

GRIMSDYKE NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

MESSAGE FROM MRS BHUDIA

Dear Parent and Carer,



Welcome to the Summer term. I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the warmer weather we have been experiencing. Long may it continue. With the longer days and rising temperatures, we have once again included information about our summer uniform in this newsletter. I appreciate that some families may not be ready to bring this out from the cupboard just yet, but it is always helpful to be prepared as we move further into the term.

If your child is wearing summer uniform, they must wear the full summer uniform rather than a combination of summer and winter items. Please refer to the information included in the newsletter for full details and clarification.

CALENDER DATES

It has been a busy start to the Summer term, with plenty of preparation taking place across the school as we look ahead to a packed and exciting term. With this in mind, I would encourage everyone to make regular use of the calendar on the school website, as well as the diary dates listed at the end of the newsletter (new dates have been added), to ensure that nothing is missed. These are two key parts of the school's communication process. If you are ever unsure, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.



SUMMER TERM CURRICULUM...

As we begin the Summer term a revised series of curriculum documents will be made available to the parents on the school website. Within these documents you will be able to see the plan for the curriculum across the summer term allowing you to discuss and talk with your child about the learning that is taking place in class. Please click on the [Curriculum](#) tab on the website and select your child's year group to read more. If you have any questions regarding this then you can contact Mrs Dwyer who is responsible for both Teaching and Learning and the Curriculum – via her email address rdwyer@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk

SATs Week – National Testing Arrangements

Over the past few weeks, our Year 6 pupils have been working hard in preparation for their upcoming end of KS2 SATs assessments. We are very proud of the effort, resilience and positive attitude they have shown throughout this period.

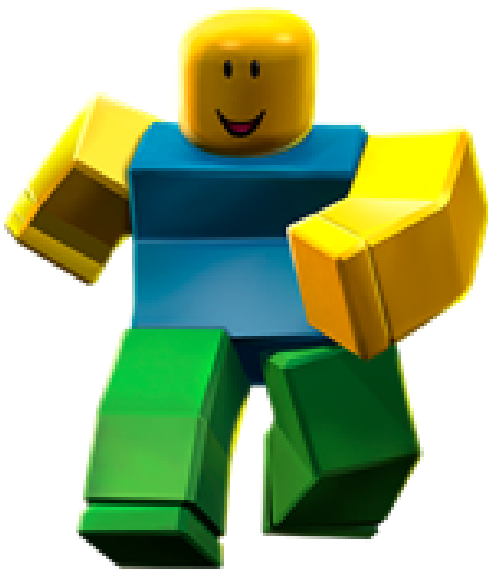


We will be sending out further communication early next week regarding the Year 6 SATs Breakfast Club and will also be looking for parent volunteers to help support us in running this. Please keep an eye out for this information.

School events -

Alongside the national testing and screening arrangements taking place in both KS1 and KS2 this term, we also have a number of exciting events planned across the school. These include the Mini Marathon, Sports Days, the Summer Carnival, Year 5 and Year 6 summer performances, the Year 4 residential visit to Cuffley Camp, the Year 1 trip to Hertfordshire Zoo and visits from Ranger Stu, to name just a few. These are always wonderful opportunities for our children, and I know they will continue to enrich the learning and experiences of all those involved.

Online Safety - Roblox: Tips and Guidance for Parents



As parents, I am sure many of you will have heard of Roblox. If you have not seen your children playing it, you have more than likely heard them talking about it. In short, Roblox is one of the most popular gaming platforms among primary-aged children. It is an online platform where players can interact with others and access a wide variety of games created by users. It also allows players to design and build their own games and experiences to share with others through the platform. While the age rating is PEGI 7, there remain a number of concerns linked to the platform, including online interactions, in-game purchases, and access to user-generated content. For this reason, I have attached a parent guide to today's newsletter, which I hope you will find useful and informative.

Class Photos –

We are pleased to let you know that class photographs will take place on **Thursday 7th May**. This is always a lovely opportunity to capture memories of the school year and celebrate each class community. Please ensure that children arrive in full school uniform and are ready for their photographs on the day.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Bhudia



Find Our Summer Term Curriculum Documents!

Visit the "Curriculum" section on our website under each Year Group to find:



Curriculum Maps

Showing what the children will be learning this term!

Recommended Reading List

Bespoke for Grimsdyke School and linked to our curriculum!



Knowledge Organisers

For each subject/topic the children will be learning about this term!

Supporting Your Child at Home

Websites and activities you can do at home with your child!



Find them in the Curriculum Section on our website!

P.E

This half term across the school, children are developing their athletics skills. In Y1 and Y2, children will be focusing on jumping whilst in KS2 they are also looking at improving their throwing and running and competing in competitions within those lessons. These skills are a vital part of the children's physical development. For children in Year 5 and Year 6, it is an opportunity to hone their skills and try out for the popular QuadKids and Borough Athletics teams. Mr Evans is also running an athletics club, after school on Wednesdays, which is a great way to fine tune their technique further.

YEAR 4 FOOTBALL

It's the summer term and with that comes opportunities galore with inter-school sport.

We started off the term by hosting the annual Year 4 Pinner Cup football tournament. The tournament is a mixed 6-a-side competition with 3 boys and 3 girls on each team. This year 7 teams took part in a round robin league stage.

Grimsdyke were hoping to win the trophy for the 3rd time in 4 years but it was not meant to be. Heading into the last game, the team needed a win against St Teresa's to top the table. St Teresa's knew that a draw would be enough for them to become champions for the second year in a row.

Grimsdyke tried their hardest in their final match of the day but then lost 2-1 which gave St Teresa's victory and the shield for another year.

Year 3, get ready for your turn next year!

Well done to all of the children involved.



TO THE FUTURE.....



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UPCOMING EVENTS

As Year 6 now looks ahead to their SATs, there will be a couple of events including cricket for Year 3 and Year 4 in May.

As we get deeper into the summer term, Year 5 and Year 6 will have an opportunity to compete in the Harrow events of:

- QuadKids,
- Borough Athletics,
- Cricket,
- Tennis, and
- Rounders

whilst our Y6 NFL Flag team will be competing in the London finals and our Y6 Hockey team will take part in the West London Games at Brunel University in June.

Success in the aforementioned events, may also lead to qualification for finals at the West London Games. As always, details of trials and training for events are shown to the children via posters on the classroom/corridor doors.

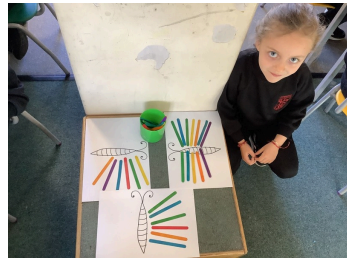
Welcome back to the Summer Term! Our topic this half term is called 'All Creatures Great and Small'. We have begun our topic by learning about minibeasts. We read the story 'Mad About Minibeasts' by Giles Andreae and the children wrote sentences about their favourite minibeast from the story. We learnt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

We spent one day focussing on bees and we made honey sandwiches which the children loved eating as part of their snack time.

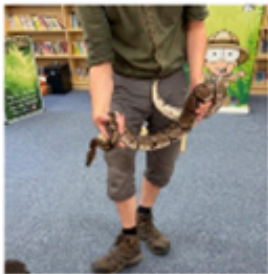
This week in literacy we read the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. The children created their own versions of the story and retold them to their friends. We learnt about the lifecycle of a butterfly and the children were encouraged to use scientific vocabulary. We have also got real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

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





SCIENCE/ ENGLISH: This week the children had a very exciting visit from Ranger Stu. They learnt all about different animal groups and got to hold some African animals. Ranger Stu taught the children many interesting facts. The children got to meet a pancake tortoise, an owl, a python, a tarantula, a blue tongued skink, a duprasi and a tenrec. The children then went on to write their own non-fiction report all about Tenrecs.

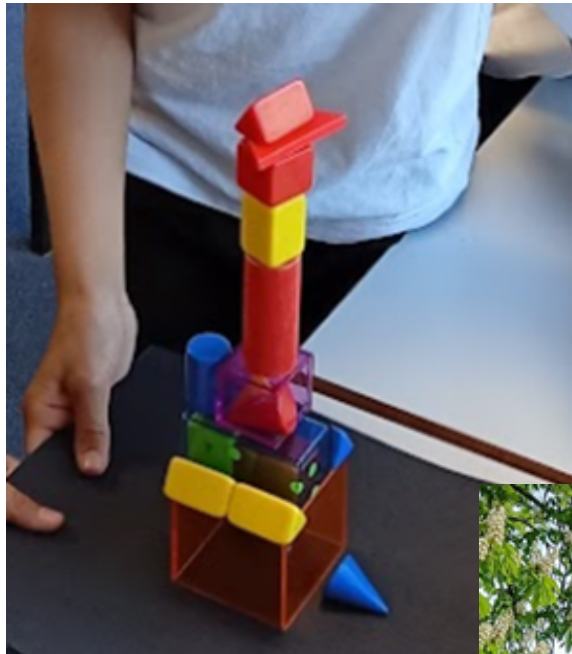


We have had a great start to the new Summer term and have been busy learning lots of new things in year 2!

In English the children have been reading the texts 'The Queen's Hat' and 'The Queen's Handbag'. The children have also begun planning different ways they can rewrite the story, focusing on different characters and settings.

In maths the children have been learning all about parts and the whole. The children have also begun work on fractions looking into recognising and finding a half/ a quarter. In History the children have been comparing the reigns of three different queens, Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II.

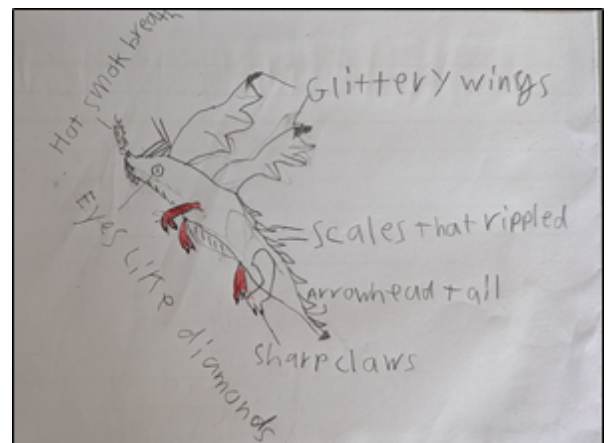
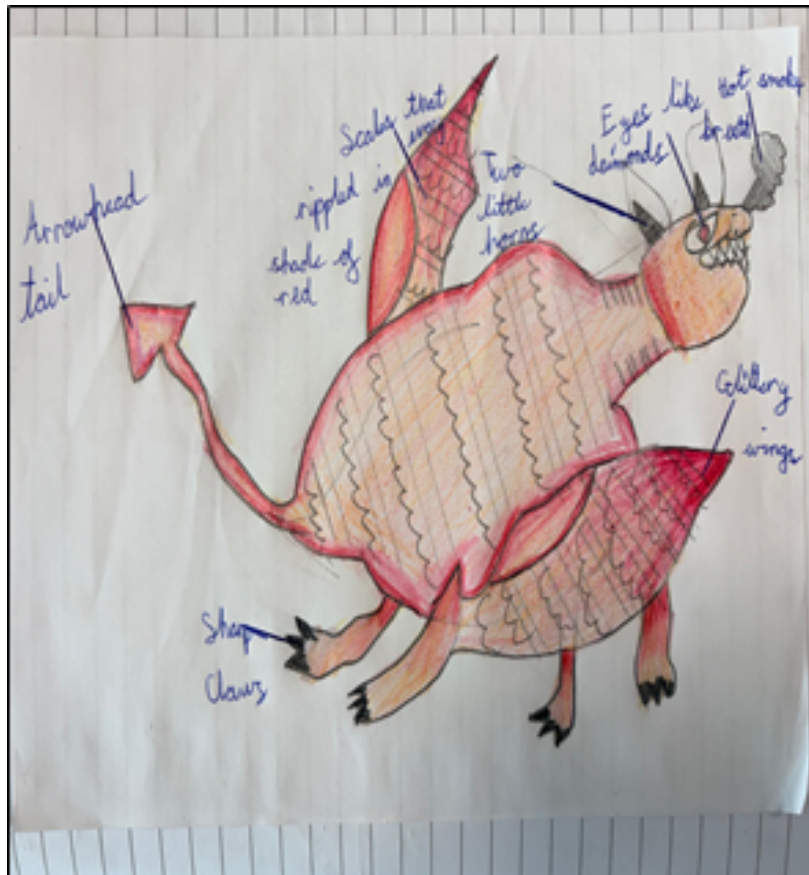
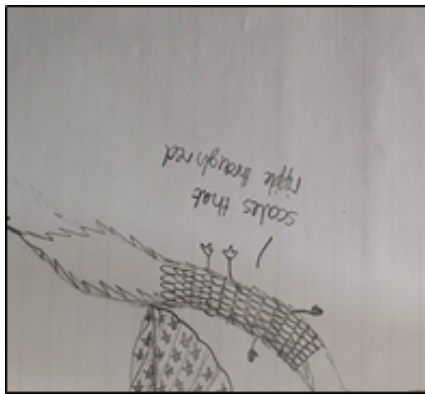
In DT the children have been learning all about castles and the different parts of a castle. This was a lovely lesson to have just before our visit to Windsor castle which the children thoroughly enjoyed. The children loved spotting different features of a castle on the trip. In DT the children have also enjoyed testing what makes a castle stable. In computing the children have enjoyed making music digitally and in PE the children had a wonderful gymnastics session all about cartwheels.



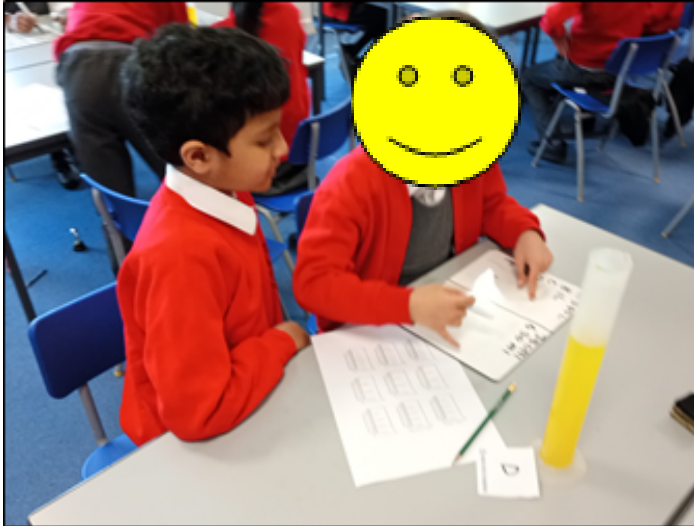
WE ARE VERY PROUD TO SHOWCASE SOME FANTASTIC LEARNING IN YEAR 3 THIS PAST FORTNIGHT...

In English, we have begun to read our new class text, 'The Boy who Grew Dragons' and the children enjoyed a lesson looking at how noun phrases were used to add description. They had a lot of fun interpreting the dragon in their own unique way and were fascinated that even though they had all read the exact same description, their pictures looked very different from one another.

From top to bottom, left to right: Danylo 3B, Mahi P 3R, Sienna 3T, Hamza S 3B, Alekhya 3T, Sebastian 3R



In Maths, we have been continuing our topic of Volume and Capacity. This was best explored by practical means; children measured coloured water in measuring jugs using their knowledge of counting increments between measuring lines. We quickly discovered that not all measuring equipment uses the same scale!



In Science, we have been learning about sun safety and the importance of using SPF cream. Experimenting with beads which turn colour when exposed to UV light, we were able to show that the beads coated with a higher SPF cream were the most protected.



YEAR 4 - SCIENCE

Year 4 have enthusiastically begun their new topic, Living Things and Their Habitats.

The children worked collaboratively in their table groups to explore a variety of habitats, discussing the animals that live there and the conditions they experience. Over the coming weeks, we will be learning about the characteristics of different animals, using classification keys to group them, and investigating the fascinating adaptations that help them survive in their environments.

4A

4B

4K

Habitat - Forest and Woodland

Names: _____

Research Questions

What animals live in your habitat? *Badgers and squirrels from trees and berries*

What is the climate like in your habitat? *Temperate with lots of rain, some snow and moderate heat. (50°C-100°C) in tropical areas with high heat humidity.*

What plants live in your habitat? *Maple, birch, oak and ash trees and wild grass*

What are conditions like in your habitat? *High humidity, fresh air, daylight, cool, winter, snow, frost.*

Plants are the most important animals in the forest. They provide food for the animals and the soil which are needed for the animals to live.

Animals are important because they eat the plants and the soil which are needed for the animals to live.

Habitat - RAINFOREST

Names: _____

Research Questions

What animals live in your habitat? *Monkeys, snakes, birds, insects, and other animals that live in the rainforest.*

What is the climate like in your habitat? *It is hot and very wet with a lot of rain.*

What plants live in your habitat? *Many types of trees, including the rainforest.*

What are conditions like in your habitat? *It is hot and very wet with a lot of rain.*

Animals are important because they eat the plants and the soil which are needed for the animals to live.

Plants are the most important animals in the rainforest. They provide food for the animals and the soil which are needed for the animals to live.

Habitat - Desert/Savannah

Names: _____

Research Questions

What animals live in your habitat? *Camels, zebras, giraffes, meerkats, and lions.*

What is the climate like in your habitat? *The savannah is hot and dry and is usually between 60°F-80°F.*

What plants live in your habitat? *In the desert cacti and a Joshua tree. In the savannah acacia trees and baobab trees.*

What are conditions like in your habitat? *The conditions are very hot and dry. In the savannah there are acacia trees and baobab trees.*

Animals are important because they eat the plants and the soil which are needed for the animals to live.

Plants are the most important animals in the savannah. They provide food for the animals and the soil which are needed for the animals to live.

Habitat - Ocean

Names: _____

Research Questions

What animals live in your habitat? *Whales, dolphins, seals, and fish.*

What is the climate like in your habitat? *It is very hot and very wet with a lot of rain.*

What plants live in your habitat? *Many types of trees, including the rainforest.*

What are conditions like in your habitat? *It is hot and very wet with a lot of rain.*

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Plants are the most important animals in the ocean. They provide food for the animals and the soil which are needed for the animals to live.

OCTOPUS

It has the world's largest brain. It lives in the deep sea. It has eight legs.

Habitat - Ocean

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Plants are the most important animals in the ocean. They provide food for the animals and the soil which are needed for the animals to live.

YEAR 4 - GEOGRAPHY

This week, our young geographers explored the world using globes, learning how the Earth is divided into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, as well as locating the North Pole, South Pole and the Equator. Working together, they developed their map skills and deepened their understanding of key geographical features.

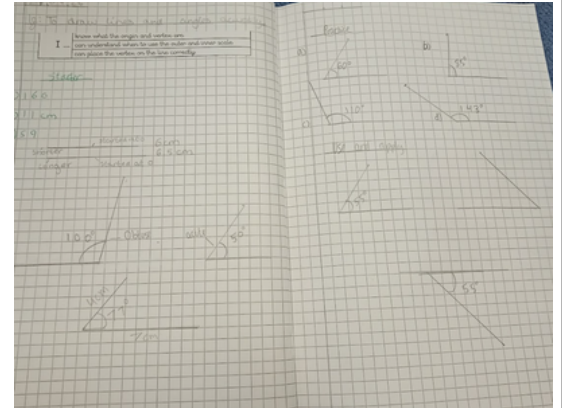
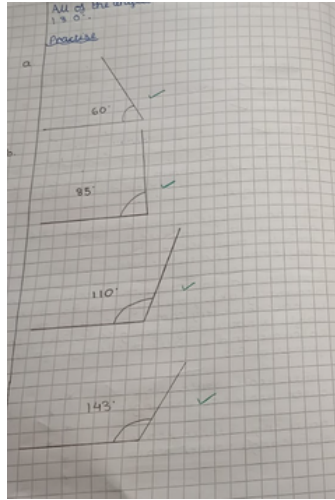
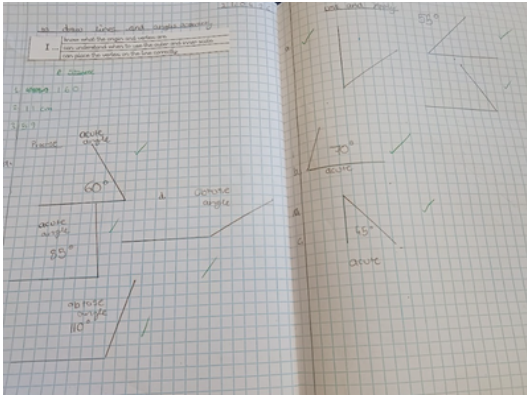
4A

4B

4K



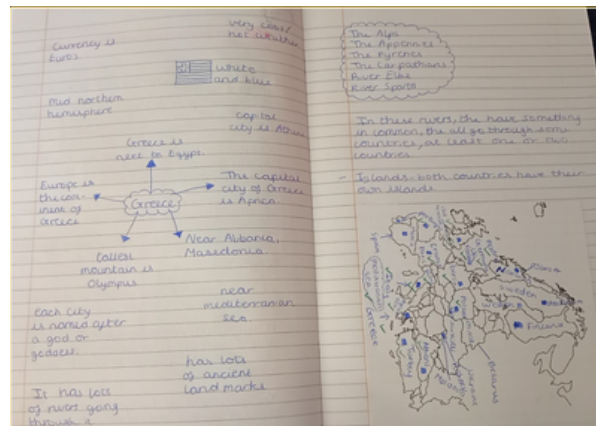
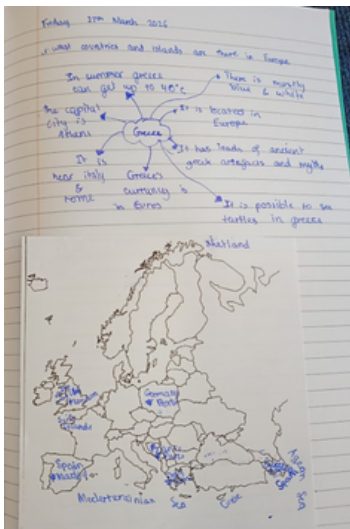
MATHS - ANGLES



In Maths, we have started learning all about shape and angles. The children have been introduced to using protractors to measure angles, which has been a bit tricky at first, but they are beginning to get the hang of it with practise! We have also been learning how to classify angles, including right angles, acute angles, and obtuse angles.

Year 5 have shown great perseverance, and it has been fantastic to see their confidence growing. We are excited to learn new skills and apply our learning throughout this topic.

GEOGRAPHY - GREECE



This term, we have begun an exciting new topic all about Greece!

The children have been learning where Greece is in the world and within Europe. Using atlases, they have been practising their map skills by locating different countries and cities across Europe in atlases.

They have also explored the British Isles and Greek islands, developing their understanding of geography and place. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm as they discover new places!

We are looking forward to learning more about Greece in the coming weeks!

This week, we were delighted to welcome Father David to our school. He engaged with the children in a thoughtful discussion about the significance of various Christian festivals. The focus of the session was to help answer the question: which Christian festival is the most important? Father David shared insights on the traditions and meanings behind key celebrations. We would like to thank Father David for his time and contributions.



In science, children have started the new unit Living things and their habitats: to identify the kingdoms of life and to classify living things within those kingdoms. The children created their own classification examples using liquorice all sorts. They used yes/ no questions to help structure the different 'branches' and mapped this out.



In computing, children will explore the concept of variables in programming through games in Scratch. First, they found out what variables are and related them to real-world examples of values that could be set and changed.



SUMMER TERM 2026

TERM DATES

Mon 27 th Apr	Y4/5 Cricket
Tues 28 th Apr	5BM visiting HEHS for Science Workshop
Mon 4 th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Tues 5 th May	Y6 Football
Thurs 7 th May	Class Photos
Fri 8 th May	5BM visiting HEHS for Art Workshop
11 th - 14 th May	Y6 SATs week
Tues 12 th May	5O visitng HEHS for Science Workshop Y3/4 Quad Kids
Thurs 14 th May	Y1 visiting Hertfordshire Zoo
Fri 15 th May	Reception visit from Zoolabs
Mon 18 th May	Girls Cricket Y5 PSHE presentation - 3pm
Tues 19 th May	Boys Cricket Y6 PSHE presentation 9am Y4 PSHE presentation 3pm
Wed 20 th May	Y4 Residential to Cuffleys
Thurs 21 st May	Pupil Census Reception visit from Dinosaurs NFL Finals
Fri 22 nd May	5CM Art Workshop at HEHS Y4 return from Cuffleys
25-29 May	Half term break
Mon 1 st Jun	Cycle Confident (registered only - 5 days)
Thurs 4 th Jun	Y5 visit from CREW
Mon 8 th Jun	Cycle Confident (registered only - 5 days)
Tues 9 th Jun	Y4 visiting Kew Gardens
Fri 12 th Jun	Reception visiting Odds Farm 5O visiting HEHS for Art Workshop
Mon 15 th Jun	Y1 CREW - Science in Action Y3 visiting The Globe (one class) 6R and 6M visiting NHM - Lego workshop
Tues 16 th Jun	Y3 visiting The Globe (one class)
Wed 17 th Jun	Y3 visiting The Globe (one class)
Fri 19 th Jun	6G visiting NHM - Lego Workshop (1 class)
Fri 26 th Jun	FOGS Summer Carnival

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
 2nd Sept, 2nd Nov, 4th Jan,
 28th May, 22nd Jul