George White Junior School Newsletter

Friday 10th January 2025

To all our families,

Happy New Year! We hope you have had a lovely Christmas and break.

It was lovely to welcome the children back to school this week. Our first whole school assembly of the year on Tuesday was based on being back together and reconnecting through our established four school values.

Be Kind, Be Honest, Be Respectful, Be Confident

The children have returned settled and engaged in their new learning topics and it was wonderful to celebrate our learning from the week in our celebration assembly this morning. This weekly event is always such a positive end to each week and something the children really look forward to.

A reminder as the weather is now extremely cold, particularly in the mornings, please can all children come to school wearing a warm winter coat, a hat, gloves and scarf.

Warmest regards and have a lovely weekend.

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 & 6 Palacio** this week, for having the highest attendance.

6 Ness: 92%

6 Palacio: 96%

6 Morpurgo: %

5 Almond: 96%

5 Johnson: 93%

4 Tan: 94%

4 Pullman:95 %

3 Potter: 93%

3 Blyton: 94%

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

Well done Year 3!

What an exciting start to the new term we've had! The children have dived straight into their learning with enthusiasm and curiosity.

In Science, we've been investigating forces. The children had a fantastic time making their own puppets to demonstrate push and pull forces. It was wonderful to see them experimenting and discussing how different forces work in everyday life.

Maths has been equally engaging, with the children learning all about arrays. They used counters to explore multiplication concepts and completed reasoning activities that helped deepen their understanding. It's been great to see them apply their knowledge and explain their thinking so clearly.

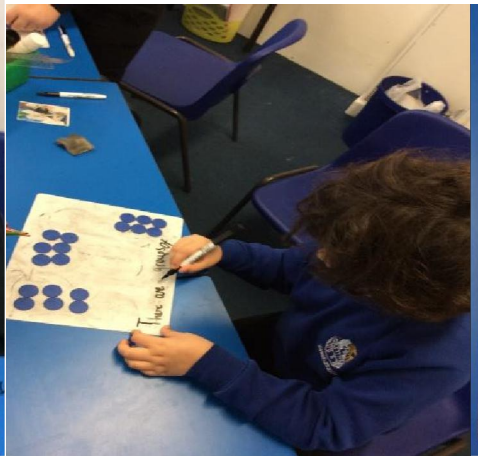
In English, we've started a new text, *The Winter's Child*, which has sparked lots of interesting predictions from the children. They've already written some beautiful poems and have been practicing using "a" and "an" correctly in their sentences. We've also been working on using inverted commas to show dialogue, and the children have really enjoyed bringing characters to life with their writing.

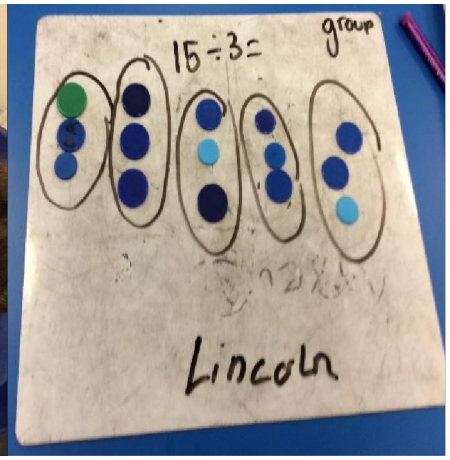
Our class story, *The Wild Robot*, has been a real hit. The children have loved following the adventures and it's sparked some wonderful discussions about nature and technology.

We've made a fantastic start to the new year and term, and we're all looking forward to starting our new art topic later this week.

Keep up the great work, Year 3! We can't wait to see what the rest of the term brings







Year 4

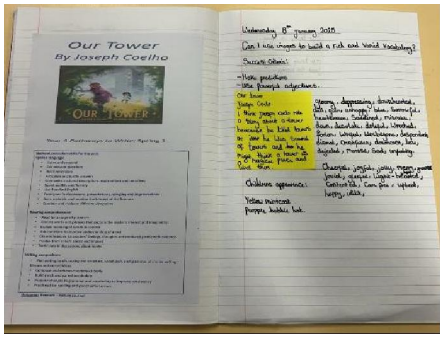
A busy first week back in year 4.

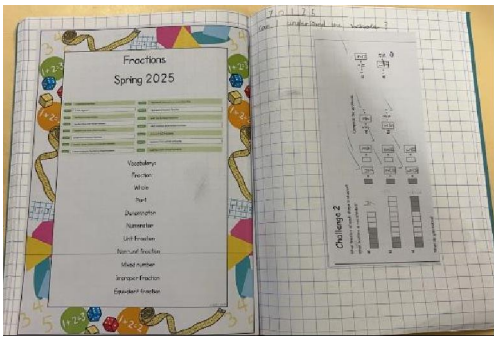
We hit the ground running in our maths by beginning our new fractions unit. This week we have been learning about what fractions are, finding what you have to add onto a fraction to make a whole, counting fractions beyond 1 and by partitioning fractions.

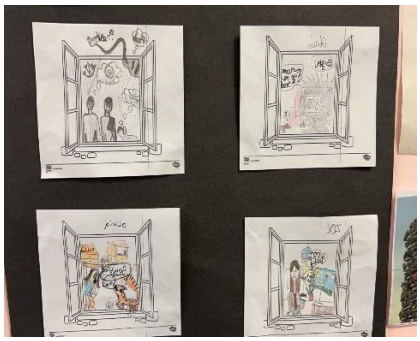
In our English, we have also begun a new unit based on 'The Tower' by Joseph Coelho. We started by looking at lots of different residential tower blocks and imagining what was happening behind the windows. We then used powerful adjectives to describe the tower blocks. We have also worked on personification and using this to describe a tree.

In the afternoons we have begun a unit on computing. We have learnt all about computer networks and how they can be linked with servers.

In Science we have begun our unit on states of matter by learning all about what is a solid, a liquid and a gas.
In RHSE we voted for our school council member, talked about trusted adults and wrote our new class contract based on the UN rights of a child.

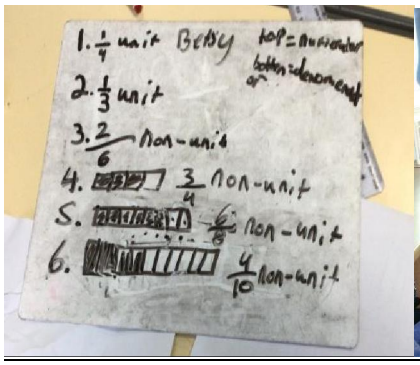






Year 5

We've had a fantastic start to spring term in year 5 this week and have enjoyed launching lots of exciting new topics across the week. In Maths we have started our new topic on fractions and the children have been fantastic at identifying and comparing equivalent fractions. In English we have started to explore 'Queen of the Falls' and have been discussing 'daredevils' and writing setting descriptions based on Niagara Falls. The children have really enjoyed starting to learn about Earth and Space in our new Science topic and were fantastic at researching planets. In Art we have begun to explore monotypes, with a focus on the artist Kevark Mourad.






Year 6

Happy New Year!
We hope you had a restful holiday and are ready to start 2025 with enthusiasm! Year 6 has had a fantastic first week back at school, and we are eager to share some of the exciting learning that has taken place.

We've dived straight into our new topic on Algebra! The children have been learning how to use formulae and solve problems involving unknowns. It's been great to see the children getting comfortable with these new concepts.

This week, we introduced our new book, *Can We Save the Tiger?* by Martin Jenkins. The children are already engaged and curious about the themes, and we can't wait to see where this journey takes us as we explore the story further in the coming weeks.

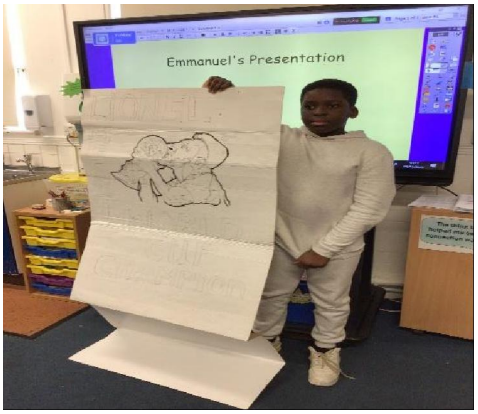
In Science, we've started our new topic, Evolution and Inheritance. This week, we focused on how plants adapt to their environment. The children have been making excellent connections between these scientific principles and the world around them.

A real highlight of the week was our first Samba lesson! The children were buzzing with excitement and fully immersed themselves in the rhythms and movements. It was a joyful, energising experience for all!

That's all from us for this week. We hope you enjoy the weekend, and we look forward to seeing you all next week!

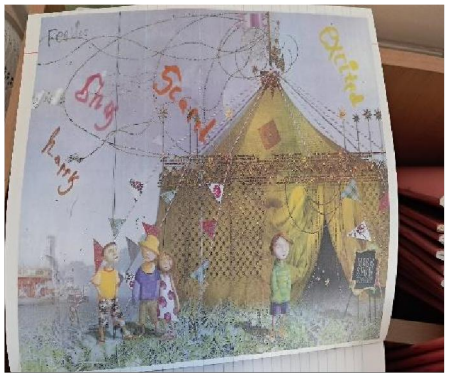
Warm regards,
The Year 6 Team

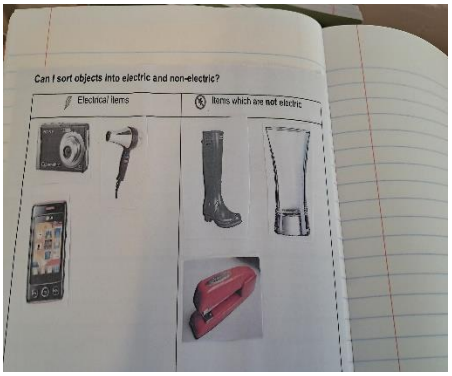


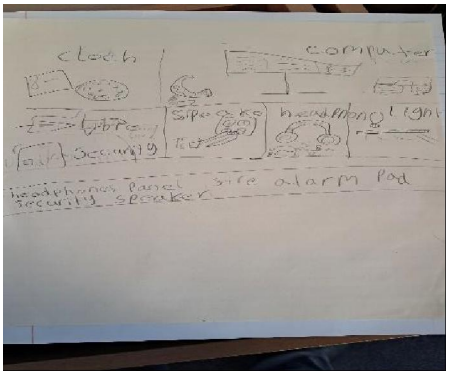


Blake Class

Happy new year from Blake Class! We have had a fantastic start to the year and have done so much work already. We welcomed three new children to our class who have settled in brilliantly and made new friends. We have done a lot of exploring of the school and the grounds, looking for items that run on electricity for our science topic, and finding pneumatic devices in DT. In English, we are reading 'Leon and the Place Between' which is set in a circus. Children used their observational skills to decide how children might be feeling when waiting to go into the circus tent, using a picture from the story. We have also listened to some circus music and thought about how it made us feel. In maths, we have revisited odd and even numbers and had fun finding these on the snakes and ladders board on the playground! A great start to the new year.







Dates for the Diary 2024/2025

Tuesday 7th January	Start of the Spring Term – gates open at 8:30am
Wednesday 15th January	4 Tan visit to Millennium Library
Tuesday 21st January	Open Classrooms for all years from 3.20pm
Friday 24th January	Half of Year 6 to Sewell Park Science day
Tuesday 28th January	Year 6 SATS Parents Meeting at 3.20pm
Friday 31st January	Half of Year 6 to Sewell Park Science day
Friday 7th February	Half of Year 6 visit to Norwich Cathedral
Monday 10th February	Aspirations Week
Tuesday 11th February	Open Classrooms for all years from 3.20pm
Friday 14th February	Half of Year 6 visit to Norwich Cathedral
Monday 17th February	Half Term Break
Monday 24th February	Welcome Back after half term- gates open at 8.30am
Monday 24th February	Year 4 Multiplication Timetable Check Parent Meeting at 3.30pm
Tuesday 18th March	Open Classrooms for all years from 3.20pm
Monday 24th March	Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.30pm
Tuesday 25th March	Parents Evening 3.30 – 7.00pm