George White Junior School Newsletter

Friday 14th March 2025

To all our families,

Next week on Friday 21st March, we will be taking part in **Red Nose Day 2025**.

This year celebrates 40 years of Comic Relief and will focus on supporting those in need during the current living crisis, focusing on issues like lack of food and homelessness. More information can be found linked https://www.comicrelief.com/

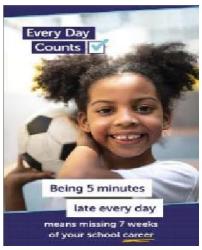
The focus this year in school is '*do something funny*'. Children are invited to come to school wearing a red nose, a red accessory, a crazy hairstyle or a homemade red item – the crazier and funnier the better! In addition to this, we request that children come into school wearing their usual school uniform on this day. If this is your child's PE day, they come into school wearing their normal school PE kit.

There will be time throughout the school day for children to share a funny joke as part of the 'do something funny' focus. If your child would like to share some jokes, we ask if these are prepared at ahead of time at home ready to share with their class.

This year we are not asking for any monetary donations. Instead, if you are able, we are asking for nonperishable food items to be donated for our local food bank. This could include tins or packets of food, dried pasta or rice, biscuits, tea, coffee, crisps and cakes. Please can all food items be brought into school on the 21st March.

Thank you in advance for your support for this cause.

All the staff at George White Junior School wish you and your family a lovely weekend.

This Week's Attendance	Safeguarding
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 6 Morpurgo this week, for having the highest attendance. 6 Ness: 92% 6 Palacio: 89% 6 Morpurgo: 99% 5 Almond: 97% 5 Johnson: 94% 4 Tan: 95% 4 Pullman: 93% 3 Potter: 94% 3 Blyton: 98% **Whole school attendance for this week: 95%** **School Target: 96%** 	**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** 

Attendance

As you are aware, we expect children to attend school on time, every day that the school is open. On the rare occasion that your child may not be able to attend school, for example if they are too unwell, please follow the guidance below.

Please contact the school office on **01603 425515** before **8:30am** to inform us. There is a message facility available, alternatively you can email the school on officegwjs@istnorfolk.co.uk

Please remember to give full details about the reason for absence to avoid the office needing to call back for further clarification.

Advice for deciding about whether your child is too unwell for school, is available on the link below.

Is my child too ill for school? - NHS

Look at what we're learning

Year 3

What another fantastic week of learning we've had in Year 3!
The children have been working incredibly hard and showing great enthusiasm across all subjects. It is wonderful to see their curiosity and dedication to their learning!
In Maths, we have been exploring fractions in depth. The children have been comparing and ordering fractions, as well as investigating equivalent fractions. Their problem-solving skills have been put to the test, and they have tackled each challenge with determination!
Our English lessons have been filled with creativity as we have been writing our own stories inspired by *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura. We have focused on creating vivid character and setting descriptions using a range of verbs, adverbs, and adjectives. The children have also been working on 'speech sandwiches'—learning how to use direct speech with the correct punctuation to make their writing even more engaging.
In Games, we have been continuing to develop our hockey skills. The children have been practising ball control, dribbling, shooting, and push passes. It has been great to see their confidence grow as they refine their techniques and work together as a team.
Our History lessons have taken us further into the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt. This week, we have been learning about how the pyramids were built and exploring Egyptian beliefs about religion, gods, and the afterlife. The children have been captivated by the incredible achievements and traditions of this ancient civilization!
Well done, Year 3, for another brilliant week of learning!

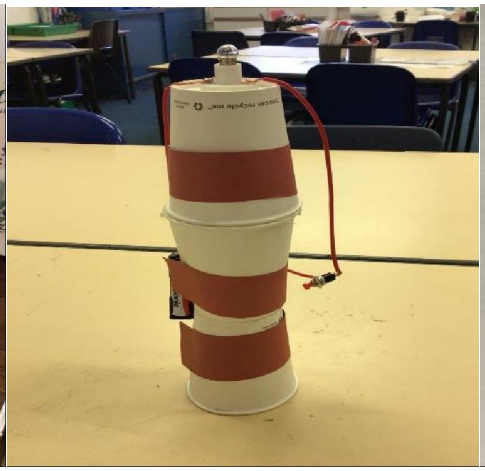
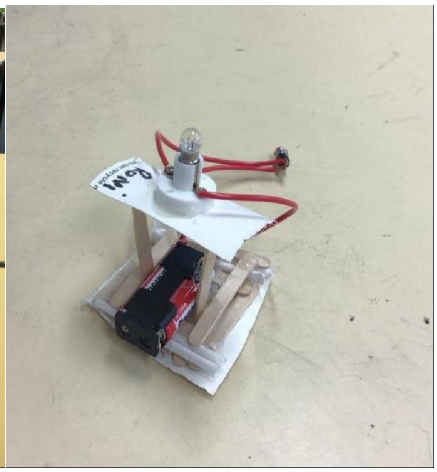






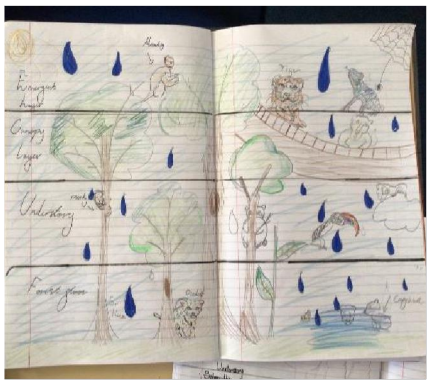
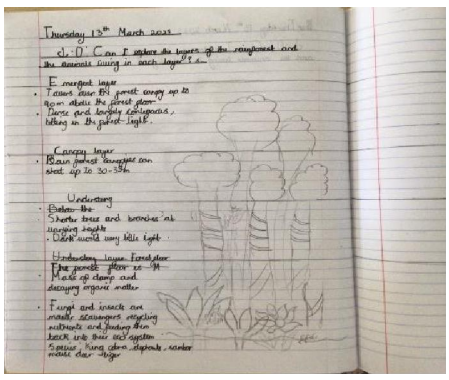
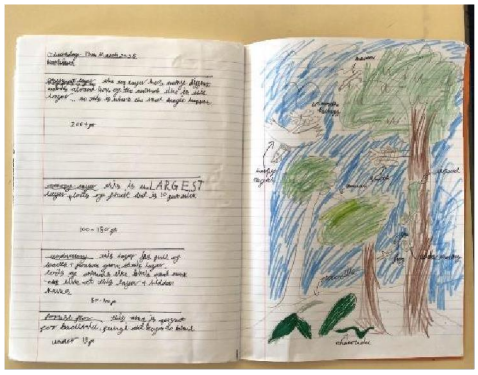
Year 4

What an amazing week of learning we have had in year 4! In Maths we have finished some of our decimal learning for this unit, the children have shown a solid understanding of how digits move in place value when we divide 1 and 2 digit numbers by 10 and 100. We are moving on to statistics before we move back on to the next decimal unit, we have started to look at pictograms and bar charts. In English we have been focusing on using direct speech between two characters from the story Wisp. In Science we continue our Sound topic, the children created some fantastic comic strips on sound and used scientific vocabulary to help them explain what happens to sound before it meets the ear! In D&T the children have been making their models with their electrical systems, the children have come up with some fantastic ideas and have used their imaginations to make some brilliant and eye catching models. We hope you all have a lovely weekend!

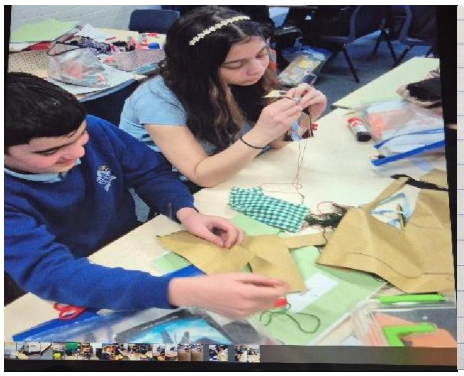
Year 5

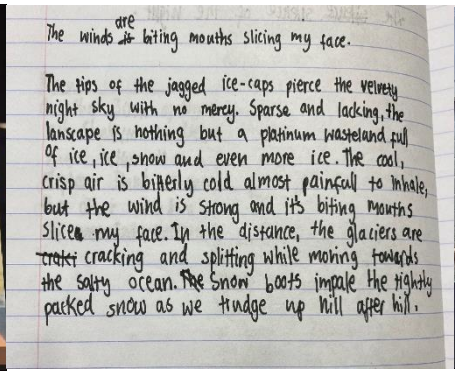
We've had another wonderful week in Year 5. The children have really enjoyed learning about our new topic of rainforests in geography and the children have produced some beautiful infographics about the layers of the rainforest. This week were also privileged to join a live lesson hosted by the World Wildlife Foundation on the theme of 'Holi festival, colours in nature'. The children loved learning about the Hindu festival and how it connects to colours in wildlife - they learnt some amazing facts about animals around the world which links to our rainforest topic. Have a great day!

Year 6

What an amazing week Year 6 have had! We are so immensely proud of how each child approached their final round of mock SATS. Through their hard work and determination, they have made amazing progress. Each child should be so proud of themselves. Other than testing, we have learnt lots of interesting things in our foundation subjects. On Monday, we learnt about a very special Sikh book called the Guru Granth Sahib and the important messages it contains. This was then followed by a really important RSHE lesson learning about exploitation and what to do if we notice someone being exploited. In science on Tuesday, we learnt all about the parts of the human eye and the function of each part. Wednesday consisted of more Samba playing, some nice relaxing yoga and a geography project! In French, we learnt how to give directions and then we played netball in PE. To end the week, we created our phone holders using different fabrics and stitching techniques. After such a busy week, we hope that everyone has a nice relaxing weekend ready for a new week!





The winds are biting mouths slicing my face.

The tips of the jagged ice-caps pierce the velvety night sky with no mercy. Sparse and lacking, the lanscape is nothing but a platinum wasteland full of ice, ice, snow and even more ice. The cool, crisp air is bitterly cold almost painful to inhale, but the wind is strong and its biting mouths slices my face. In the distance, the glaciers are ~~crakt~~ cracking and splitting while moving towards the salty ocean. The snow boots impale the tightly packed snow as we trudge up hill after hill.



Blake Class

Blake class have been thinking about what to include in our diary entry, writing as a Stone Age child. We created a mindmap of a day in the life of a child in the Stone Age and compared it to today. We used our magnetic letters to spell out some words we may want to use in our writing.

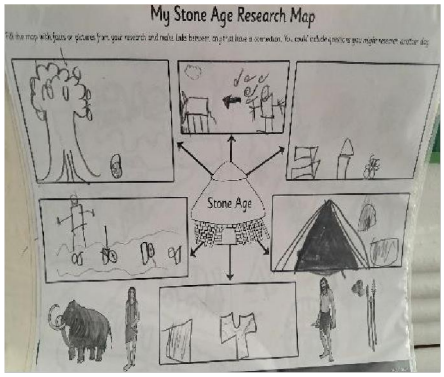
We know how important punctuation is when writing, so we have been working on use of capital letters, full stops and commas. Children edited sentences and the picture symbols helped with reading unfamiliar words so they could focus on the task.

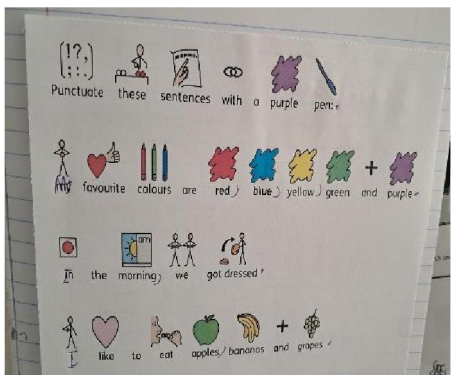
In maths, we have been working on our times tables. We use Times Tables Rockstars at school and at home and are seeing real progress. This week, we have been creating arrays and playing times tables games to help us to remember these important facts.

In history, we looked at the eras of the Stone Age and drew some pictures showing what happened in each era. It was amazing to see the developments over time and see how life then has impacted our lives today.

Children are enjoying their PE lessons, learning skills used in invasion games. As well as some excellent football dribbling and basketball scoring, we've seen cooperation and teamwork, both excellent skills in sports.

A fantastic week of learning, well done Blake Class!







Dates for the Diary 2024/2025

Tuesday 18th March	Open Classrooms for all years from 3.20pm
Friday 21st March	Red Nose Day – Do something funny, Children are invited to come to school wearing a red nose, a red accessory, a crazy hairstyle or a homemade red item the crazier and funnier the better.
Monday 24th March	Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.30pm
Tuesday 25th March	Parents Evening 3.30 – 7.00pm
Wednesday 27th March	French Day
Wednesday 2nd April	Easter Bonnet Competition and parade
Friday 4th April	End of Spring Term – 3.20pm
Wednesday 23rd April	Start of Summer term 1 – gates open at 8.30am
Monday 5th May	Bank holiday Monday – school is not open on this day
Monday 12th May	SAT's Week for Year 6 children SAT's breakfast for all Year 6 children from 8am daily in the school hall.
Tuesday 20th May	Year 3 and 4 Sports Day 9:30 on the school field at the corner of Crome Road and Mousehold Avenue. After sports day, all parents of children in Year 3 and 4 are invited to bring a picnic lunch to school to share with their child(ren).
Wednesday 21st May	Year 5 and 6 Sports Day 9:30 on the school field at the corner of Crome Road and Mousehold Avenue. After sports day, all parents of children in Year 5 and 6 are invited to bring a picnic lunch to school to share with their child(ren).
Monday 26th May	Half Term
Monday 2nd June	Welcome back after Half Term- gates open at 8.30am