GRIMSDYKE NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL

MESSAGE FROM *Mrs Bhudia*

Dear Parents,



What a wonderful week we have had at Grimsdyke, with the excitement of Happy's Circus bringing our school community together for two fantastic performances!

For those families who were able to attend, I hope you thoroughly enjoyed the experience and had a memorable time with your children. It was lovely to see so many families coming together to support the school and enjoy such a special event.

I would like to extend a particularly heartfelt thank you to our Friends of Grimsdyke School (FOGS) team for their incredible hard work, dedication and determination in organising such a successful event. An enormous amount of planning and preparation goes into making occasions like this possible and we are extremely grateful to everyone involved.



I am absolutely delighted to share that the Happy's Circus FOGS event raised a fantastic **£6,576.56!** This is an incredible achievement and a testament to the generosity and support of our school community. The funds raised by FOGS make a real and meaningful difference to our school, enabling us to enhance the opportunities, resources and experiences we provide for our children. We look forward to sharing with you how this money will be used to benefit pupils across Grimsdyke. To every parent and family who purchased tickets, made donations, volunteered their time or contributed in any way, thank you. Your support is greatly appreciated, and events like this simply would not be possible without you.

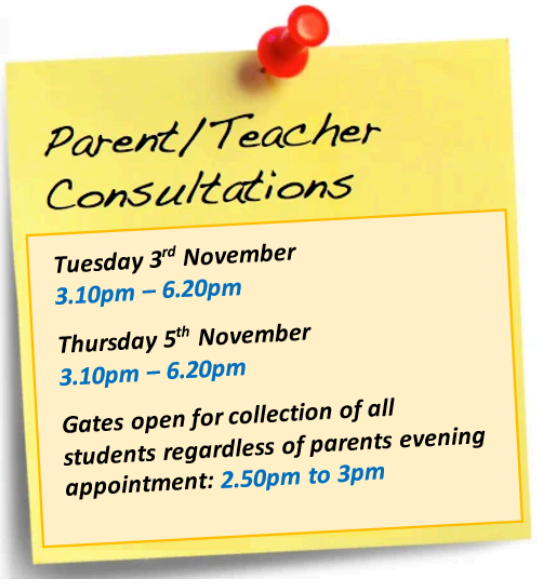
Looking ahead, our next exciting FOGS event will be the Christmas Fair on Saturday 5th December. I am already looking forward to working closely with the FOGS team to make this another wonderful occasion for our school community. If you would like to get involved or offer some of your time to support future events, please do reach out to the FOGS team at fogs.events@gmail.com. Whether you can spare an hour or play a bigger part in the preparations, every contribution makes a difference and is warmly welcomed.

Thank you once again for your continued generosity, enthusiasm and support. It is wonderful to see what we can achieve when our school community comes together.



Parent Consultations

As we return from the half term, we will be hosting our first Parent Consultation meetings on Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th of November. These can be booked through Arbor. **The booking system will open Monday 19th October at 6pm.** The first consultation meeting is typically a discussion about how the students have settled and sharing some of the progress that they have made so far. More importantly, it is about the things that they can continue to work on as they move through the rest of the academic year and how school and the parents can work together to achieve this. On both of those days, we will open the gates for collection slightly earlier than usual at 2.50pm, to support the start of the evening, and close them promptly at 3.00 pm. Parents should leave through the gates and re-enter the main building through the front doors by the school office.



Please take note of the following arrangements for the week, particularly in light of our Parent Consultations taking place on Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th November.

Club / Activity	Arrangements
Coding – Tuesday 3rd November	**Cancelled**
Art Clubs – Thursday 5th November	**Cancelled**
LAMDA – Thursday 5th November	Going ahead as normal
PSD – Tuesday and Thursday	Going ahead as normal
Girls Football – Tuesday 3rd November	Going ahead as normal
After-School Club (ASC)	Operating as usual

Online Safety



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

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

Reminder – Mobile Phones and Smartwatches

We would like to remind all parents that mobile phones and smartwatches are not permitted in school for any of our students, unless specific permission has been granted in accordance with our school procedures. An exception is made for pupils in Years 5 and 6 who travel to and from school independently and require a mobile phone to communicate with their parents or carers. For these pupils, parents must complete and sign the school consent form before their child is permitted to bring a mobile phone onto the school site.

Please note the following expectations:

- Mobile phones must remain switched off at all times whilst pupils are arriving or leaving the school premises.
- Pupils must hand in their mobile phones to a member of staff in the front office at the start of the school day for safekeeping. Phones must be collected at the end of the school day.
- Mobile phones must not be used or switched on until pupils have left the school premises.
- Smartwatches are not permitted and should not be worn or brought into school.
- These arrangements are in place to safeguard our pupils, minimise distractions and ensure that mobile devices are only brought into school where there is a genuine need.

We appreciate your support in reinforcing these expectations with your children and helping us maintain a safe and focused learning environment.

REMINDER : Monday 2nd November – INSET Day - School will be closed to pupils for staff training.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

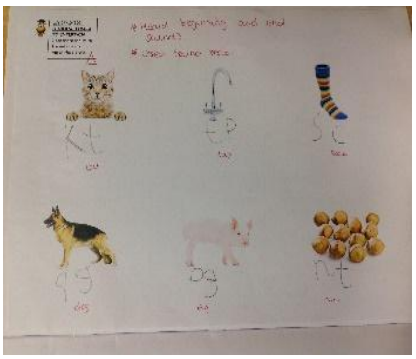
Reception CURRICULUM IN ACTION

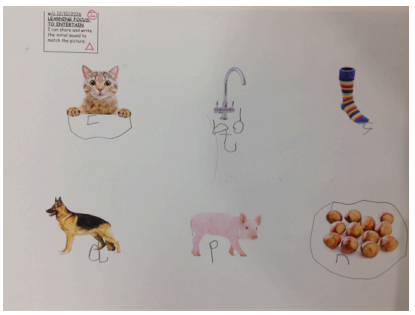
We have started our new literacy topic, **nursery rhymes!** The children have enjoyed learning some new rhymes and taking part in a range of fun, engaging activities. During our writing activities, we have been using our phonics skills to listen for and write initial sounds, as well as simple CVC words.

In maths, we have been exploring patterns and learning how to find one more than a given number. The children have enjoyed creating their own patterns using a variety of objects, including cubes, Lego, beads, conkers and pinecones collected during our autumn walks.

We have also been practising our **subitising skills** – recognising how many objects there are without needing to count them one by one. The children have been working hard to develop their mathematical thinking while having lots of fun with their learning!



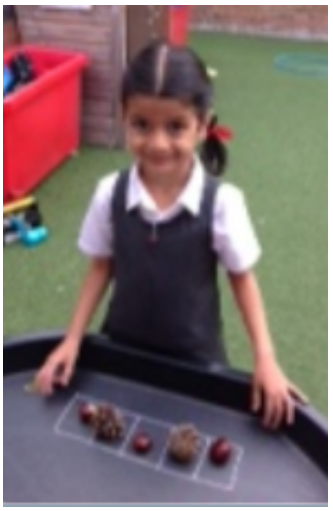














Year 1 CURRICULUM IN ACTION

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

1M



1K



1D













Home Sweet Home - Home Learning Projects

The children will have the opportunity to share their home learning, 'home' projects with their peers. They will be encouraged to share important information about their creations, how they made it, what was tricky, what bit they liked doing the most etc.
Talking about their own creations promotes a deeper level of learning. Peer presentations help students develop essential oracy skills as well as boosting children's self-confidence. Different children speaking enrich the learning experience for everyone and this often results in higher levels of engagement.
A big thank you to all the parents for their support in this learning experience.
Unfortunately, due to storage space, some models that were bigger than an adult shoe box, may need to come home due to limited display space.

Year 2 CURRICULUM IN ACTION

We have been very busy over the last couple of weeks, and the children have been working incredibly hard across all areas of their learning!

We had a wonderful time celebrating our **dress-up day**, and the children all looked fabulous in their costumes! We also enjoyed a special visit from **CREW**, who helped us learn more fascinating facts about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole, bringing our learning about these inspirational women to life.

To celebrate **World Mental Health Day**, all the children had the opportunity to wear yellow and participate in a range of activities to support positive mental health and wellbeing. It was a lovely opportunity to talk about our feelings, the importance of looking after ourselves and others, and how we can help everyone feel happy, safe and supported.

In **Maths**, we have begun our new topic of addition and subtraction. The children have been working hard to apply their knowledge of number bonds to 10 to help them solve calculations involving larger numbers. We are very proud of their efforts and growing confidence!

In **History**, we have been discovering some of the great explorers from the past who changed the world. The children have been learning about their adventures, discoveries and the impact they had on our understanding of the world around us.

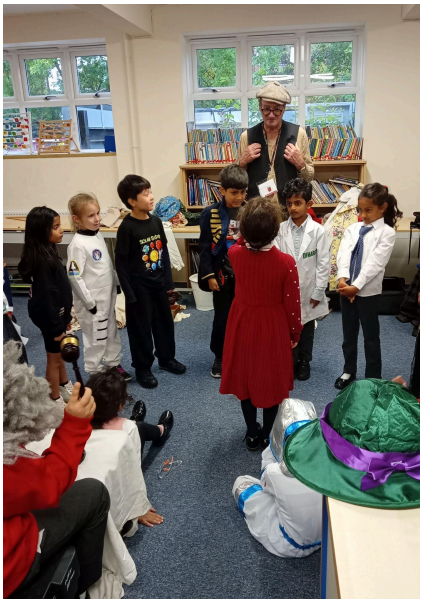
In **Art**, the children have been busy painting their own self-portraits. They have been exploring how different colours can be used to express feelings and emotions, creating some wonderful and imaginative pieces of artwork.

It has been lovely to see the children so engaged and enthusiastic about their learning. Well done, Year 2, for another fantastic couple of weeks!

Keep up the great work, everyone!





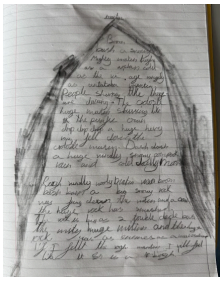


Year 3 CURRICULUM IN ACTION

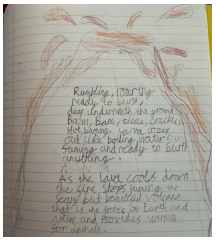
English - Rock Poetry

In English, the children have been exploring poetry inspired by the beautiful book ‘A Rock Is Lively’. They have been learning how to use similes, alliteration, onomatopoeia, expanded noun phrases and rhyme to bring their descriptions of rocks to life. The children have enjoyed experimenting with creative language before planning and writing their own shape poems, inspired by rocks, crystals, fossils and volcanoes!

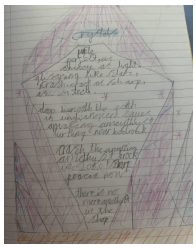
3B



Lucien

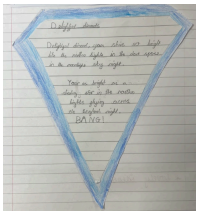


Preet

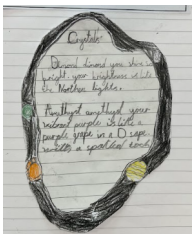


Raees

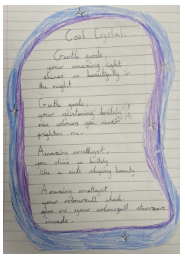
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Dian

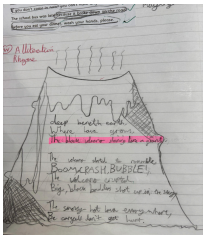


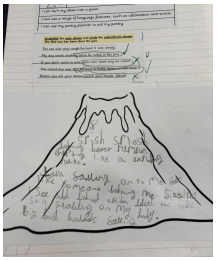
Arion

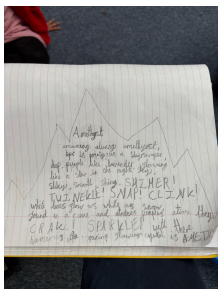


Ruby

3M







Stone Age Day - Tuesday 20th October

On Tuesday 20th October, we will be having an exciting Stone Age Day! Children are invited to come to school dressed in Stone Age or Ice Age-inspired outfits. Throughout the day, they will take part in a CREW workshop, Stone Age art activities and a Stone Age-themed PE session. Costumes can be as simple or creative as you like, but please ensure children wear suitable, comfortable footwear so they can safely participate in all activities.

Year 4 CURRICULUM IN ACTION

GEOGRAPHY - Tube Maps

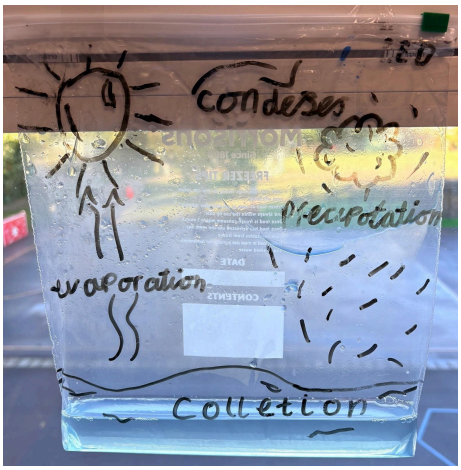
In their latest geography lesson, year 4 children explored the London Underground map and developed confidence in navigating around the capital. They learnt how to recognise the different coloured lines and follow routes between stations. Using their map-reading skills, they planned their own journeys across London, identifying their starting point, destination and where they might need to change trains.

ART - Printmaking

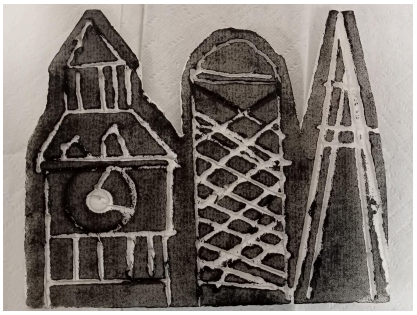
In Art, children have been creating their own prints inspired by the London skyline and its famous landmarks. They carefully etched their designs onto polystyrene tiles using the end of a pencil or paintbrush. Next, they rolled ink over their tiles and pressed them onto a colourful sunset background (painted last week) to create their finished prints. The children enjoyed exploring this printing technique and produced some fantastic artwork.

SCIENCE - Water Cycle

In Science, we have been investigating the water cycle through a practical experiment. We placed coloured water in a sealed bag and observed what happened as the water evaporated into water vapour, then cooled and condensed back into tiny water droplets on the sides of the bag. The children were fascinated to see the different stages of the water cycle in action and developed their understanding of weather and precipitation.





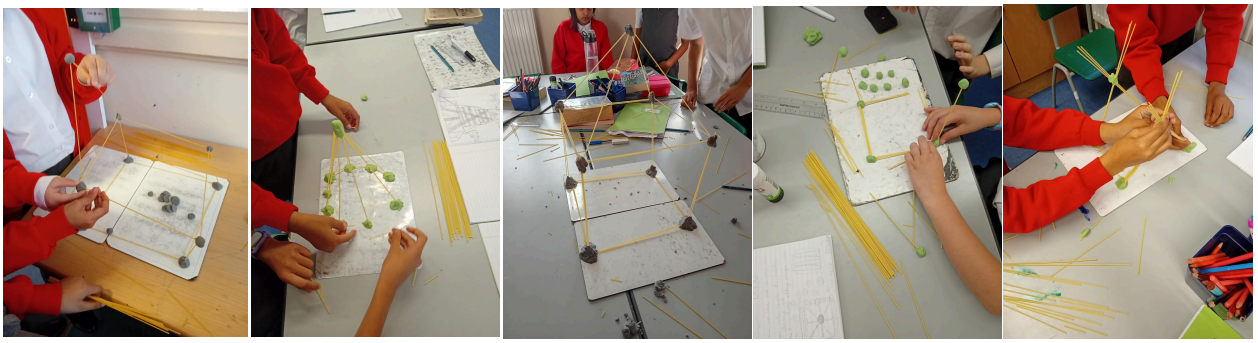






Year 5 CURRICULUM IN ACTION

In Geography, Y5 have been learning about earthquakes and how their impacts can be reduced. This week, they have explored how architects design earthquake-resistant buildings to help keep people safe. They have learnt about different techniques, including cross-bracing, rocking buildings and steel reinforcements, and how these methods help buildings withstand the shaking caused by earthquakes.The children have particularly enjoyed putting this into practice by designing and creating their own models of reinforced buildings this week.

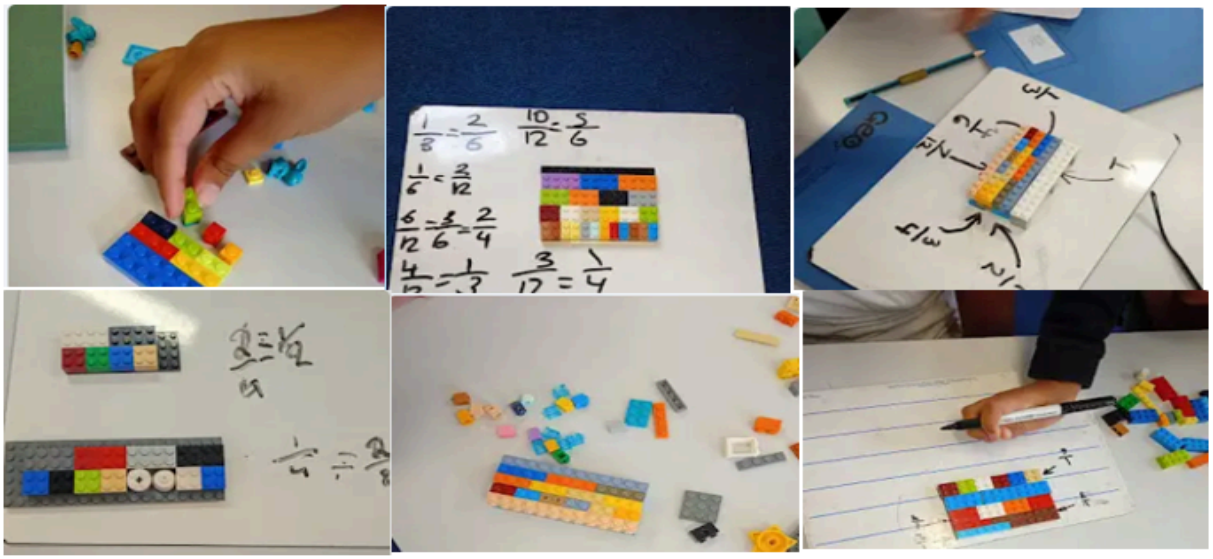


In Art, the children have been finishing their William Morris-inspired collagraph prints. They designed and created their own printing plates using layers of cardboard to produce interesting patterns and textures. The children then rolled a thin layer of ink onto their designs and printed them onto their backgrounds.They have enjoyed exploring the printing process and creating their own artwork inspired by William Morris's distinctive patterns and designs.

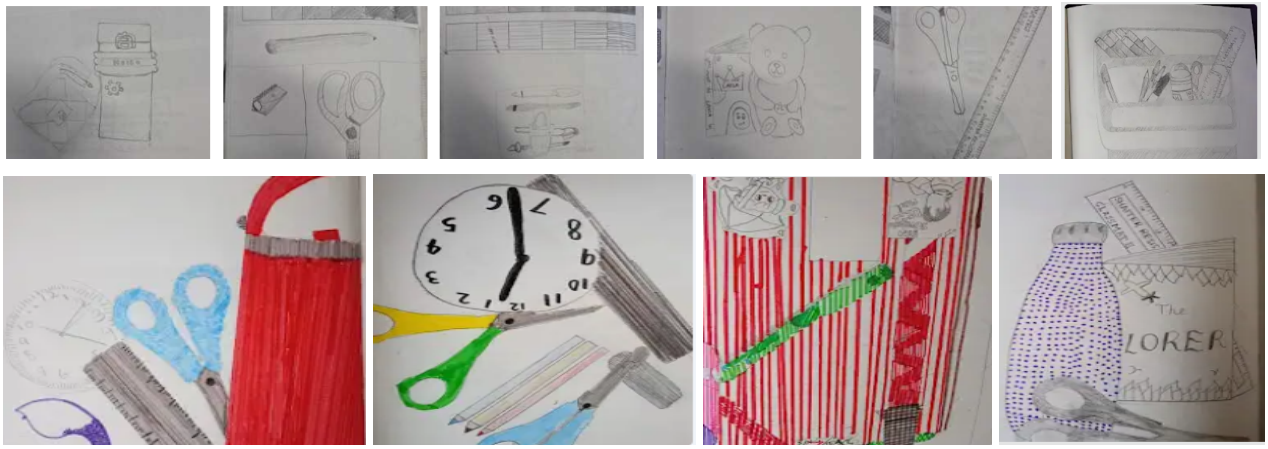


Year 6 CURRICULUM IN ACTION

In maths, children investigated fraction equivalents using Lego. This practical activity supported their understanding of how different fractions can represent the same quantity. Children constructed and compared Lego models, identifying equivalent fractions through visual representation and discussion.



In art, children used skills learnt during the still life unit to create their own still life drawings. This enabled them to apply their understanding of composition, observation and the use of line, shape, tone and texture. Children chose their own subjects and mediums, making individual decisions about how to represent the objects they had selected. They took inspiration from the artists studied during the unit, considering how these artists arranged objects, used visual elements and communicated ideas through still life.



In computing, children explored how data is transferred over the internet. They initially focused on addressing, before they moved on to the makeup and structure of data packets. They then looked at how the internet facilitates online communication and collaboration; they completed shared projects online and evaluated different methods of communication. Finally, they learned how to communicate responsibly by considering what should and should not be shared on the internet.



PE, Sport and Physical Activity

Y5/6 Girls Development Football Festival

We had the pleasure of taking 9 girls to a really fun football festival, aimed at girls who like to play, but have yet to have the chance to represent the school team. The girls have been practicing for a few weeks and played really well as a team. In total, they played 6 matches, winning 2, drawing 2 and losing 2. The results didn't matter as the aim was for the girls to have fun, gain some matchplay experience and continue to develop their love for football. Congratulations to Pransi, Zahra, Umika, Anaisha, Sara, Ava, Safiya, Maria and Neda for representing Grimsdyke so beautifully.

If you are interested in playing girls football, here are some options to consider;



Ruislip Rangers FC
www.ruisliprangersyfc.org.uk
Joe - 07988792042

Watford FC @ Cedars
www.watfordfccsetrust.com
elliot.bird@watfordfc.com

Parkfield Wildcats
www.parkfieldyouthfc.com
Kye - 07557875813

Y5/6 Competitive Hockey Tournament

Our first competitive tournament of the year was the hockey event held at Harrow School Sports Centre. A team made up of 7 children played in a 4-a-side round robin league against 6 other schools. The team played fantastically well, winning five and drawing one of their matches, whilst scoring 17 goals and only conceding 1. This means they have qualified to represent Harrow at the West London Finals. Congratulations to Reyaan, Ayaan, Avir, Theo, Deeva, Jaya and Mia.

If you are interested in playing hockey, here are the two closest options to our school.



Eastcote Hockey Club
www.eastcotehockeyclub.com
eastcotejuniors@gmail.com

Merchant Taylors Hockey Club
www.omthockeyclub.com
Shafin - 07818075814

Calendar 2026 - 2027

Date	Event
Mon 19th Oct	Y6 PGL - wave off by 9:20am
Tues 20th Oct	Y5/6 Boys Development Football Tournament (selected only) Y4 Science Boffins Y3 CREW - Stone Age
Fri 23rd Oct	Y6 PGL return
Mon 26th - 30th Oct	½ term break
Mon 2nd Nov	Professional Development Day - children are not in school
Tues 3rd Nov	Parent Consultations
Thurs 5th Nov	Parent Consultations
Tues 10th Nov	Y5/6 Girls Football Tournament (selected only) Y6 CREW - WW2
Fri 13th Nov	FOGS Non-uniform Day - bring a gift for the tombola
Tues 17th Nov	Boys Football Tournament Flu vaccination catchup Band Festival
Wed 18th Nov	Y5 visiting Gunnersbury Park Museum (5J & 5R)
Thurs 19th Nov	Y5 visiting Gunnersbury Park Museum (5M class)
Fri 20th Nov	FOGS Non-uniform Day - bring a teddy for the teddy tombola
Tues 24th Nov	Y5/6 Netball Tournament (selected only)
Thurs 26th Nov	Y6 Visiting Battle Of Britain (2 Classes)
Fri 27th Nov	Y6 Visiting Battle of Britain (1 Class)
Tues 1st Dec	Indoor Athletics Tournament (selected only)
Wed 2nd Dec	Y4 Winter Concert at HEHS
Sat 5th Dec	FOGS Christmas Fair
Wed 9th Dec	Christmas Lunch Day
Fri 11th Dec	Carol Service at St Anselms Church (No swimming for Y4 on this day)
Fri 18th Dec	Last day of Autumn Term - school closes at 2:30pm

Please note that all calendar dates are available on our website.