

# GRIMSDYKE NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

## MESSAGE FROM MRS BHUDIA

Dear Parent and Carer,

The arrival of the Summer term is just around the corner and there are lots of things to look forward to during the summer months e.g. Summer Carnival, Sports Days and various trips and experiences to support the curriculum within the classroom. Please make you save the dates for these as they will be upon us before we know it, you will find many of these dates in the calendar at the end of the newsletter.

### Summer Uniform



As the weather, starts to get warmer students are encouraged to wear the summer uniform, information on this can be found with this newsletter. It is not part of the Uniform policy to wear a blended approach to this. It is also extremely important that the students bring to school, on a daily basis, a freshly filled water bottle. Having this in class means the students have the opportunity to maintain their water intake and refresh themselves on a more regular basis.

### RED NOSE DAY 2026

We recently took part in Comic Relief's Red Nose Day fundraiser by organising a "Wear Something Red Day". From this event and the subsequent performances in the run up to the end of the term, I am pleased to share with you that we raised **£463.50**. This is an amazing community effort; we will take great pleasure in passing this on to Comic Relief on behalf of the Grimsdyke community. It is something we should all be very proud of. Please do share this information with your children at home and celebrate a wonderful effort.



### SPRING PERFORMANCE

Over the past fortnight I have had the pleasure of immersing myself in the Spring Showcase Performances presented by both Year 3 and Year 4, alongside a dynamic and spirited African Drumming Performance by Year 5. These performances, which are regular highlights on our school calendar, offer students valuable opportunities to enhance a range of different skills such as public speaking. However, the journey to these showcases involves much more, encompassing the learning undertaken throughout the term to lay the foundations and understanding of the content presented, as well as the dedicated rehearsal aimed at perfecting their cues, the use of props and delivery of lines.



All three showcases fulfilled their purpose admirably by effectively sharing the learning developed over the term. I congratulate not only the students for their outstanding efforts but also the staff for their tireless support of the students. A heartfelt thank you extends to the parents who joined us in the school, adding to the celebratory atmosphere.

## ATTENDANCE

### MONITORING

Regular school attendance plays an important role in supporting pupils' learning and wellbeing. As a school, we follow guidance from the local authority and work closely with them to support strong attendance for all students.

We kindly ask that any absences are reported promptly, along with any supporting information, by emailing [attendance@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk). This helps us ensure that we can use the correct codes on the register when recording absences and support your child effectively when they return back to school.

Please find attached an e-leaflet from the local authority which outlines attendance expectations. Further information is also available on Harrow Council's website:

<https://www.harrow.gov.uk/schools-learning/school-attendance-guidelines-penalty-notice>

### THE RACE FOR THE ATTENDANCE CUP.....

Attendance over the course of the term has remained relatively positive, even with some of the nasty virus' floating around. We often talk about "breaking through" the 95% barrier and for the most part we have been successful with this, as you can see from the data below. As we return at the beginning of the Summer term I will be completing the attendance monitoring for the Spring term and awarding classes with attendance certificates to celebrate.

Attendance Profile – Average so far (Autumn and Spring Term)						
Rec	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
93.5%	95.8%	96.3%	95.9%	95.9%	96.3%	95.4%

### LIVING EGGS EXPERIENCE

Last Monday, we were delighted to welcome a set of "Living Eggs" into school. The eggs were carefully placed in an incubator in the library and by the end of the first day, several chicks had already begun to hatch.

This has been a wonderful experience for our pupils and one we have not been able to offer for a few years. Many children had the opportunity to see the chicks up close and even hold them for the first time, making it a memorable and engaging learning experience for all involved.



## PARENT FORUM

We are pleased to be holding our next Parent Forum on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity for parents to share their views and contribute to developments for all students on key areas of school life.

Previous forums have included positive conversations around assessment, home learning, after-school clubs, external clubs and our mental health and wellbeing support. We encourage parents to submit agenda items in advance so that we can make the most of our time together. Minutes from the meeting will be shared with all families afterwards. We look forward to welcoming as many parents as possible. Please look out for further information through Arbor communication.



## PARENT GOVERNOR



We currently have a vacancy for a **Parent Governor**. This is a valuable opportunity for parents or carers to work closely with the school and contribute to its **strategic development and direction**.

If you are interested in supporting the school in this role, please take a look at the advert for further details. If you would like to find out more, please feel free to contact me or speak with one of our current governors, who would be happy to answer any questions about the role.

The advert is available on the school website and **applications close on Friday 3rd April**:  
<https://www.grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=61>

Applications should be submitted via **MyNewTerm** using the following link:  
<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/102187/EDV-2026-GS-11969>

We all look forward to seeing you on the Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April for the beginning of the Summer Term and all the adventures to come. The Infant and Junior gates will open as normal at 8.30am for the soft start process and will close promptly at 8.45am.

I hope you have a lovely Easter break with lots of rest, relaxation and family time together.

Kind regards  
 Mrs Bhudia  
 Headteacher

## MESSAGE FROM CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

We were delighted to mark Mrs Bhudia's appointment as Headteacher at last week's Full Governing Body meeting. It was a lovely opportunity to come together, present flowers, and celebrate the start of this exciting new chapter for the school.

We are very much looking forward to working together and supporting Mrs Bhudia as we continue to build a positive and successful future for our whole school community.



### Zoroastrian community 2026

Last week we had a visit from members of the Zoroastrian community who delivered assemblies across the whole school.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our visitors for their time and effort. Some of our visitors were parents from the school and one was a priest. During their visit they introduced the children to key aspects of their faith including their spring festival. They also brought in a range of artefacts for the children to see and learn from.

The presentations were very interesting and captured the children's curiosity throughout. This experience enriched our RE curriculum and celebrated the variety of beliefs within our school community. It was wonderful to see the children so engaged and asking thoughtful questions during the assemblies.

We are very grateful to our visitors for sharing their time and knowledge with us.



## PE

This half term in PE, KS2 have been focussing on tennis in their lessons with PSD. Children in Year 3 have been working on their grip and forehand techniques whilst in Year 4, this is being developed further along with a backhand technique. Year 5 have been developing their volley and introducing serves to rallies, whilst Year 6 have been developing their knowledge of tennis scoring/points and using this in rallies/mini games with each other.

Next half term, KS2 PE with PSD will be focussing on Athletics.



## SCHOOL SPORT

Our competitive netball team took part in a 'finals day' at the beginning of March. This was due to winning all their matches at a previous qualifying event. The event took place at John Lyon Playing Fields with a total of 10 schools involved. The winning school would have the chance to represent Harrow at the London Youth Games so team Grimsdyke were very excited. Our first match was against Cannon Lane and we got off to a slow start, eventually losing 4-2. The next game was against a strong Welldon Park side and in an end to end game, Welldon Park ran out 6-4 winners. A win in our last game group game would still give us a chance of qualifying for the semi-finals. Unfortunately, despite leading 1-0, St George's scored two late points to grab a win. The team were disappointed as they had beaten some of the teams in the qualifying event and all agreed they could have played better. However, there were still two games to play on the 'shield' side of the draw. There was a big win first followed by a rematch against Cannon Lane. Despite taking a 3-0 lead, the team then let their guard down in the second half to lose 4-3. The team have performed very well at all the netball tournaments and their growth has been very encouraging to see.

Two teams of Y5/6 children attended the Tag Rugby League Development tournament at Shaftesbury Playing Fields in mid-March. The teams were mixed with boys and girls in 7-a-side games. Grimsdyke 1 were in Group B and had the following results;

Grimsdyke 1-2 Elmgrove  
Grimsdyke 1-0 Aylward  
Grimsdyke 2-0 Roxeth  
Grimsdyke 3-1 Stanburn

Grimsdyke 2 were in Group A and had the following results;

Grimsdyke 3-1 Stanburn  
Grimsdyke 2-1 Grange  
Grimsdyke 3-0 St Teresa's  
Grimsdyke 1-2 Welldon Park

This meant both teams qualified for the 'finals' group and played a few more matches, including against each other. That game finished in a draw whilst Grimsdyke 1 also beat Grange 2-0 and drew with Welldon Park 0-0. Grimsdyke 2 lost 1-0 to Elmgrove in their final match.

It was a fantastic effort from the children involved, showing great knowledge and skill throughout the day. Well done to James, Theo, Maayan, Christian, Oscar, Abdullahi, Charlie, Ismael, William, Ikran, Sonny, Diyan, Reya, Sofia, Kaiya, Sarah, Zahra D, Zahra R and Mayra.

The Cross Country finals took place this week at Newton Farm park. The course was run in dry but boggy conditions and at a distance of approximately 2km. Each race had between 35-40 participants and our children did fantastically well. The results are as follows'

**Y5 Girls**

10<sup>th</sup> – Jayna  
11<sup>th</sup> – Elissia  
13<sup>th</sup> – Esmee  
15<sup>th</sup> – UmikaReya

**Y5 Boys**

10<sup>th</sup> – Avir  
17<sup>th</sup> – Eric  
21<sup>st</sup> – Adhrit  
28<sup>th</sup> – Kian  
29<sup>th</sup> – Ibrahim

**Y6 Girls**

Reya

**Y6 Boys**

3<sup>rd</sup> – Christian  
4<sup>th</sup> – Vian  
27<sup>th</sup> – Casey  
26<sup>th</sup> – Nayan



### Physical Activity

This week has been Schools' Football Week, organised by the Schools' Football Association and in partnership with Pokemon.

The idea is to get as many children joining in with football related activities during PE, break and lunchtimes and in the classroom.

To further motivate children, we received a box of packs of Pokemon cards to hand out to children who show enthusiasm, commitment, effort and sportsmanship in the activities.

Mr Godfrey has been running football challenges during break and lunchtimes whilst PE lessons in the final week of term have been changed to or included some football within them.

The new season of StreetTag started last month and finishes in May. Grimsdyke School are currently in third place. There have been lots of new team tagging members since our last newsletter which is great to see. Keep tagging team Grimsdyke!



Leaderboard start 19th Feb, 2026 -Resets 6th May, 2026		
Rank	Score	Team name
1.	3,460,325	(27) Weald Rise Primary School
2.	3,122,605	(38) St Bernadettes Catholic Primary School and Nursery
3.	921,965	(28) Grimsdyke School
4.	662,490	(85) Pinner Park Primary School
5.	565,005	(106) St John Fisher Catholic Primary School
6.	257,790	(17) Kenmore Park Junior School
7.	214,410	(36) Stanburn Primary School
8.	205,930	(82) Roxeth Primary School
9.	188,960	(21) Longfield Primary School
10.	152,250	(7) St Georges Catholic Primary School

### KS1 Multi-sports

10 children from KS1 were selected to represent Grimsdyke at the KS1 Multi-Sports festival. Held at St Bernadette's School, our children took part in a circuit of activities which included football, hockey, cornhole, speed stacking, frisbee throwing and egg and spoon races to name a few. The children were very well behaved and showed off a fanatic attitude and range of skills.

Well done to Layth, Ovi, Veroka, Krish, Tilak, Erin, Amelia, Jun, Sanam and Rudra.



This has been a busy and exciting term for Music at our school.

### STRING FESTIVAL

A group of our talented pupils had the wonderful opportunity to perform at the Harrow Arts Centre as part of the annual String Festival.

They performed alongside other local schools, demonstrating great confidence, teamwork and musical skill. It was a fantastic experience for the children to be part of a larger ensemble and to share their hard work in such a professional setting.

A big thank you to Ms Millard, our violin teacher, for her support in preparing the children for this event. We are incredibly proud of all the pupils involved and the way they represented the school.



### NONSUCH ORCHESTRA

The children in Year 4, 5 and 6 took part in a workshop delivered by the Nonsuch Orchestra, where they learnt more about string instruments and how music can be used to create vivid images through the way it is played.

A huge congratulations to Ria, Elyssia, Amelia, Eleanor and Beatrice, who performed alongside the orchestra.



In addition, children were invited to conduct the orchestra and sing along, making it a truly interactive and memorable experience.

### GRIMSDYKE CHOIR

Congratulations to our choir, who performed to parents at our choir showcase.

They sang beautifully and with great confidence, delivering a fantastic performance.

A special thank you to all the children who have attended weekly rehearsals, showing incredible commitment throughout the term—it has been a pleasure to watch them develop and grow as performers.

We would also like to thank Mr Kesselman, our choir master, for his dedication in rehearsing the children each week and supporting them to achieve such a wonderful performance.



This week, we explored the story Little Red Riding Hood. The children thoroughly enjoyed acting it out and confidently joining in with the repeated phrases from the characters. Through the story, they also learned an important message about staying safe and not talking to strangers. We finished the week on a lovely note by making our own cakes to celebrate Easter.

We were also very excited to have some eggs hatch into chicks in school. The children had the opportunity to gently hold the chicks and learned all about their life cycle, which was a wonderful hands-on experience.

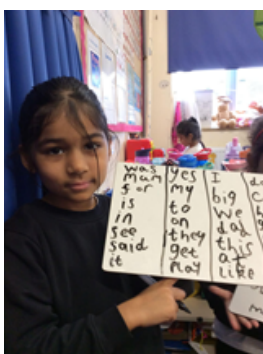
In maths, we have been learning about 3D shapes and repeating patterns. The children have been naming and describing a range of 3D shapes and have enjoyed spotting them around our classroom environment.

With the brighter days arriving, we have been thinking about the changes that come with spring. We went on a 'Spring Walk' in our local area, looking for signs of new life in nature, and have spent time creating beautiful spring flowers inspired by what we saw.

We were also fortunate to have some visitors lead an assembly about the Zoroastrian religion, helping the children learn about different beliefs and traditions. In addition, we spent time learning about Eid and why it is an important celebration for many families.

It has been another busy and exciting half term, and we are incredibly proud of how engaged the children have been with our 'Once Upon a Time' topic.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful Easter holiday!





**SCIENCE** – For the past three weeks we have been observing the growth of plants that have been placed in different places around the classroom.

In reception we learnt that sun and water are both important for plant growth. Now we are in year 1, we know that warmth and nutrients are also important. However a plant without sun can still grow but would not be green. .



We also went on a plant hunt at school. First we looked for **evergreen** and **deciduous** trees, then at wild and garden plants.

This half term we have have been developing our gymnastics skills:





ART: We have spent this half term exploring how artists use colour, texture and pattern in both paintings and sculpture. This week we finished painting our clay sculptures of flowers and plants using primary and mixing to create secondary colours.

**We wish you a happy and restful Easter break.**  
**Our summer 1 topic is titled 'Africa is not a country' where we will be focusing on the continent of Africa, its weather, landscapes, landmarks and animals.**



We cannot quite believe that we have reached the end of another term—it has certainly been a busy, exciting and productive one for Year 2!

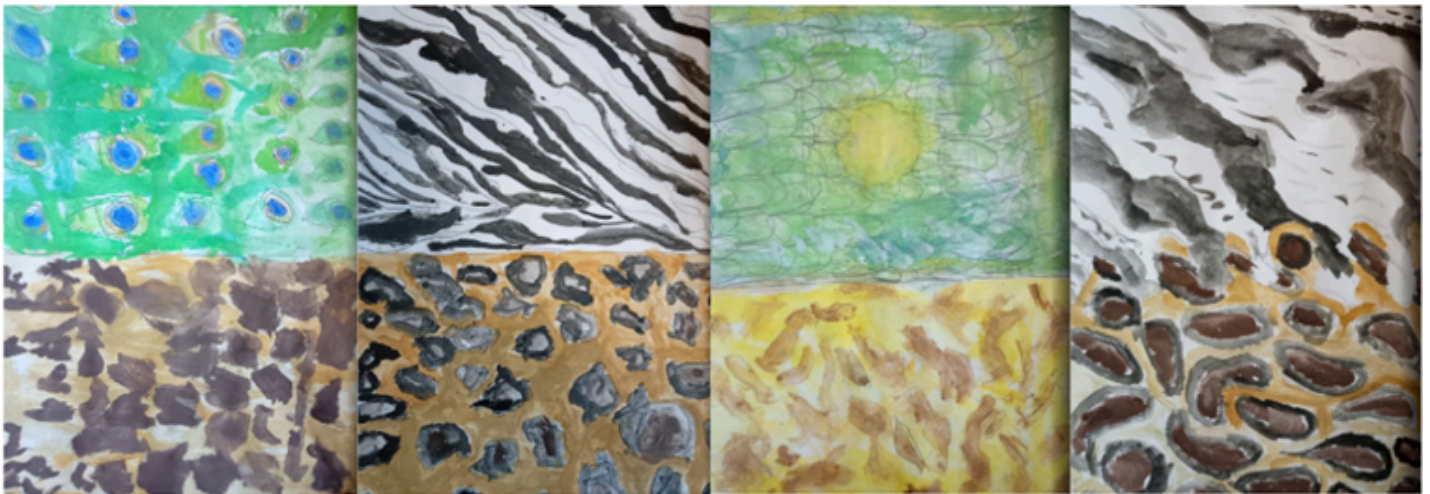
Throughout the term, the children have shown great enthusiasm and curiosity across all areas of the curriculum. In Computing, we have been learning how to create pictograms, and the children have really enjoyed developing their skills in presenting data clearly.

In English, the children have been incredibly creative, writing their very own fables. They worked hard to include important features such as morals, interesting characters and imaginative settings, and it has been wonderful to see their confidence in writing grow. In Science, we have been learning about diet and nutrition, with a focus on how a balanced diet supports healthy growth.

In Maths, our focus has been on measuring and comparing capacity and volume. In Geography, we have explored indigenous animals from different regions and learnt about which animals hibernate, sparking lots of interest and fascinating questions.

Art has been another highlight this term, with the children thoroughly enjoying drawing and painting animal patterns. They have experimented with different techniques and colours, producing some beautiful and creative work that they are very proud of.

We hope that you all have a very Happy Easter and a restful break. We look forward to welcoming the children back, refreshed and ready for what promises to be another busy and exciting Summer term ahead!



**YEAR 3 CELEBRATE WORLD BOOK DAY!**

This past fortnight, our year 3 pupils have enjoyed some incredible hands-on experiences including handling chicks, rehearsing our showcase and a fantastic workshop with VR headsets. The children were VERY excited to be virtually transported back to Ancient Rome. They 'flew' over the Colosseum in Rome, discovered life as a soldier in a Roman army legion as well as experiencing Pompeii just as Mount Vesuvius was about to erupt! Many children had never before tried VR and are certainly excited to try it again in the future...





Finally, it was time for year 3 children to make their Italian pizzas - something they had been looking forward to since the start of term!

After researching and designing the 'perfect pizza', they thought carefully about food hygiene during preparation and making. The children practised their mixing and kneading skills to make the dough, before adding their favourite toppings.

Most children couldn't wait until they got home... many were spotted eating their pizzas before they had even left the school gates!

A HUGE thank you to the kitchen staff for assisting in the cooking of our pizzas and for showing our children the workings of our school kitchen.



## YEAR 4 - SHOWCASE!

This week, our year group has been buzzing with excitement as we proudly performed our showcase, "The Pyramid Pitch: Dragons' Den Egypt." The children did an incredible job bringing their ideas to life, combining creativity, confidence, and teamwork.

We are so proud of all the children for their hard work and dedication in learning their lines, practising their dances, and performing their songs so brilliantly in front of an audience. Their enthusiasm and courage truly shone through, making the performance a huge success. Well done to everyone involved – what a fantastic achievement!



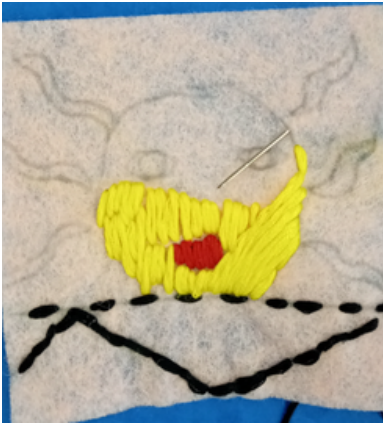
### Year 4 - Mr Egypt

Last week, Year 4 enjoyed an exciting and memorable visit from "Mr Egypt," an Egyptologist who lives and works in Luxor. The children were fascinated as he shared his knowledge of Ancient Egyptian culture and gave them a real insight into what life is like working as an Egyptologist.

One of the highlights of the visit was the opportunity for the children to handle real artefacts from Egypt, bringing their learning to life in a truly unforgettable way. It was a fantastic experience that inspired curiosity and excitement across the whole class!



## DT - SEWING



Year 5 have shown fantastic focus and creativity in their recent sewing lessons in DT. They have worked incredibly hard to develop their skills, learning how to carefully thread a needle and practise a range of different stitches.

It has been wonderful to see their concentration and determination as they improved their techniques week by week. The children should be very proud of the beautiful embroidery pieces they have created. We are delighted with the progress they have made, have a look at the amazing pieces above.

## AFRICAN DRUMMING

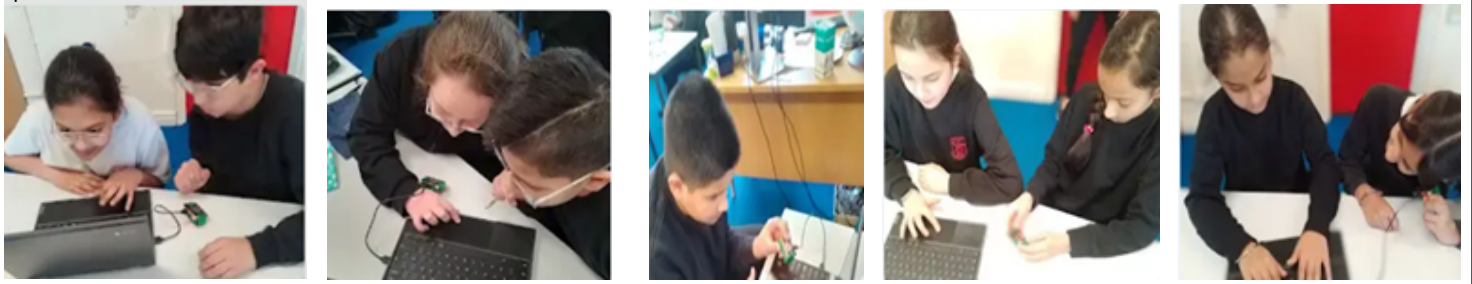


After 10 weeks of hardwork it was showday! Our Year 5 African Drumming Performance was a truly memorable event, showcasing the incredible talent, energy, and enthusiasm of the children. Year 5 did an amazing job, bringing the performance to life through their singing, rhythmic drumming, and dancing. Their confidence and teamwork shone through, and it was wonderful to see how much they have learned and developed.

We hope that all the parents and carers who attended enjoyed the performance as much as we did. The children worked extremely hard in preparation, and their efforts showed on stage.

A special thank you goes to Tammy and Akoto for their support and expert teaching. Their passion and encouragement played a huge role in helping the children achieve such a fantastic performance.

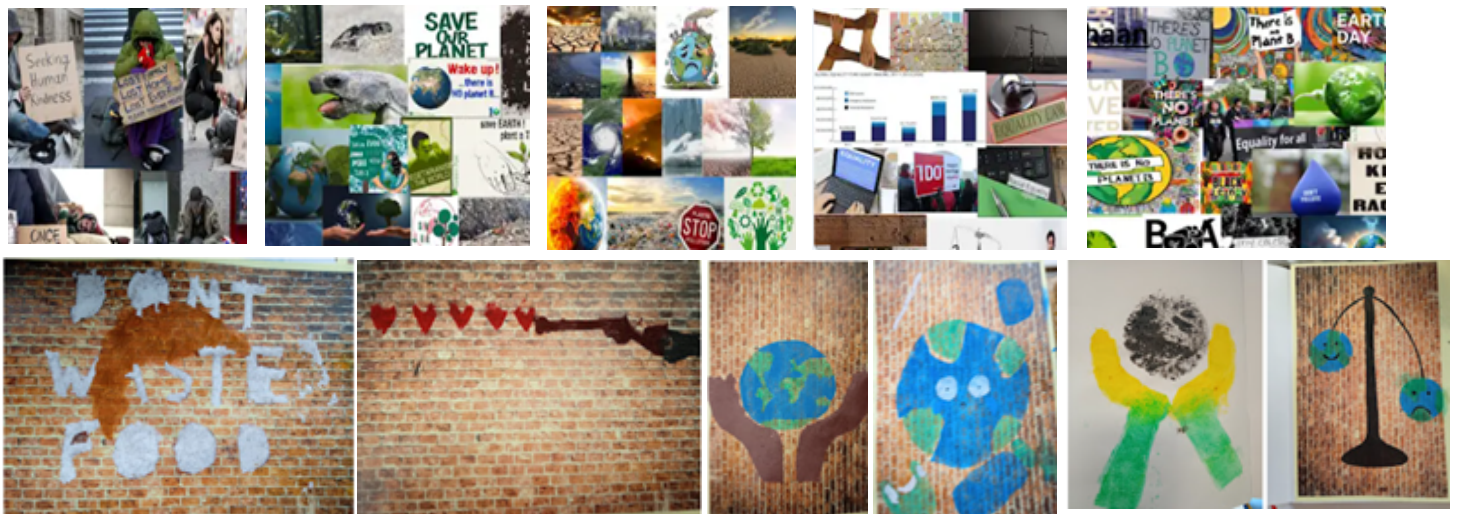
In music children have been using mirco- bits to perform and create short musical phrases using pitch and rhythm. They have been exploring different ways music can be communicated and notated. They will be evaluating how effectively musical instructions communicate sound to a performer.



In geography, children designed their own sustainable cities. Having studied Copenhagen, San Fransico and Singapore, the children explored various aspects of urban planning, including renewable energy sources, waste management systems, and green spaces.



In art, Year 6 children have taken inspiration from their mood boards to create their own political inspired art. Their art addressed issues the children are passionate about. The issues ranged from climate change to food wastage.



**SPRING TERM 2026**

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

**SUMMER TERM 2026**

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Apr Start of Summer Term

Tues 14<sup>th</sup> Apr Y1 Phonics Presentation (9am)  
5CM visiting HEHS for Science Workshop

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

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> May May Day Bank Holiday

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> May 5BM visiting HEHS for Art Workshop

11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> May Y6 SATs week

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> May 5O visitng HEHS for Science Workshop

Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> May Y1 visiting Hertfordshire Zoo

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> May Reception visit from Zoolabs

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> May Y4 Residential to Cuffleys

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> May Pupil Census

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> May 5CM Art Workshop at HEHS  
Y4 return from Cuffleys

25-29 May Half term break

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Jun Cycle Confident (registered only - 5 days)

Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun Class Photos

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Jun Y5 visit from CREW

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Jun Cycle Confident (registered only - 5 days)

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Jun Y4 visiting Kew Gardens

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Jun Reception visiting Odds Farm  
5O visiting HEHS for Art Workshop

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Jun Y1 CREW - Science in Action  
Y3 visiting The Globe (one class)  
Y6 visiting NHM - Lego workshop (2 classes)

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Jun Y3 visiting The Globe (one class)

**TERM DATES**

**Spring Term**  
Mon 23 Feb - Fri 27 Mar  
**Easter Break**  
30<sup>th</sup> Mar - 10<sup>th</sup> Apr

**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