

# GRIMSDYKE NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

## MESSAGE FROM MRS BHUDIA

I would like to begin with a sincere thank you to the parents who attended the Parent Trip Training last Friday. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, and even more encouraging to welcome new additions to our register of parents, who are able to support school trips.

As explained during the training, educational visits are an extension of the curriculum rather than an expectation. They are planned to enrich learning in the classroom, and without the additional support from parents, many of these opportunities simply would not be possible.

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Excitement in assemblies continues to grow around the "Attendance Cup" - periodically students have attendance data shared with them so they can see where their class sits on the leader board for this half term.

This is of course shared with the understanding that it can change quite quickly in a week. We currently have a 96% attendance rate which is above both the national average and DfE expectations.

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY CONT.....

School attendance is important for not only your child's progress and attainment but also for their overall wellbeing, wider development and their mental health. In reviewing the attendance for the Autumn term it is evident to see that illness was the biggest factor impacting attendance at school.

If you feel your child is too ill to come to school then please remember that it is usually safe for your child to attend school with mild illnesses, coughs, colds and runny noses. However, if your child has a temperature of 38 degrees or above then they should stay at home.

The [NHS has produced some guidance](#) on this for parents. Please click on the link to read further information on this.

If your child is going to be absent from school, it is important that you inform the school of the reason for absence by emailing [attendance@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk)

## PARKING

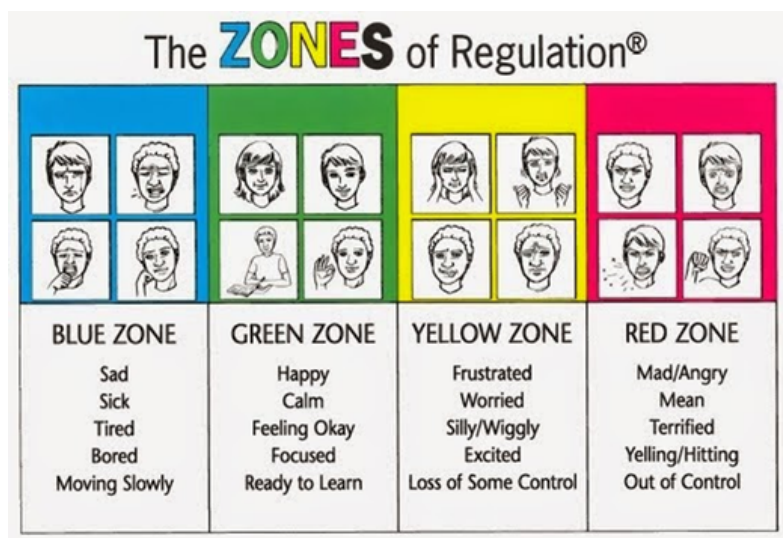
A polite reminder regarding the private road leading up to the school gates. Parents should not park on this road when dropping off or collecting pupils. Please also ensure that you do not park across resident's driveways on this road or on any of the surrounding streets. Your cooperation and support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU, AS ALWAYS, FOR YOUR  
CONTINUED SUPPORT.

## ZONES OF REGULATION

At the parent forum meeting held a few weeks ago, parents shared that they would welcome further information about the Zones of Regulation used with pupils in school. As part of our Mental Health and Wellbeing offer, we refer to the Zones of Regulation to help children recognise, understand and talk about their feelings, as well as learn constructive strategies to manage them. This shared language supports children in developing emotional awareness and resilience, both in school and beyond.

We are pleased to share an information booklet that explains what the Zones of Regulation are and how they are used in school. The booklet also includes ideas and resources that can be used at home to support the language and strategies your child is learning, helping to create consistency and reinforce these important skills.



## MESSAGE FROM HOUSE CAPTAIN - ZAHRA

On the 20th of January, Grimsdyke proudly took part in a Year 6 netball tournament at John Lyon School, where thirteen schools competed. The team consisted of Ismael, Julia, Leyla, Lily, Nayan, Sunny & Zahra.

Across the six group stage matches, the players showed great teamwork, effort and sportsmanship. We are very proud to say that we won all of our matches. This means we have moved to the final stages of the tournament which will take place within the next few weeks.

Another great sporting achievement for Grimsdyke came from our Year 6 NFL flag team at the Bannisters Sports Centre. The team played an exciting and very close match against Canon Lane, winning by just one point.

The pupils who took part were Anna Maria, Christian, Ethan, Ikram, Ismail, Matie, Mayra, William and Zahra. A special well done to Christian for scoring an incredible number of touchdowns.

Written by Zahra R, Chantry and house captains

**FOGS**  
Friends of Grimsdyke School

# Quiz Night & AGM

**FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**  
GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL, SYLVIA AVENUE, PINNER, HA5 4QE

**TICKETS**

**TICKET WITH FOOD:**  
ADULTS : £9.50  
CHILD : £6.50

**TICKET ONLY**  
ADULTS : £5  
CHILD : £1

**Time: 7:00pm - 10:00pm**

**Book tickets @**  
[WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/FRIENDSOFGIMSDYKE](http://WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/FRIENDSOFGIMSDYKE)

**CHOOSE FROM :**  
Chicken Nuggets & Chips  
Cod Bites & Chips  
Kids Fish & Chips  
Veggie Burger & Chips  
Chicken burger & Chips

**SCAN TO BOOK**

CHARITY NO. 1015964

## 🎉 QUIZ NIGHT & AGM 🎉

Friends of Grimsdyke School (FOGS)

📅 Friday, 27th February 2026

📍 Grimsdyke School

🕒 AGM During Quiz Night

Thank you for your incredible support over the past year. Your generosity has helped FOGS raise vital funds that directly benefit our children and school community.

## 🎯 WHAT HAS FOGS RECENTLY FUNDED:

- Donations towards the whole school music provision
- Christmas pantomime visit for the whole school
- IT equipment for the new IT suite
- First News annual subscription
- Chrome books
- Wall art

The list could go on but these are the most recent things.

Despite the cost-of-living challenges, our Christmas Fair was our most successful yet — and there's more to come, including Quiz Night and the Summer Carnival!

## 👉 WE NEED YOU!

Several committee members will be stepping down this year.

To keep delivering amazing events, we need new volunteers to join the FOGS Committee.

## 🗳️ FOGS COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

📌 Elections will take place at the AGM on **Friday, 27th February 2026**, held during Quiz Night.

🗳️ Want to stand for a position?

• Complete the nomination form •  
Return it to the school office by  
3:30 pm – Wednesday, 25th February 2026

Good to know:

- You may nominate yourself (with a seconder)
- Unopposed nominations are automatically elected
- Ballots will be held if roles are contested
- You do not need to attend the AGM to stand.

## ☀️ EVERY PARENT IS WELCOME

**Whether you're new to Grimsdyke or have been part of the community for years — we'd love your support.**

✉️ **Questions or interest?**

**Email us: [fogs.events@gmail.com](mailto:fogs.events@gmail.com)**

👏 **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING FOGS**  
**Together, we make a difference.**

# PE

By: Mr Godfrey

This week in PE, we are shining the light on Year 3 who are taking part in a Dance unit. The unit is based around witches and wizards, with music from Harry Potter being used. Children have been learning to move with drama, emotion and creativity. Movements have included being witches, wizards who are creating spells, large and small animals who have been created by the witches and wizards and levitating feathers. Success criteria is based on the following;

- Pupils moving with expression
- Pupils creating sequences with their movements
- Evidence of creativity

We look forward to seeing how the children in Y3 continue to develop this for the rest of this half term.

## SCHOOL SPORT

**Recent school sport fixtures have included a netball tournament, the first ever NFL flag tournament and the Y5/6 Girls football team finishing their league fixtures.**

### NFL Flag

A team made up of 10 Y6 children took part in the first ever Harrow Borough NFL Flag championships.

Unfortunately, a number of teams were not able to make it on the day, which meant less matches. In a prolonged match against Cannon Lane, both teams showed off really good running skills to score lots of touchdowns. Ismael also managed to throw a TD to Christian whilst Christian returned an interception for a TD too.

In a frantic end to end game, Grimsdyke found themselves 7 points behind with 2 minutes remaining. With William now at running back, he ran 3 times to go the length of the pitch and score a TD. This put us 1 point behind but with the chance to score a 1 or 2-point conversion. The children decided to risk it and go for 2 and take the lead. Once again they handed off to William who just ran in to the end zone to give us a 1-point lead with 1-minute left. This meant Cannon Lane had some time to regain the lead but fantastic tagging meant the time ran out before they could score and Grimsdyke won the tournament.

This means we can now progress to London Regional finals later in the year.



### Y6 Netball Rally

The Y6 netball team took part in the competitive Netball rally along with 13 other teams.

We played 3 group games followed by 1 more game against a team that finished in the same position from another group. The tournament was held at John Lyon and the team delivered an excellent set of performances throughout the day. Our first match was against St George's, where we secured a 4-2 win. Strong defending and great movement down the court set the tone early on. We started off with a 4-2 win against St George's and this was followed by a 5-1 against Norbury.

This meant that if we avoided defeat in our last group game, we would finish top. A strong performance against Weald Rise followed with a 3-1 win. This meant we would play another group winner, which was Newton Farm. In a close game, we ended up winning 2-1. This means the team will now be invited back to a finals day where the winners of each group and a select few other teams will compete to become Borough champions.



### Y5/6 Girls Football

The Y5/6 girls completed their league fixtures with games against St John Fisher and St John's, hosted on our field. Firstly, we played St John Fisher and in a close game, Simar and Deeva both scored to give us a 2-0 win. After St John's and St John Fisher had played each other, we faced St John's. A fast start against St John's put us 1-0 with thanks to a great goal from Reya, however St John's levelled the scores just before half time. In a really close second half, St John's edge the final score 3-2 with Simar getting our other goal. Our girls finish their league campaign with 2 wins and 2 defeats;

Grimsdyke 1-2 Cannon Lane  
 Grimsdyke 2-0 Pinner Park  
 Grimsdyke 2-0 St John Fisher  
 Grimsdyke 2-3 St John's.

We await all of the results to see where we finished in the table.

# PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

In the last 'season' of Street Tag, Grimsdyke came in the top 5 scorers for the very first time. This meant that we win a prize of £25 to be reinvested into school.

## Q: What is Street Tag?

Your FREE family app for having fun and getting physically active. Whether you walk, run, cycle, or roll, you will have fun on our app and be motivated to keep going. We turn your community into a virtual playground to help you stay active every day as you compete with other members of your community for rewards.

## Q: How does Street Tag work?

Actively travel and earn rewards. Explore your community, parks, and green spaces alone or with a team to collect virtual tags and points. The app will automatically collect points, and these points will add up in real-time on the school leaderboard, with prizes to be won at the end of each season.

## Q: How do I join the App?

1. Install the app from the Play Store / App Store and sign up
2. Enter the valid details to sign up, then click continue.
3. Select the Leaderboard (Community, Workplace, School) and click continue.
4. Pick the Grimsdyke School team from the list and click continue.
5. Enter your details, then click on Sign Up.
6. Verify with your Email/ Phone number.
7. After the verification step, please answer the questionnaire.
8. Congratulations! Your account is ready for use.

## Q: How do I earn points?

Participants can accrue points by using their or their parents smartphones to collect virtual tags at different locations while walking, running, or cycling. The total distance covered contributes to their local leaderboard position, with steps converted into points upon syncing with the Street Tag app. When participants are within a 40-meter radius of a virtual tag, they collect a point associated with that specific tag.

Bonus Points – When joining the Grimsdyke team, if you are asking for a referral code, please use 'mrgodfreype'.

Prizes are rewarded each 'season' to the top 5 scoring schools and the top scoring individual from each of those schools.

A video guide is also available via the following link; <https://streettag.co.uk/video-guide>



# PUPIL PREMIUM

We are proud to share that Grimsdyke School has recently been recognised at a national level for the excellent outcomes we achieve for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium.

This reflects the strength of our provision and our commitment to ensuring every child has the opportunity to succeed. One of the ways we provide this support is through Pupil Premium funding.

If your child is eligible, this funding enables the school to offer additional support, including:

- Subsidies for school-run and external clubs
- Subsidies for educational trips and enrichment activities

Even if your child is currently doing well at school, registering for Pupil Premium can make a real difference to the wider opportunities we are able to provide. For more information please visit our website ([Pupil Premium - Grimsdyke School](#)) or contact school office. If you think you may be eligible, please use the link below to check and register. The process is quick and confidential:

[Apply for free school meals – London Borough of Harrow](#)

Registering helps both your child and the school, and ensures we can continue to offer the very best support for all our pupils.

Thank you for your continued support.

## A message from Bridget Phillipson



Dear Bindiya,

Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Grimsdyke School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

There are real opportunities available for you to support improvement for a wider group of pupils including through:

- engaging actively with [your region's RISE networks](#) and partnering with nearby schools and trusts;
- contributing to regional roundtables and professional communities to spread the approaches that are working in your context; and
- sustaining excellence by continuing to focus on disadvantaged pupils

Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.

Yours sincerely,

**Bridget Phillipson**  
Secretary of State for Education

**Choir****Art****Dance**

## Lunch Time Clubs at

At Grimsdyke, we turn every minute of the day into an opportunity to enrich our children's learning. Here are just some of our amazing lunch time clubs.

**Craze of the Week****Lego****Gardening****Uno**

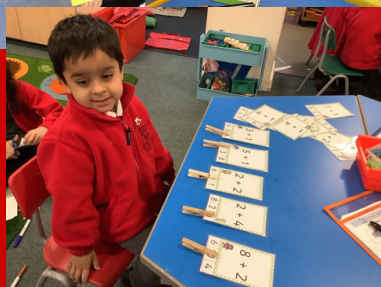
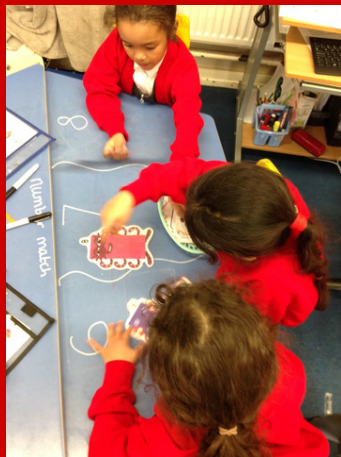
Last week, we continued our Space topic by learning about the planets in our solar system. The children enjoyed discovering fascinating planet facts and created sentences using Colourful Semantics. We also read the story *The Queen's Lift-Off* and learnt about the Royal Family.

This week, we shared the story *Aliens Love Underpants...* and you may have heard some very exciting news! Some aliens appeared to have taken all the pants from Reception! The children spent the day investigating and searching for clues around the school. Thankfully, all the missing pants were returned the following day, much to everyone's relief!

In Maths, we revisited number bonds using a part-whole model and explored the composition of the numbers 6, 7, and 8. The children solved addition problems and practised writing addition number sentences using the correct symbols. We then moved on to Mass and Capacity, where the children enjoyed hands-on activities exploring the weight and volume of different objects.

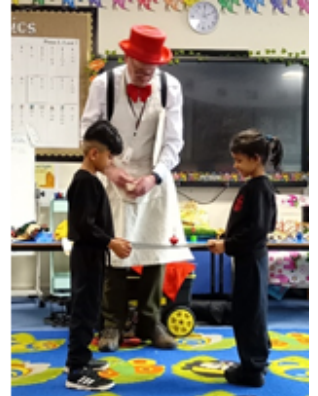
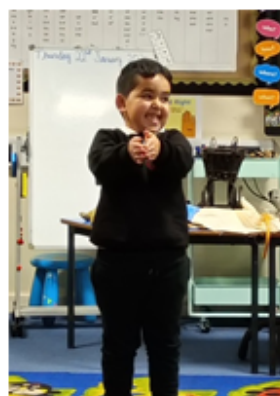
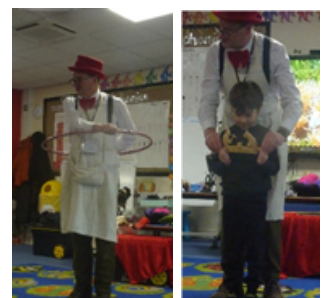
Just a reminder that we will be holding a Space Theme Day next week on Friday 6th February. Please send your child to school dressed up for the occasion—we can't wait to see their fantastic outfits! 🚀🌟





## HISTORY

In our history lesson last week, Mr Aker, the Toy maker, visited Year 1 and shared lots of information about Victorian toys. We explored and tried out a range of toys, finding out how they worked and what materials they were made from. It was great to interact with all the toys that we have been learning about in history.



Over the last few weeks, we have been doing lots of great learning! In our topic 'The Far East' the children have continued to look at what life is like in China and compared their own school life to a child's in China.

In maths, the children have continued to work on money by looking at different word problems where they had to work out how much change they would get. We have also begun work on equal/unequal groups and repeated addition.

In English, we started our new book called 'Cloud Tea Monkeys' and the children have been looking at settings. The children have been writing descriptions focusing on expanded noun phrases and conjunctions.

In Art, we finished our work on the artist 'Yayoi Kusama' and created our own versions of her pumpkin artwork inspired by her love of polka dots and bright colours.

In computing, the children continued their work on programming and got to use their command skills by using Beebot's to follow different algorithms.

In science the children have been focusing on the rain forest and the environmental problems that the world is facing.



This past fortnight, our year 3 pupils stepped back in time with an exciting hands-on Art and History project: creating their own Roman shields.

The children began by looking at historical designs and why symbolism and colour were so significant. They explored how bold patterns were used to show strength, power and allegiance, and how different colours had different meanings.



Then, the children designed their own shields, carefully planning symbols and colours that reflected what they had learnt as well as making their shields unique to themselves.

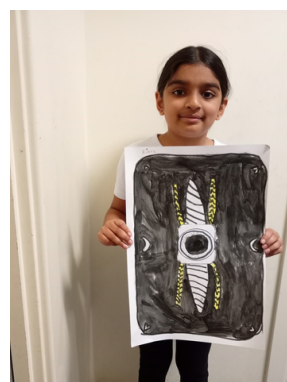
Once their ideas were finalised, they scaled up their designs to a larger format, ready to start painting.





Finally, once dry, the children could add their finishing touches. Using black pen, they carefully outlined their patterns and added decorative embellishments, bringing their designs to life.

We are sure you will agree, their final Roman shields are striking, thoughtful and full of creativity!



## GYMNASTICS

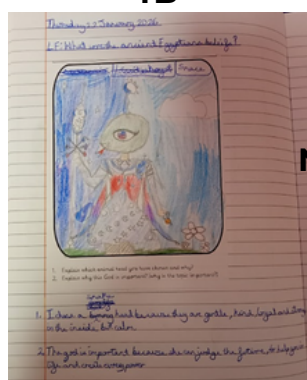
Year 4 children have begun their gymnastics unit this term, focusing on developing strength, balance, flexibility, and coordination. Through a range of floor and apparatus activities, pupils are learning how to control their movements, link actions smoothly, and work safely with others.



## HISTORY

As part of our learning about Ancient Egypt, the children have been busy designing their own gods and goddesses inspired by Egyptian mythology. They explored the roles, symbols, and animal features of traditional deities before creating unique characters with their own powers, responsibilities, and stories.

4B



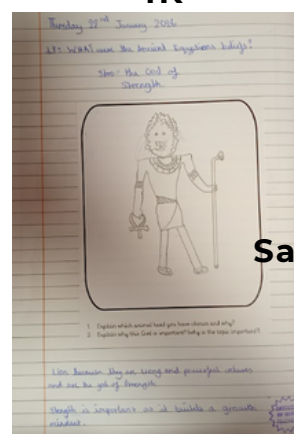
Naina

4A



Kiara

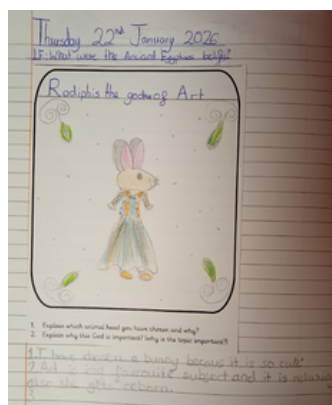
4K



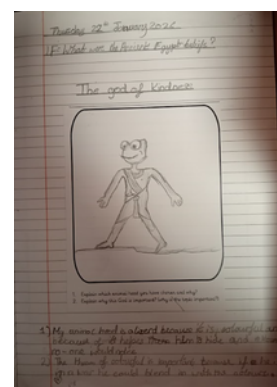
Samarth



Caitlin

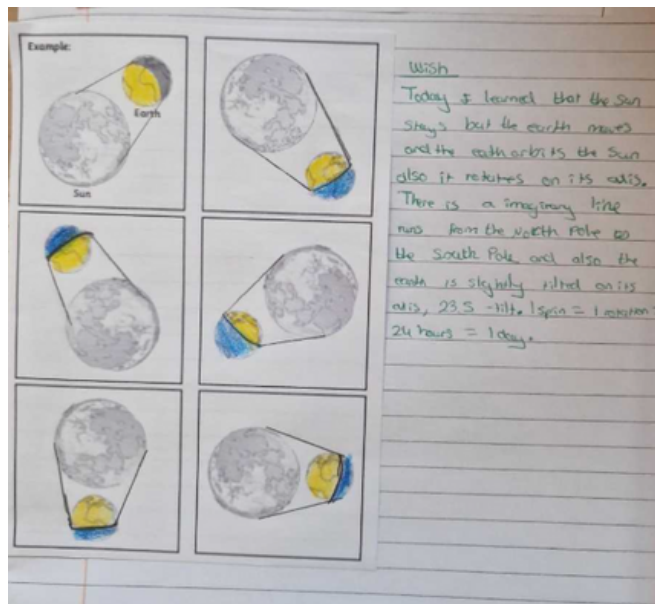
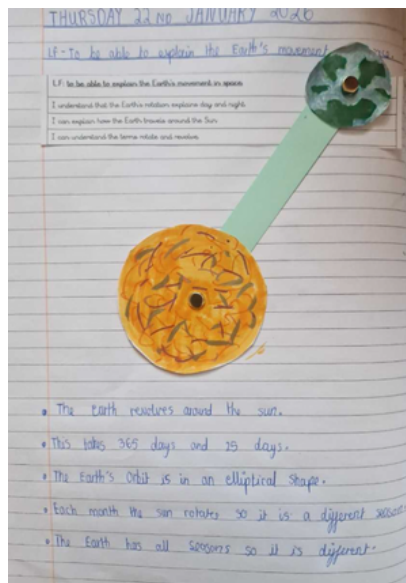


Ruh



Aashvi

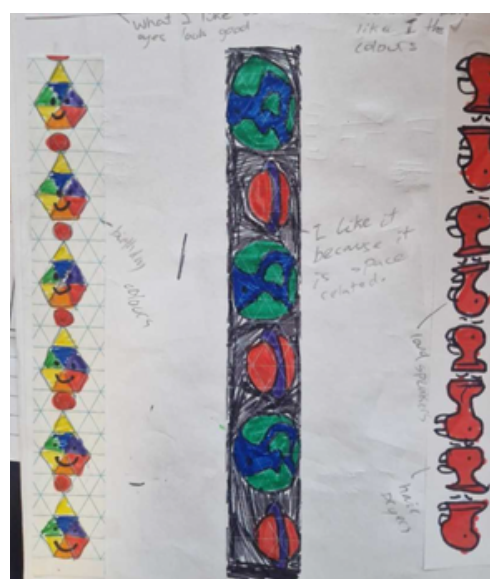
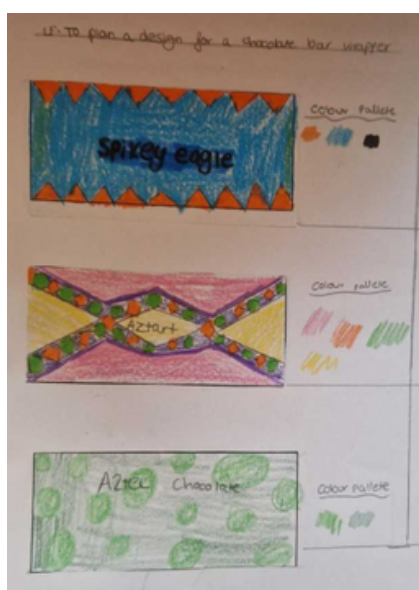
## SCIENCE - SPACE



Year 5 have been absolutely loving their Space topic this term! Using globes and torch lights, they've been investigating how the Earth's rotation causes night and day, and how its tilt and orbit around the Sun create the seasons.

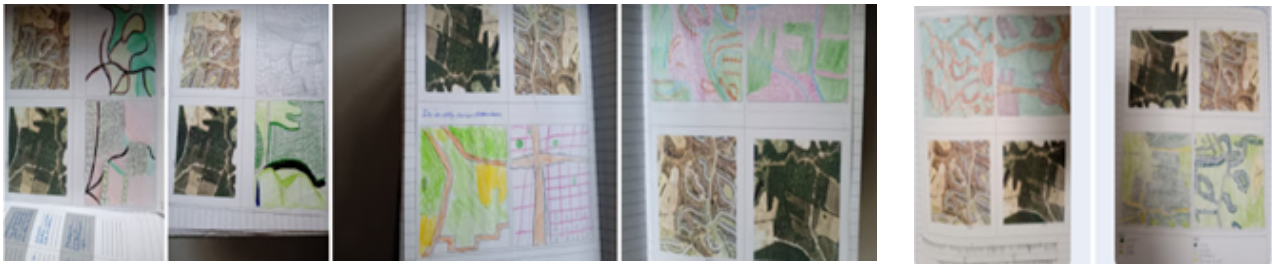
The classroom has been buzzing with excitement as pupils worked hands on, asking thoughtful questions and making brilliant connections. Their curiosity and enthusiasm have been out of this world, and they are so excited to continue learning more about our planet and the wider universe!

## ART - CHOCOLATE BAR WRAPPERS



In Art, Year 5 have been getting creative by designing their own chocolate bar wrappers. They explored colour, pattern, and symmetry, thinking carefully about what makes packaging eye-catching and appealing. The children loved developing their own brand ideas and experimenting with bold designs. The results have been imaginative, vibrant, and very tempting indeed!

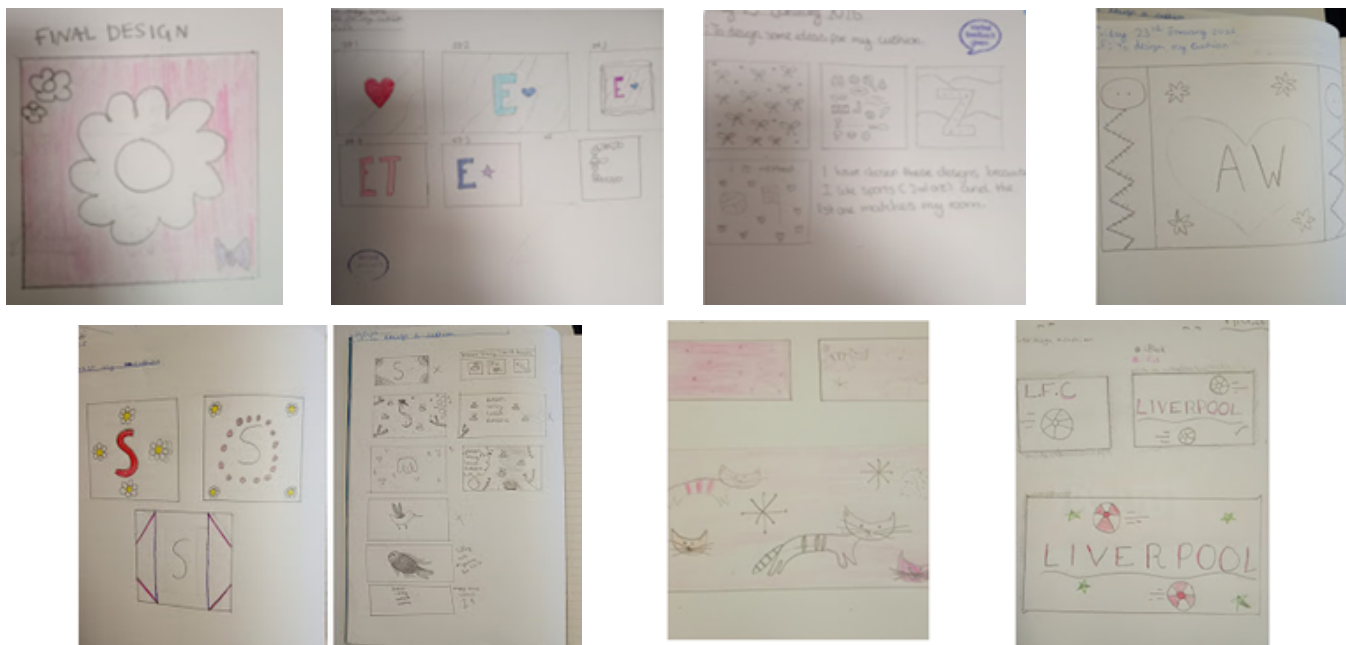
In geography, children were studying urbanisation. Urbanisation is the process where more and more people move from the countryside to live in cities. They used their knowledge of OS maps to produce maps showing the changes in Loudoun County between 2012 and 2018.



In English, Recently, presented speeches centred on climate change, highlighting its profound impact on the Earth. Through the use of compelling arguments and emotive language, the children articulated the urgent need for environmental stewardship.



In dt, following the completion of their mood boards, the children proceeded to conceptualise and create their own unique cushion designs. They will be cutting and making their cushions in the upcoming weeks.



**SPRING TERM 2026**

|                                 |                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon 2nd Feb                     | 6M visiting British Library                                                                   |
| Tues 3rd Feb                    | 6G visiting British Library<br>Y5 visiting Whipsnade Zoo<br>Y6 Netball Development Tournament |
| Wed 4th Feb                     | Guitar Festival<br>Y1 visiting Kol Chai Synagogue                                             |
| Fri 6th Feb                     | Reception 'Space' Themed Day                                                                  |
| Mon 9th Feb                     | Breck Foundation Parent Workshop (6-7pm<br>via Zoom link)                                     |
| Tues 10th Feb                   | Y5/6 Cross Country<br>Safer Internet Day<br>Breck Foundation to Y1-Y6                         |
| Thurs 12th Feb                  | Chinese New Year Menu                                                                         |
| Fri 13th Feb                    | 6R visiting British Library                                                                   |
| 16th - 20th Feb                 | Half Term Break                                                                               |
| Tues 24th Feb                   | Y3 visiting Verulamium Museum<br>3R Parent Consultation                                       |
| Tues 3rd Mar                    | Y5 CREW - Space                                                                               |
| Thurs 5th Mar                   | World Book Day                                                                                |
| Mon 9th Mar                     | Science Boffins Workshop                                                                      |
| Fri 13th Mar                    | Y3 and Y5 Visual Reality Workshops                                                            |
| Tues 17th Mar                   | Y4 visit from Mr Egypt<br>Reception Vision Check                                              |
| Wed 18th Mar                    | String Festival                                                                               |
| Thurs 19th Mar                  | Y4-6 visit from Nonsuch Orchestra                                                             |
| Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar       | Reception Vision Check                                                                        |
| Fri 27th Mar                    | Last day of Spring - close at 2:30pm<br>(ASC clubs will not be running on this day)           |
| 30th Mar - 10 <sup>th</sup> Apr | Easter Break                                                                                  |
| Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Apr        | Start of Summer Term                                                                          |
| Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Apr      | Y2 visiting Windsor Castle                                                                    |
| Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Apr        | Parent Forum - 9am                                                                            |
| Tues 21 <sup>st</sup> Apr       | Breck Foundation Digital Citizenship                                                          |

**TERM DATES**
**Spring Term**

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

**Summer Term**

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

**PDD dates**

Fri 17th Jul  
Mon 20th Jul

**2026/27 TERM DATES**
**Autumn Term**

Wed 2 Sept - Fri 23 Oct  
1/2 term break: Mon 26  
Oct - Fri 30 Oct  
Mon 2 Nov - Fri 18 Dec

**Spring Term**

Mon 4 Jan - Fri 12 Feb  
1/2 term break: Mon 15  
Feb - Fri 19 Feb  
Mon 22 Feb - Fri 25 Mar

**Summer Term**

Mon 12 Apr—Fri 28 May  
1/2 term break: Mon 31  
May—Fri 4 Jun  
Mon 7 Jun—Thurs 22 Jul

**PDD dates**

TBC