

# GRIMSDYKE NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

## MESSAGE FROM MRS BHUDIA

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term. It is already well underway and with only five weeks to go, it will no doubt pass quickly. We are looking forward to a busy and productive few weeks ahead.

## WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

Next week we will be celebrating World Book Day, a highlight of our school year that both staff and pupils greatly enjoy. Each year there is a slightly different focus in recognition of this day.

This year's theme, 'Go All In', encourages everyone to make reading a meaningful part of daily life and to celebrate reading for pleasure in creative and engaging ways.



Reading is one of the most powerful foundations for learning. It sparks imagination, enriches vocabulary and plays a vital role in developing academic success, creativity, empathy and confidence. By sharing stories and prioritising time for reading each day, we nurture a lifelong love of books in our children.

As shared with parents via email earlier this week, we have an exciting programme of activities planned, including:

- World Book Day Masquerade – dress up
- Masked Reader Assembly
- Book Swap
- Go All In, Every Day for a Week challenge
- Reading Everywhere initiative
- World Book Day Live Writing Lesson for Key Stage 2
- The Great Big World Book Day Footy and Booky Quiz for Key Stage 2

We look forward to seeing the children fully embrace the spirit of the day and celebrate the joy of reading together.

## BOOK FAIR

We are thrilled to announce that the Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Grimsdyke School! This is a wonderful chance for children to explore a fantastic selection of books and discover new favourite authors and books. Every purchase made also helps us earn free books for our school, enriching our library and classrooms.

The book fair is a great way to get children excited about reading and provides an opportunity for families to explore books together. Whether your child is looking for a new adventure, a favourite author, or a fun non-fiction read, there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

**Book Fair Dates:**

- Wednesday 4th March – Years 3 and 4
- Thursday 5th March – Reception Years 1 and 2 (World Book Day - further information attached)
- Friday 6th March – Years 5 and 6

**Explore the Books Before You Buy!**

To help your child decide on their favourites before the fair, please take some time to browse the three book categories together:

- Welcome to Reading (Ages 2+) – <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/wtr>
- Read Alone (Ages 6+) – <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/ra>
- Read On (Ages 8+) – <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/ro>



## PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parent Consultations for the Spring term are taking place next week, by now you should have booked your time slot on Arbor. These are face consultations at school which means that you will have a chance to look through your child's books and see all of the work that they have completed since the beginning of the year. In order for the evening to run smoothly, I ask that you make sure you are prompt to your meetings and that you use the ten-minute allocation effectively.

Collection on both of these days will be slightly different to support this further – **Please note the following;**

- Both Infant and Junior gates will open at 2.50pm for collection and close promptly at 3pm. Collection during this time will take place from the normal locations
- Once you have collected your child/children please exit the playground as soon as possible.
- All parents attending appointments including those who have one of the first few appointment times, must enter the school via the front door only. If your child is attending with you then they will be able to lead you to your classroom or you can follow the signs.
- Parents **must not** enter the building through any other entry door.
- Please take time either prior to or after your appointment to view your child's learning in their tray that will be out for you to look through
- Once you have finished your appointment you should return to the front door to exit the building as all external gates will be closed.

As we move closer to the end of the term I look forward to seeing many of you on the school site for various school events – these are all detailed in the School Calendar at the end of the Newsletter.

## TRAIN TO TEACH

Thinking about a career in teaching? Applications are now open for Teach West London's teacher training programme starting September 2026.

Our school partners with Teach West London to offer West London based routes for parents, graduates, teaching assistants, and career-changers. If you, or someone you know, has the potential to become an excellent teacher, find out more by contacting Teach West London on 020 3301 3180 / [ITT@teachwestlondon.org.uk](mailto:ITT@teachwestlondon.org.uk), visiting their [website](#), or register your interest [here](#).



President: Owain Arwel Hughes CBE

[www.trinityorchestra.org.uk](http://www.trinityorchestra.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1114976

**Saturday 7 March 2026**

**Concerts at 2.30pm & 4.15pm**

*approx running time: 1 hour | doors open 30 mins before*

**St Edmund's Church, Northwood Hills, HA6 1QS**

## TRINITY ORCHESTRA FAMILY CONCERT



## MUSICAL SUPERHEROES!

Join us for daring rhythms and orchestral powers that will save the day, with musical adventures from Superman, The Avengers, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, and much more.

**Trinity Orchestra**  
**Jonathan Mann** conductor  
**Ruth Rosales** presenter  
**Arwen Newband** leader

**Concerts admission  
by programme**

£10 adults | £5 children  
under 2s go free

**Book online:**

[www.trinityorchestra.org.uk](http://www.trinityorchestra.org.uk)

**Box Office:** 020 8428 5924

**On the door** (subject to availability)



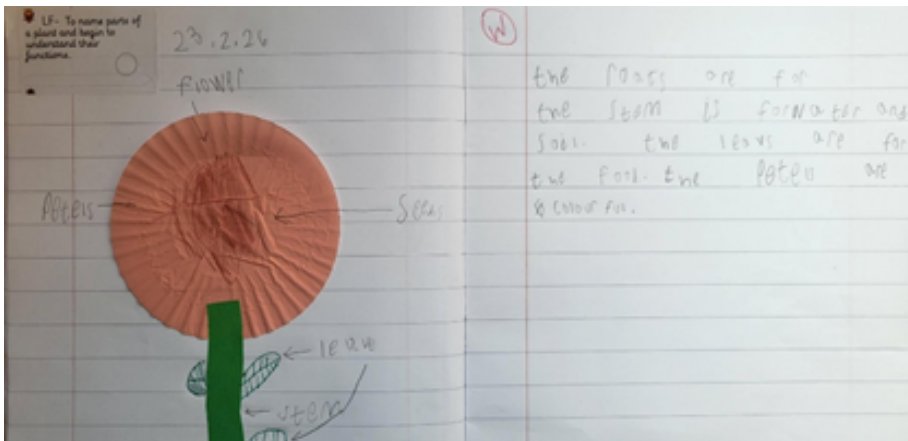
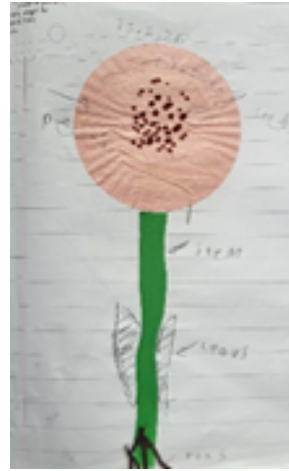
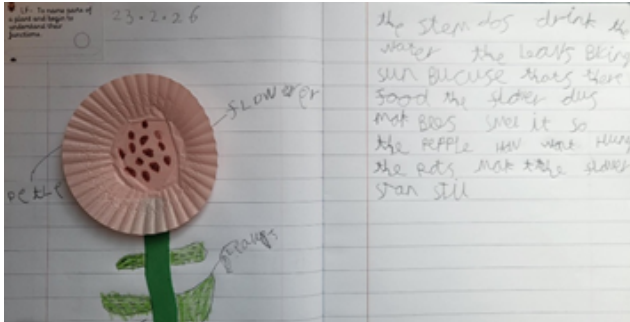
Welcome back to the second part of the Spring Term.

This half term's topic is called 'Once Upon a Time'. Last week we read the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children had lots of fun getting in role to retell the story. They planted beanstalks and made magic beans. The children learnt the parts of a plant and what a plant needs to grow.

In maths the children learnt about comparing and measuring length and height. One morning, giant footsteps appeared in our classroom and the children enjoyed measuring them too!



This half term, our topic is titled 'How does your garden grow?'. The focus in science will be plants. In reception we learnt the parts of a plant and now we are learning what each of those parts do.



Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term!

In maths, the children have continued to work on multiplication and division focusing on 2's, 5's and 10's. Next week we will begin to look at measuring. In English we have started looking at Aesop's Fables. The children really enjoyed reading through the different fables and figuring out the moral lesson within the story. The children also really enjoyed our hot seating activity, where they took turns asking and answering questions as the characters from the story.

In science the children have carried on looking at habitats and the things animals need to survive.

In Geography we have been looking at weather and seasonal patterns in the UK.



This week, our three Year 3 classes enjoyed an exciting and educational trip to the Verulamium Museum in St Albans as part of our Roman history topic. During the visit, each class took part in a fascinating workshop exploring real and replica Roman artefacts. The children handled objects just like those used thousands of years ago and learned how archaeologists use clues from the past to understand Roman life. They asked thoughtful questions and impressed the museum staff with their knowledge and enthusiasm.

The pupils also spent time exploring the museum galleries, discovering what daily life was like in Roman Britain. They were amazed by the beautiful mosaic floors and the remains of the hypocaust heating system, which showed just how advanced Roman engineering was.





One of the highlights of the day was seeing a real, live local archaeology dig taking place nearby. We were incredibly lucky to learn that earlier that very morning, a Roman coin featuring the head of Caesar had been discovered on site! The excitement of witnessing history being uncovered made the experience even more memorable.

It was a fantastic day filled with learning, curiosity and discovery — a wonderful way to bring our Roman topic to life. Many thanks to all the staff and parents who made this trip possible. A great time was had by all!

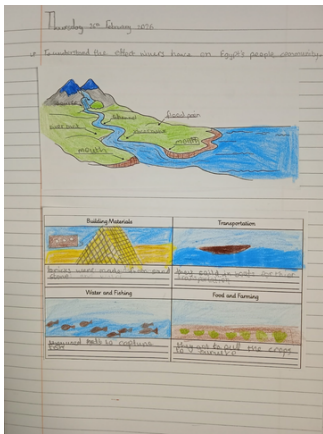
# GEOGRAPHY

In Geography this week, we have continued our study of Egypt. The children explored the different parts of a river, learning how to accurately label key features such as the source, mouth, banks and tributaries.

We then focused on the River Nile, discovering why it has been so important to Egypt both in the past and today. The children learned how the Nile supported Ancient Egyptian civilization by providing water for farming, transport and trade, and how it continues to play a vital role in modern Egypt.

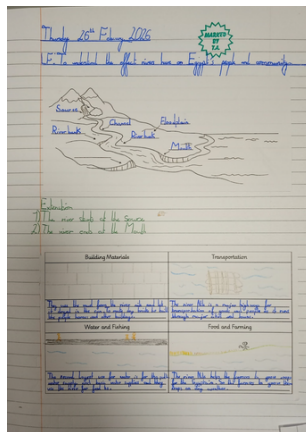
It has been wonderful to see the children making connections between physical geography and human activity, while developing their map and labelling skills.

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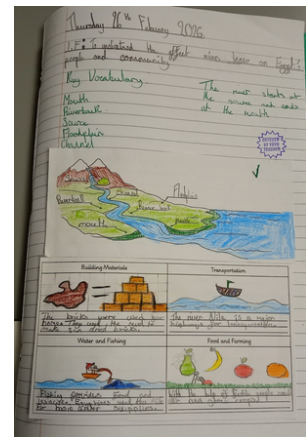
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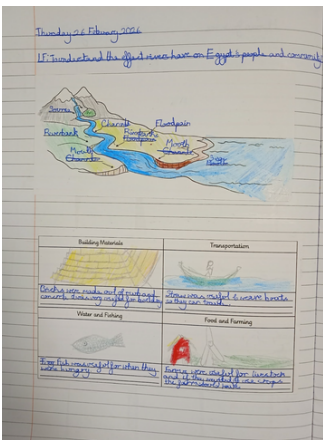


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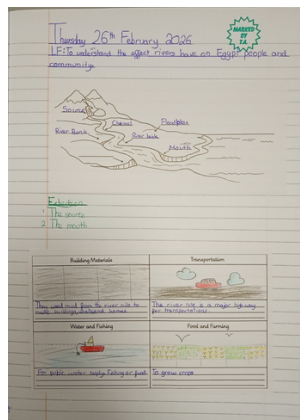
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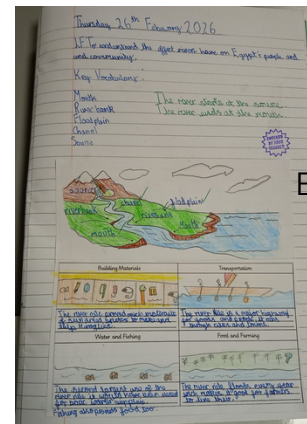
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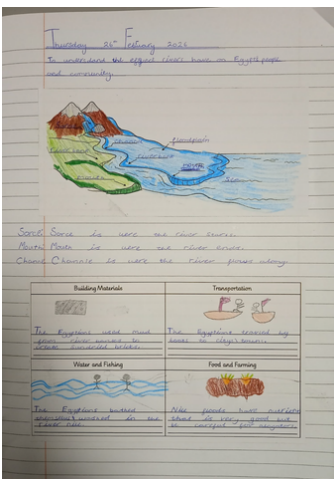
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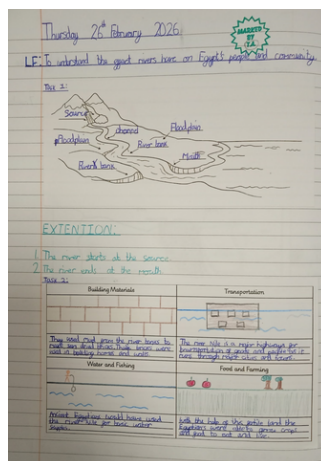
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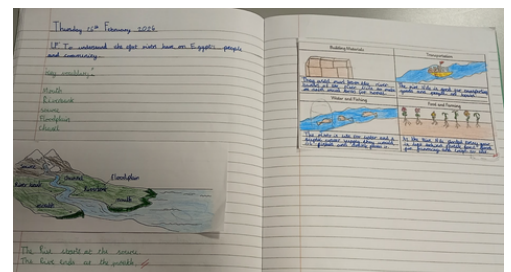
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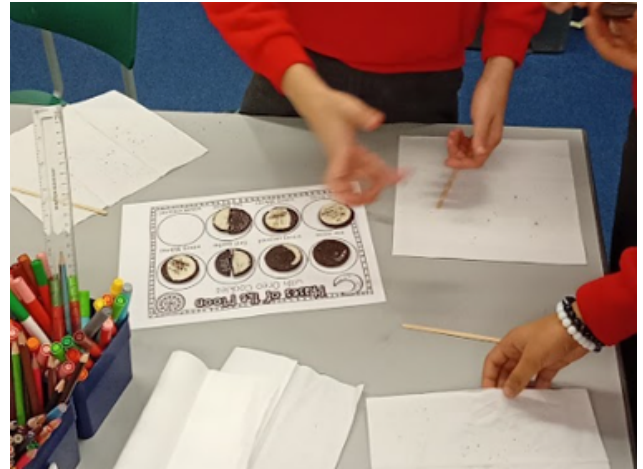
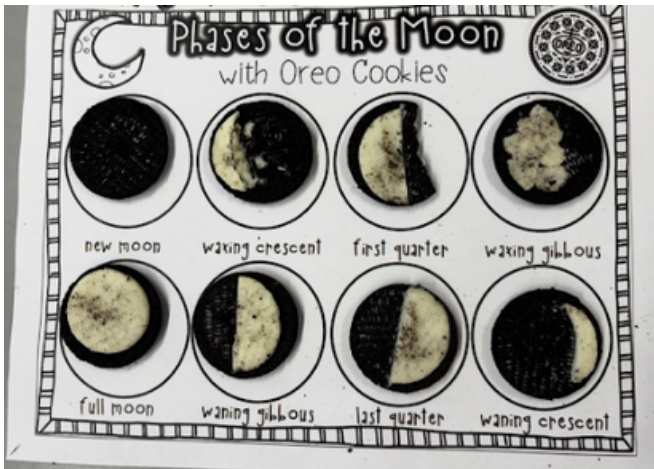
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Year 4 - PE

In PE this week, we were lucky to have a visit from Watford FC as part of their Community Sports and Education Trust. The children took part in a range of exciting activities in building their confidence, teamwork and fundamental movement skills. We look forward to welcoming them back for the rest of the term, where the children will continue to develop their skills and enjoy learning through sport.



## SCIENCE - MOON PHASES



Year 5 have been learning all about the phases of the moon in Science. To help them understand how the moon appears to change shape throughout the lunar cycle, the children took part in a very exciting practical activity using Oreos.

They carefully twisted open each biscuit and used the cream filling to model the different phases, including the new moon, crescent moon, quarter moon, gibbous moon and full moon.

By scraping away different amounts of cream, they were able to clearly see how the illuminated part of the moon changes over time. This activity helped them to understand that the moon doesn't actually change shape - it is the way we see it from Earth as it orbits our planet that creates the phases.

The children had to use great self control to avoid eating their models!

## ART - AZTEC CHOCOLATE BARS



In Art, Year 5 finally completed their wonderful Aztec inspired chocolate bar. They used inspiration from Aztec art to create their own detailed and eye catching chocolate bar packaging designs.

After completing their packaging, the children moved on to the most exciting part - making their chocolate bars! They carefully added their own chosen toppings, thinking about flavours, texture and appearance to create a unique final product. Some selected colourful sprinkles, while others chose dried fruit or crunchy additions to make their chocolate.

They had lots of fun throughout the project and were incredibly proud of their finished products. We hope their chocolate creations were just as delicious as they looked!

Year 6 children have started cricket in P.E. The unit will consolidate children's knowledge, understanding and ability to effectively apply a range of fielding, bowling and batting skills and tactics into mini games. After each game, children will evaluate and make suggestions as to how they can improve their attacking tactics.



In computing, children will develop their knowledge and understanding of using a computer to produce 3D models. They will initially familiarise themselves with working in a 3D space, moving, resizing, and duplicating objects. They will then create hollow objects using placeholders and combine multiple objects to create a model of a desk tidy. Finally, children will examine the benefits of grouping and ungrouping 3D objects, then go on to plan, develop, and evaluate their own 3D model of a building.



In English, children have started reading the novel Windrush Child by Benjamin Zephaniah. It tells the story of a young Jamaican boy leaving his home to travel to England as part of the Windrush generation. The book highlights themes of migration, identity, racism, hope, and belonging. It celebrates the strength of the Windrush generation and helps children understand an important part of British history.



**SPRING TERM 2026**

Tues 3rd Mar	Y5 CREW - Space Y5/6 Tag Rugby League
Thurs 5th Mar	World Book Day
Mon 9th Mar	Science Boffins Workshop Y6 Neball Finals
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parent Consultations - early close for all classes at 3pm
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parent Consultations - early close for all classes at 3pm Reception visiting St Anselms Church
Fri 13th Mar	Y3 and Y5 Visual Reality Workshops
Tues 17th Mar	Y4 visit from Mr Egypt Reception Vision Check Y5/6 Tag Rugby
Wed 18th Mar	String Festival Reception - Height & Weight Check
Thurs 19th Mar	Y4-6 visit from Nonsuch Orchestra 2CM - Parent Consultation
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Red Nose Day Choir Showcase
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Y5/6 Boys Football League <b>Y5 African Drumming Performance (11am)</b>
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Reception Vision Check
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	KS1 Sports Festival
Fri 27th Mar	Last day of Spring - close at 2:30pm (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
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	Y1 visit from Ranger Stu
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> May	5BM visiting HEHS for Art Workshop
11 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs week
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Y1 visiting Hertfordshire Zoo

**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