Kidnapping

Date: 9th October 2025
Reporter Name: Kiara



On a crisp morning in Kaupang, a young boy named Gunnar was walking to school. He was carrying a bag full of books and a small wooden chest. Suddenly, a group of men appeared, grabbing him and his chest. They dragged him away, leaving his family in a state of panic.

The kidnappers were seen to be carrying a large wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest.


Kiara

4B

VIKING NEWS

THE MYSTERIOUS KIDNAPER

Date: 12th October 2025
Reporter Name: Grace



On the 12th of October 2025, a child was kidnapped by a group of men. The child was seen to be carrying a small wooden chest. The kidnappers were seen to be carrying a large wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest.

Many of the kidnappers were seen to be carrying a large wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest.


Grace

4K

VIKING NEWS

CRUEL KIDNAPPING

Date: 9th October 2025
Reporter Name: Samarth



On the morning of 9th October 2025, a young boy named Gunnar was walking to school. He was carrying a bag full of books and a small wooden chest. Suddenly, a group of men appeared, grabbing him and his chest. They dragged him away, leaving his family in a state of panic.


The kidnappers were seen to be carrying a large wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest.

Samarth

VIKING NEWS

MYSTERIOUS KIDNAPPING KAUPANG

Date: 9th October 2025
Reporter Name: Yoel



It was a cold morning in Kaupang when suddenly a young boy named Gunnar was walking to school. He was carrying a bag full of books and a small wooden chest. Suddenly, a group of men appeared, grabbing him and his chest. They dragged him away, leaving his family in a state of panic.


The kidnappers were seen to be carrying a large wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest.

Yoel

VIKING NEWS

CRUEL KIDNAPPING

Date: 12/10/2025
Reporter Name: Reyaan



In the morning in an ally way in Kaupang a young boy was kidnapped he was about to be sold as a slave.

A young boy called Gunnar lived in a town called Kaupang. He was carrying a bag full of books and a small wooden chest. Suddenly, a group of men appeared, grabbing him and his chest. They dragged him away, leaving his family in a state of panic.

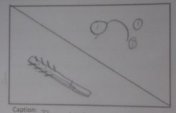
The kidnappers were seen to be carrying a large wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest.

Reyaan

VIKING NEWS

CRUEL KIDNAPPING IN KAUPANG

Date: 12th October 2025
Reporter Name: Aashvi Patel

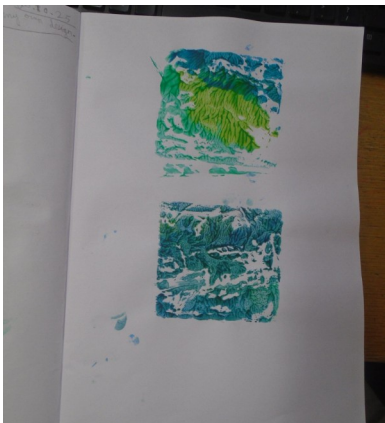


In the evening on 12th October 2025 a boy who was called Gunnar was kidnapped in a town called Kaupang. The kidnappers were seen to be carrying a large wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest.

The kidnappers were seen to be carrying a large wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest. They were also carrying a small wooden chest.

Aashvi

Art - printing



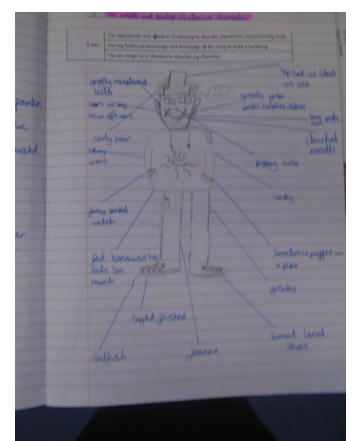
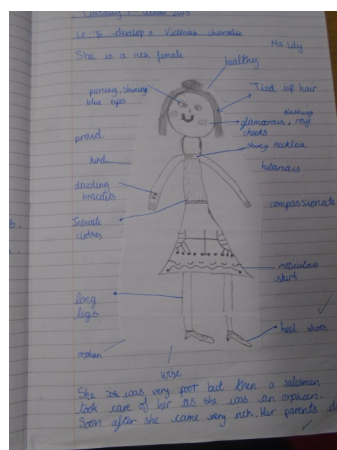
This term, Year 5 have been diving into the world of Victorian design by exploring the work of the famous artist and designer William Morris.

Taking inspiration from his work, they designed their own unique patterns and transferred them onto polystyrene printing blocks.

Using paint, the children carefully pressed their designs onto paper, revealing stunning, detailed prints that reflected both their creativity and understanding of Morris's style

Have a look at some of the amazing outcomes!

English - Character description



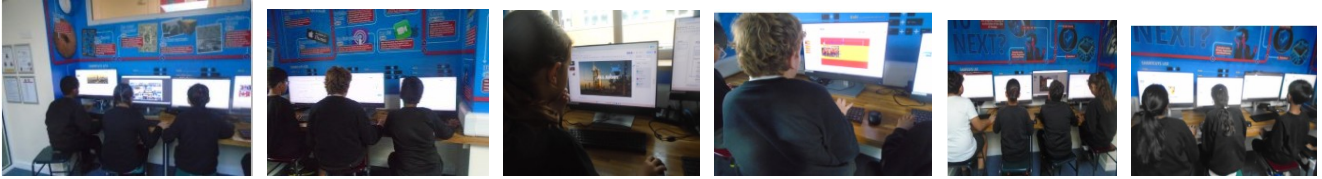
This week in English we were learning about creating effective character descriptions.

In groups, the children worked together to create their own original Victorian characters but with a twist! Each person at the table was responsible for drawing a different part of the character's body (head, torso, legs, etc.), without knowing what the others had drawn.

Once the drawings were revealed, the children used their imaginations to bring their characters to life, writing phrases and adjectives describing their appearance, personality, and life in Victorian times.

YEAR 6

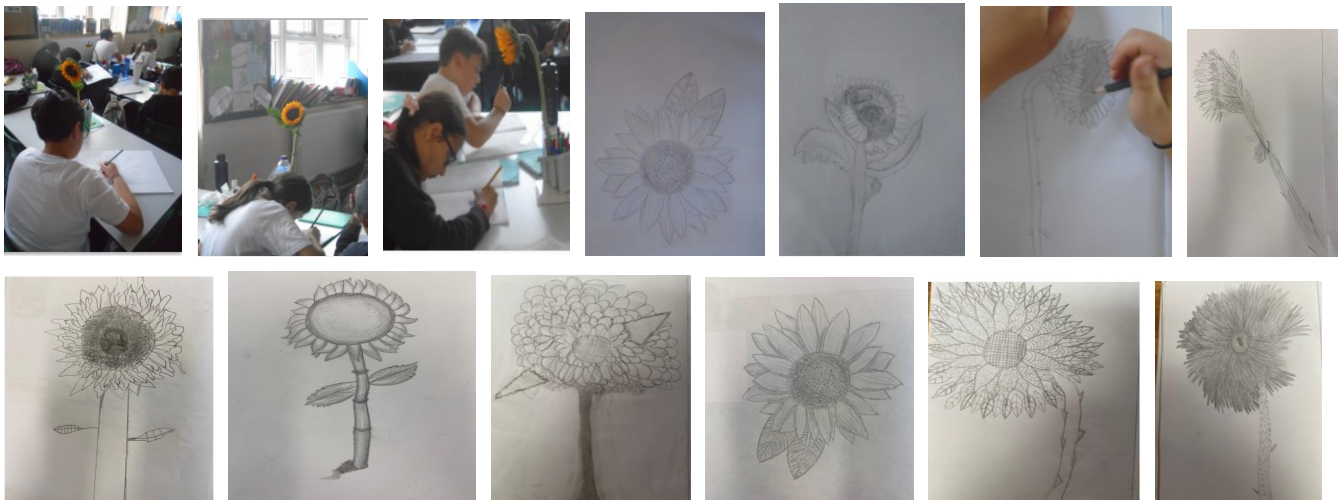
In Computing, children have been exploring how data is transferred over the internet. They initially focused on addressing, before they moved on to the makeup and structure of data packets. Children then looked at how the internet facilitates online communication and collaboration; they completed shared projects online on different countries.



In science, children identified and compared the different blood vessels. They defined the function of different blood vessels and explored issues surrounding restricted arteries. The children experimented using plastic cups with various holes to model the restriction of blood flow through different sized arteries. The smaller holes represented a more restricted artery.



In art, children revisited the importance of lines: they are the very first step in creating art. They learnt they can be found everywhere and can express various feelings and ideas. Children used straight, long, short, curved, zigzag, and dotted lines to craft still lives of sunflowers.



GRIMSDYKE CALENDAR

Autumn Term

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Mon 13th Oct | Boogie Bounce Workshop Y2 CREW—Florence & Mary |
| Tues 14th Oct | Boogie Bounce Workshop |
| Thurs 16th Oct | FOGS Halloween Disco Y2 Theme Day |
| Fri 17th Oct | Reception Theme Day Y4 Residential Meeting for Parents—9am |
| Mon 20th Oct | 5CM visiting Gunnersbury Y6 PGL Residential |
| Tues 21st Oct | 5BM & 5O visiting Gunnersbury Y5/6 Football Tournament (selected only) Y3 CREW visit—Stone Age |
| Fri 24th Oct | Y6 return from PGL |
| 27th—31st Oct | 1/2 term break |
| Mon 3rd Nov | Back in school 6G visiting Battle of Britain Museum |
| Tues 4th Nov | Parent Consultations Y5/6 Boys Football Tournament (selected only) |
| Thurs 6th Nov | Parent Consultations |
| Fri 7th Nov | 6R & 6M visiting Battle of Britain Museum Parent Trip Training—9am |
| Tues 11th Nov | Remembrance Observance Y5/6 Girls Football |
| Thurs 13th Nov | Individual Photos |
| Fri 14th Nov | Non-uniform day—Bring a new gift for the Tombola |
| Tues 18th Nov | Flu Vaccinations |
| Thurs 20th Nov | Non-uniform day—Bring a new/used Teddy for the Teddy Tombola |

2025—2026 TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2025

Term time: Mon 1 Sep - Fri 24 Oct
1/2 term break: Mon 27 Oct - Fri 31 Oct
Term time: Mon 3 Nov - Fri 19 Dec

Spring Term 2026

Term time: Mon 5 Jan - Fri 13 Feb
1/2 term break: Mon 16 Feb - Fri 20 Feb
Term time: Mon 23 Feb - Fri 27 Mar

Summer Term 2026

Term time: Mon 13 Apr—Fri 22 May
1/2 term break: Mon 25 May—Fri 29 May
Term time: Mon 1 Jun—Mon 20 Jul

PDD dates

Mon 5th Jan 26 Fri 17th Jul 26
Mon 20th Jul 26

SAVE THE DATE

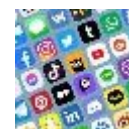
FOGS

Christmas Fair

Saturday 6th December



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