George White Junior School Newsletter

Friday 6th December 2024

To all our families,

It is beginning to look like Christmas here at George White. Our kindness tree is turning into our Christmas tree and the children are busy making items to sell at our Christmas Fair next week.

Thank you to all families who donated chocolate for our Christmas raffle. Mrs Waller is selling tickets for the raffle every morning at 8:30am and at the end of the day from 3:20pm on the playground in the sheltered area.

I would like to say a huge thank you to those parents who have recently donated books and comics for our school library. These are already being read, and it is wonderful to see the children so excited about having new books to read. If you are having a clear out over Christmas and have any spare books, comics or magazines, we will always happily accept them.

After a recent successful application, I am delighted that we have been awarded a £2,500 grant from The Foyle Foundation to spend on books. This will continue to support our school culture and focus on embedding a love of reading.

Next week looks to be another exciting week as we near closer to Christmas. On Thursday we will be having our annual school Christmas lunch and it is also our annual Christmas jumper day and Christmas Fair from 3:20pm.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and Storm Darragh does not impact on any plans you may have already made.

Mrs. Petchey and the George White Team.

This Week's Attendance

We hold a celebration assembly every Friday morning to share and celebrate the children's achievements. During this assembly, we also recognise the class with the highest overall attendance for the week.

Well-done to **5 Almond** this week, for having the highest attendance.

6 Ness: 93%

6 Palacio: 95%

6 Morpurgo: 90%

5 Almond: 100%

5 Johnson: 94%

4 Tan: 89%

4 Pullman: 97%

3 Potter: 90%

3 Blyton: 98%

Whole School: 94%

School Target: 96%



Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs. Petchey, Mrs. Stolworthy, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Derer, Mrs Burman and Miss Alderton.

These members of staff monitor and manage all safeguarding practices and ensure staff are supported and have the training they need. Please ask to see one of these adults if you are worried about the safety of a child at school.

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child out of school hours, then the number to ring is:

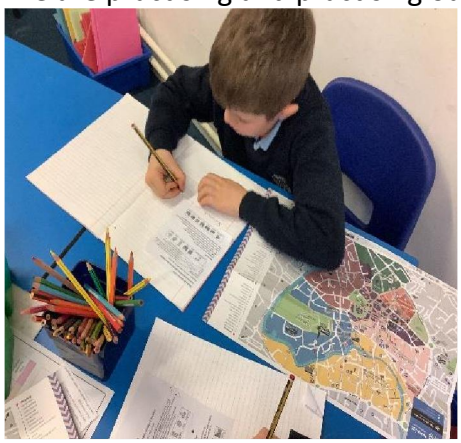
CADS – Children's Advice and Duty Service – 0344 800 8020



Look at what we're learning

Year 3

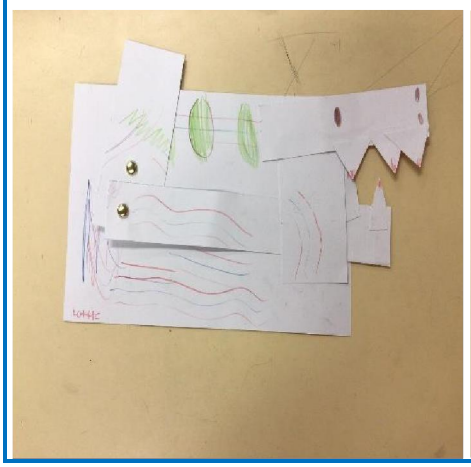
In English we have finished writing in the first person. We have written a letter and a diary entry based on 'The Seal Surfer'. We are now beginning a poetry unit.
In Maths we have been learning about adding numbers across a 10 and a 100. We are very good at this and remembering to exchange and keep the digits in the correct columns. We are going to apply this skill to subtracting across a 10 and a 100.
In Science we have found out about metamorphic rocks.
Our Geography this week is about settlements as well as human and physical features. We have been taking a virtual field trip around Norwich finding human and physical features and landmarks. We are able to explain how we know that Norwich is a city.
We are practising and practising our singing!

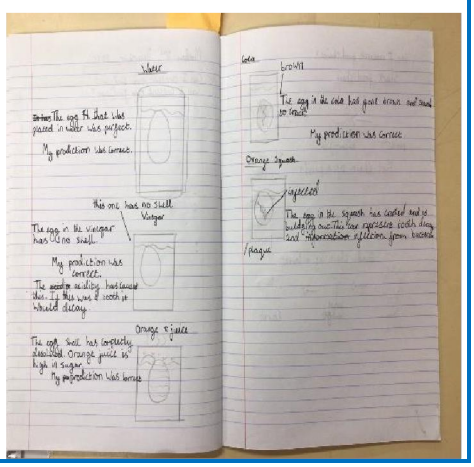




Year 4

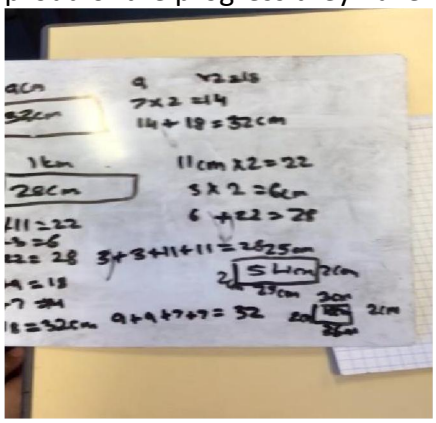
An excellent week in year 4. In our English lessons this week we have been writing our stories based on Gorilla by Anthony Browne. We have been following our plans and working hard to add as much detail in as we can.
In maths, we have continued working on division. We practiced dividing 3 digit numbers by a one-digit number on Monday and on Tuesday we practiced correspondence problems.
We had a very smelly science lessons this week, where we checked what had happened to the eggs we left in different drinks last week. We found that the vinegar had completely dissolved the shell and that the orange juice had made the shell very brittle. The coke made the shell go brown and the orange squash made the shell orange.
We have begun D and T this week. SO far we have looked at levers and linkages and mechanisms and we will be planning and making out products next week.

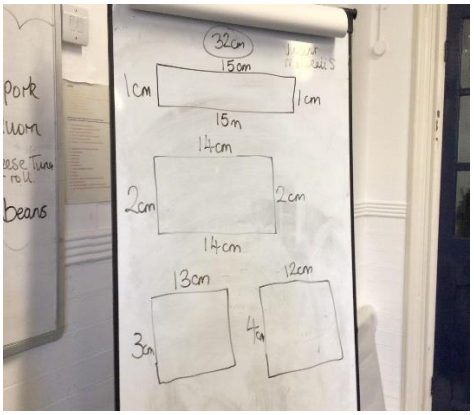




Year 5

This has been a busy week in year 5. We started the week with a visit from blue cross. They talked to us about being safe around dogs and how to care for them over the holidays. We have begun a new topic in Maths this week and have been investigating perimeters of rectangles and rectilinear shapes. The children have shown amazing resilience and determination during these lessons. We have written our own adventure based on the hero character Beowulf. Miss Dawson and I have been blown away by the work produced by the children. They have used lots of different writing devices to create imagery and effect for their reader. We have rounded up our geography topic on the Western United States. They children have loved this topic and are able to name the states just from their two initials. We have been creating gonks for the Christmas fayre next week. The class are really proud of these. Some of the children celebrated completing their Reading Lab intervention. This was a huge success and we are so proud of the progress they have made.







Year 6

What a fantastic week we've had in Year 6! Here's an update on everything we've been up to:

In **Geography**, we've been learning about how farming fits into the UK economy. The children explored the role of agriculture in the nation's food production, economy, and rural communities. As part of this topic, we held an exciting class debate where the children took on the roles of advocates either *for* or *against* mega farming. It was amazing to see their thoughtful arguments and how they critically considered the pros and cons of this modern farming practice.

In **English**, we are wrapping up our persuasive letter-writing unit. The children have been working incredibly hard on writing letters about the issue of refugees. They've shown great skill in using persuasive language to make their arguments compelling and thoughtful. Their dedication to editing their work with such care has been inspiring, and we are proud of their efforts!

The **highlight of the week** was definitely our **Design and Technology (DT)** project. The children spent time in the kitchen, learning to slice, chop, and prepare ingredients for a delicious homemade soup. They followed recipes carefully and worked together to create a tasty dish. It was a wonderful opportunity to apply their practical skills and teamwork.

It's been a very productive and enjoyable week, and I am so proud of how much effort the children have put into their learning.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend ahead!







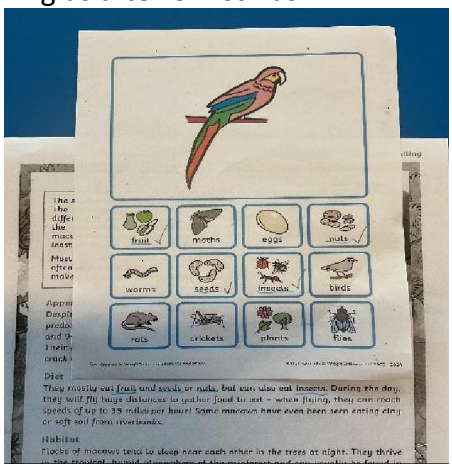
Blake Class

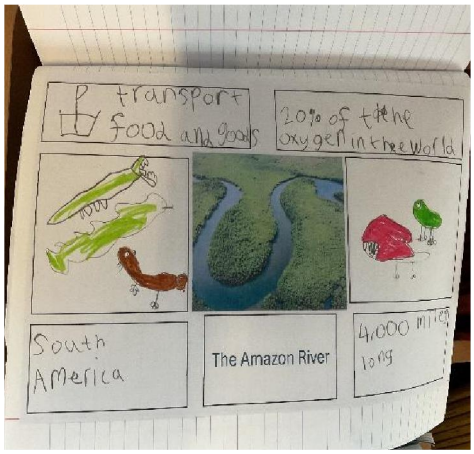
This week in Blake class, we have been continuing with our work on the Amazon. In geography, we looked at the Amazon river and created a fact file including details about the length of the river, the continent it runs through and the animals found in and near the river. We also learnt that 20% of the world's oxygen is produced by the Amazon rainforest so realised how important it is! This linked with our PSHE topic about saving the planet and with the research we have been doing in English for our rainforest animal fact files. Children have now chosen their animals and we are going to have information leaflets about sloths, red eyed tree frogs, scarlet macaws and jaguars!

In target time, children have been learning about compound words and found that separating the word into syllables helped them with their spelling. We played some games matching words to pictures and then children tested each other on spellings. They were very encouraging which was great to see and we wrote lots of merit tickets.

This week, we had our open morning for children starting in January. All of Blake class were welcoming and friendly and helped our new children feel comfortable. They even stayed and worked with us for a while. We look forward to them joining us after Christmas.







Do you have a spare scooter?

We are looking for scooters to use as part of our lunchtime playground provision. If you have a scooter you no longer need or use, please would you consider donating it to our school, thank you.



Christmas Fair 2024



Our Christmas Fair is taking place next Thursday 12th December from 3.20pm.
If you would like to rent a stall tables, we still have a couple available at £5 per table.
All businesses are welcome, please contact the school office if you wish to hire a table.

Attendance

Medical Appointments

Please attempt to, where possible, book medical appointments out of school hours. If this is unavoidable, please remember that children are encouraged to come to school before and following medical appointment to avoid missed learning opportunities.

If you require any support with your child's health and wellbeing, you can contact the healthy child service team by calling **Just One Number on 03003000123** or texting **Parentline on 07520631590**. Their opening hours are 8am-6pm Monday to Friday and 9am - 1pm on Saturdays.

Dates for the Diary 2024/2025

Wednesday 11th December	4 Pullman to visit Millennium Library
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 12th December	School Christmas Dinner
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Fair from 3.20pm
Wednesday 18th December	Carols around the tree Year 3 & 4 at 9am Year 5 & 6 at 2.45pm
Friday 20th December	End of term at 3:20pm
Tuesday 7th January	Start of the Spring Term – gates open at 8:30am

Norfolk County Council

2024-2025 Norfolk Model Calendar

This calendar applies to community schools, community special schools, VC schools and nursery schools and sets the days on which school transport will be provided. While most Foundation, VA, foundation special, free schools and academy trusts who are able to set their own dates, adopt the Norfolk Model, we advise you to check with your child's school before making holiday or other commitments.

September 2024

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November 2024

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December 2024

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January 2025

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April 2025

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May 2025

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August 2025

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Key : White dates - schools open to pupils Yellow dates - pupil holiday Red dates - bank holiday	Five staff training days will be selected from yellow dates, we suggest 2 & 3 September, 25 October, 6 January and 22 April. Some may choose to use twilight hours for staff training instead of some or all of these.

Norfolk County Council

2025-2026 Norfolk Model Calendar

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October 2025

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November 2025

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December 2025

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January 2026

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February 2026

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March 2026

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April 2026

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May 2026

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June 2026

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July 2026

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August 2026

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