George White Junior School Newsletter

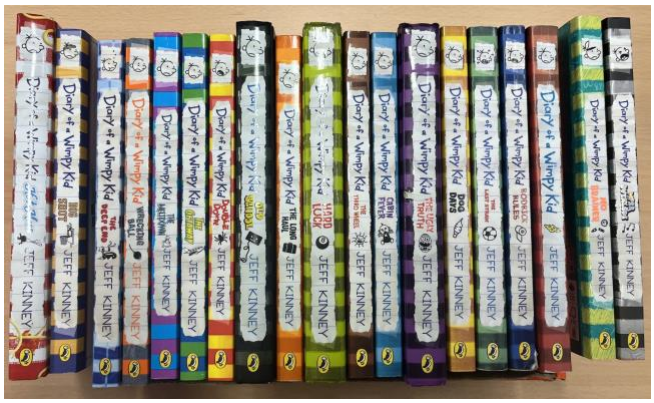
Friday 7th November 2025

What a fantastic first week back it has been! The children have returned full of energy, curiosity, and enthusiasm for learning — and we've already packed so much in across the school.

We've started the half term with not one, but two exciting trips! Pupils in Year 5 have already been out exploring and learning beyond the classroom, at West Stowe Village where they represented our school beautifully with their enthusiasm and excellent behaviour. On Thursday Mr Elias and Mr Mitchel took a group of children to Goals where they took part in a girl's football tournament. They showed excellent teamwork and were each presented with a certificate in celebration assembly this morning. A huge thank you to the staff who have organised, planned and helped to make both events such a success.

We're also delighted to share that more new books have been added to our school library over the half term break. These have been purchased using some of the funds raised from our Second-Hand Book Sale held just before half term. Even better, the new titles are ones requested by the children themselves, so we know they'll be a big hit.





A reminder Monday is **Odd Socks Day**, when we'll be celebrating our differences and promoting kindness as part of **Anti-Bullying Week**. Children are invited to come to school wearing their brightest, most mismatched socks — the odder the better! No donations are needed for this event, just smiles and socks. To end our week, we'll be supporting **Children in Need** on **Friday**. Next week looks to be yet another actioned packed exciting week. Have a lovely weekend.

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. Each individual child's attendance counts towards this.

Well-done to 6E this week, for having the highest attendance.

6E: 97%
6W: 94%
5W: 93%
5D: 96%
4T: 96%
4B: 95%
3C: 95%
3L: 88%

Whole school attendance for this week: 94%

School Target: 96%

This week you will have received the 'Attendance Quick Guide for Parents'. This includes details of how to report pupil absence and key timings of the school day. Please remember the gates open at 8:30am and close at 8:50.



Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs. Petchey, Mrs. Stolworthy, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Derer, Mrs Thorpe, Miss Whing, 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:

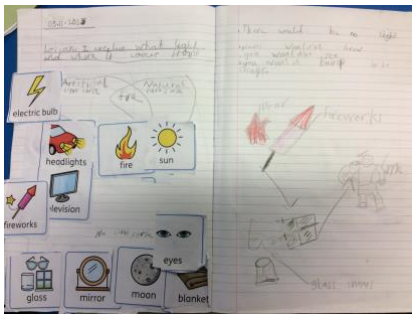
CADS – Children's Advice and Duty Service – 0344 800 8020

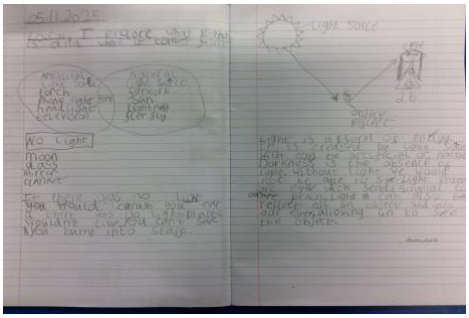
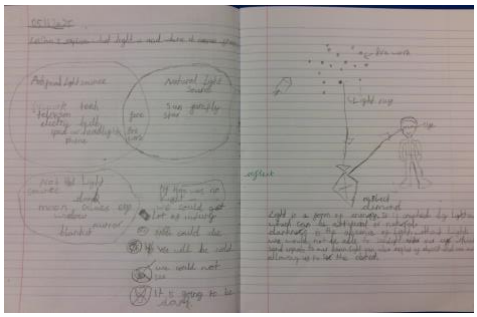


Look at what we're learning

Year 3

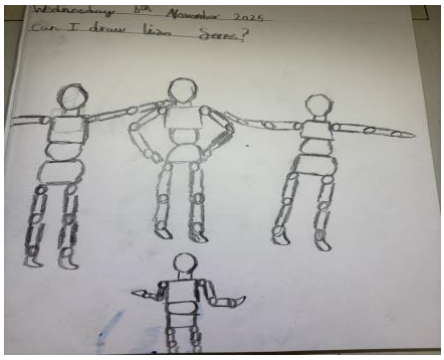
We have been finding out all about artificial and natural light sources. There was a heated debate about whether glass and mirrors are light sources! We then went into the PE cupboard to experience darkness and discussed what the world would be like if there were no light. We have found out that we can see objects because of light reflecting off them and into our eyes.

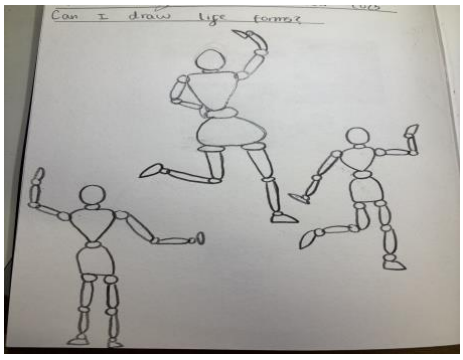


Year 4

We have had a fantastic first week back in year 4! In Science children have started to learn about Sound. We learnt about what causes a sound to vibrate. We did an investigation where we walked around the school exploring different sounds, we recorded our findings down in a table. In addition, we created some beautiful drawings of life forms inspired my Michelangelo. We used sketching pencils and created our drawings by observing wooden mannequins. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend!





Year 5

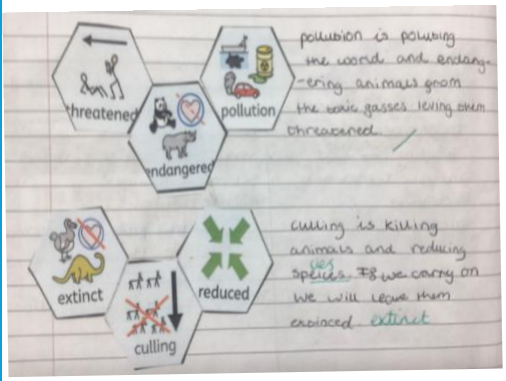
This week, Year 5 started their new PE topic — Viking dances! We've been exploring how Vikings might have shown power, teamwork and pride through movement. The children have been practising holding strong positions, using clear shapes and showing control in their actions. Everyone has shown fantastic focus, enthusiasm and cooperation. It's been great to see their confidence grow as they experiment with different poses and movements. We're really impressed with their effort and can't wait to see how their Viking routines develop over the next few weeks!

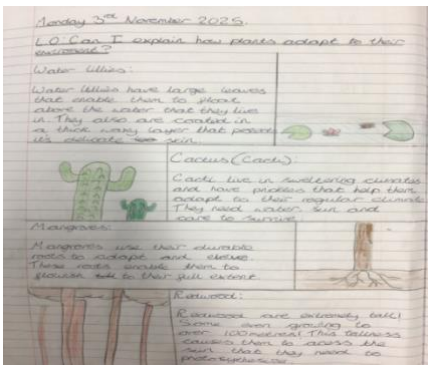


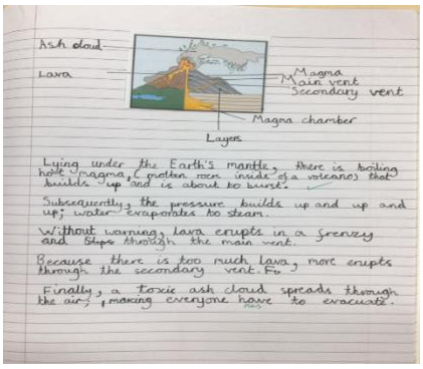


Year 6

Year 6 have been working hard on fractions this week. We have been ordering, comparing, adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators. In English, we have begun to look at a non-chronological text on Extinct Animals, discussing the features used and expanding their oracy skills by explaining new vocabulary. Our budding scientists have begun to think about adaptations in plants for them to survive in their habitats, for example lily pads and cacti. Next week, our Year 6 children will be given the opportunity to stand for House Captain. We look forward to hearing their pitches!

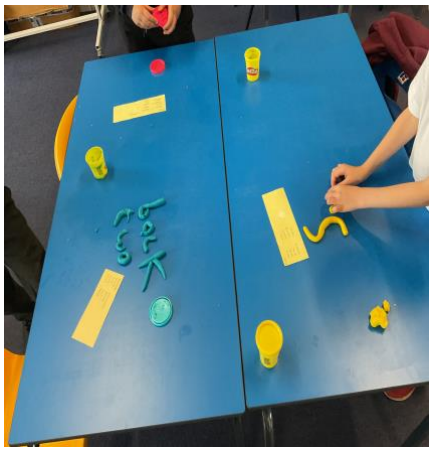


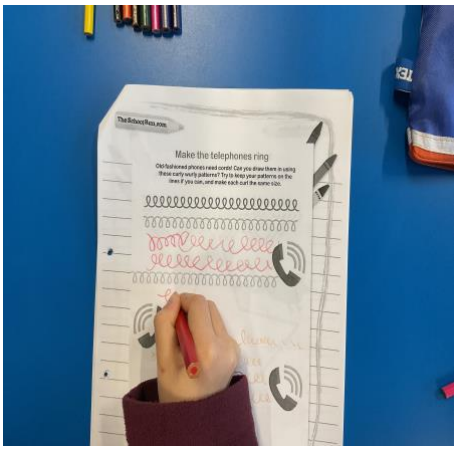


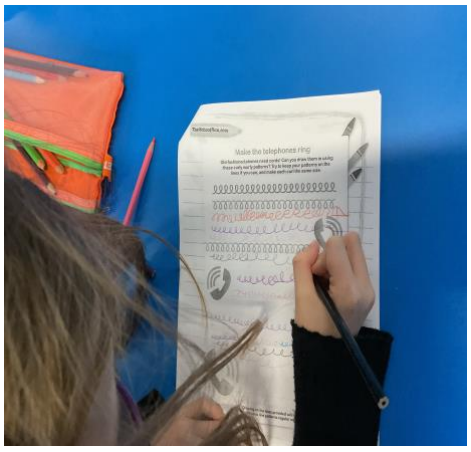


SRB

Children have had a focused start to the new half term with lots of work on letter and number formation. They have done handwriting booklets alongside practical activities to make them think about shape, spacing and size. When we can write smoothly, writing becomes easier! The visual of words written in sand or playdough help us to remember spellings too.







New House Names

We are delighted to share the chosen house names with you! These final choices truly reflect the voice of our whole school community, and we are incredibly proud of the hard work put in by the School Council and the adults who supported this democratic process.

After thoughtful discussion and voting, our new house names are:

Badger House – loyal, gentle and protective.
Eagle House – strong and fearless.
Otter House – open, playful, and genuine.
Owl House – listen carefully, observe quietly, and act with thoughtfulnes**s**.

Together, these houses capture the spirit of our school and the values we aim to live by every day. We are now looking forward to electing new House Captains who will help lead their houses with pride and enthusiasm. We can't wait to see the sense of belonging, teamwork, and healthy competition these new houses will inspire.

Thank you to everyone who contributed ideas and took part in this exciting process — it has been a wonderful example of our community working together to shape our school's future.



Dates for the Diary 2025/2026

Monday 10th November	Odd Socks Day – wear odd socks to school to mark the start of anti-bullying week.
Wednesday 12th November	New year 3 Open Morning 9-10am
Thursday 13th November	SEND Cafe 9-10am
Friday 14th November	Children in Need – the theme this year is the number '25'. Non-school uniform day.
Tuesday 18th November	Open Classrooms for all year groups 3.20pm
Wednesday 19th November	New year 3 Open Morning 9-10am
Thursday 20th November	Flu Vaccination team in follow up
Friday 5th December	Non School Uniform – Pay in chocolate or donate a prize to go towards our raffle/tombola, these can be biscuits, soap, bottle of wine, bubble bath, toys, games, puzzles, soft toys and vouchers.
Thursday 11th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 11th December	Christmas lunch
Thursday 11th December	George White Christmas Fair 3.30 -5pm
Wednesday 17th December	Carols round the Tree Year 3 & 4 Performance at 9am & Year 5 & 6 Performance at 2.30pm
Friday 19th December	End of Term at 3.20pm
Tuesday 6th January 2026	Start of the Spring Term – gates open at 8:30am