# George White Junior School Newsletter

## Friday 21st November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move further into the beginning of the months, this week the weather has turned noticeably colder. Please ensure that all children come to school each day wearing a warm winter coat, along with hats, gloves, and scarves to help to keep as warm as possible during playtimes and lunchtimes. We kindly ask that all items are clearly named, as this makes it much easier for us to return lost belongings to the correct children. Thank you for helping us keep everyone warm and comfortable during the school day.

Yesterday, a small group of children from across the school took part in a Parkour event, proudly representing our school. We would like to extend a huge thank you and well done to all the children who participated. They showed fantastic enthusiasm, resilience, and teamwork throughout the event, and we are extremely proud of their efforts.

We would like to inform you that Miss Arnold, one of our Year 4 Teaching Assistant, will be leaving us at the end of this term. We are incredibly grateful for the hard work, care, and dedication Miss Arnold has shown during her time with us, and she will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike. We wish Miss Arnold and her family the very best for the future.

We are delighted to share that we have achieved another award. We are now a **School of Sanctuary**. This recognition is a testament to our school's continued commitment to creating a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all. A huge thank you to Mrs Waller who has worked tirelessly in leading the school to achieve this award and external recognition.

We would like to remind families and children not to walk through the car park during peak times (8:00–9:00am and 3:00–3:30pm). For everyone's safety, please use the steps located next to the office reception area instead. Staff and visitors use the car park throughout the day, and avoiding this area at busy times helps keep all members of our school community safe.

Thank you for your continued support and 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.

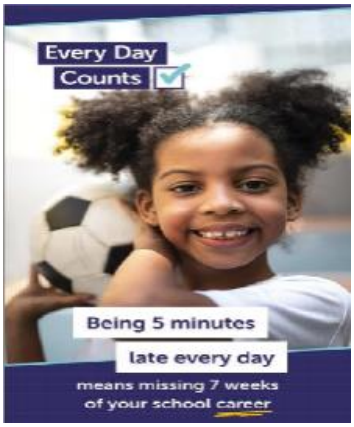
Well-done to 4T this week, for having the highest attendance.

6E: 97%
6W: 91%
5W: 92%
5D: 90%
4T: 99%
4B: 95%
3C: 96%
3L: 93%

**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**

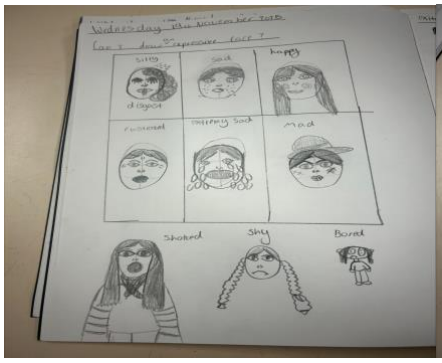
This week we have combined art and science. We have learned about 'chiaroscuro' (light and shade in drawing and painting). We looked carefully at paintings with marked dark and light areas to decide where the light source might be and how this influenced the artist. We then created abstract cityscapes and used torches to create our own artwork with chiaroscuro.

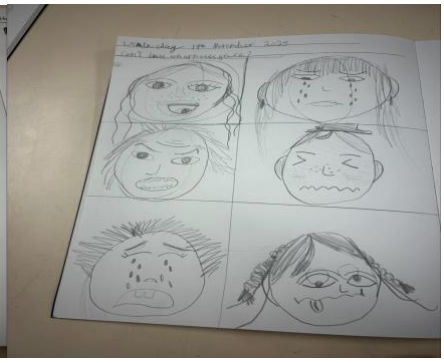
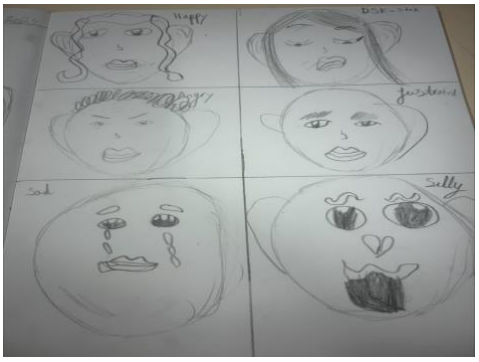




**Year 4**

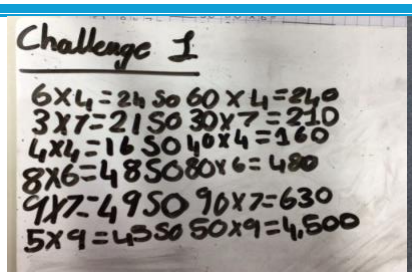
This week, Year 4 have continued studying the work of Michelangelo. Moving on from our self-portraits, we created fantastic human faces expressing a vast range of emotions. We paid extra attention to which parts of the face move when we are feeling and expressing different emotions and incorporated this knowledge into our sketches. The children truly created masterpieces that rivalled Michelangelo himself!

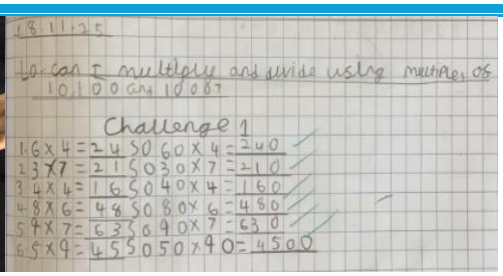



**Year 5**

Year 5 have been working hard in maths this week, developing their confidence with multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000. Through collaborative learning activities, they've been discussing strategies, helping one another, and solving problems together as they explored how digits shift place value. It's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm grow as they mastered new methods - we're very proud of their focus, teamwork, and determination!




**Year 6**

Our fantastic Year 6s have been working hard on their next set of SATs practise papers this week. We are so proud of the resilience and determination they have shown. Alongside these assessments, we have been exploring adaptation and Natural Selection more as part of our science topic on Evolution. The children simulated the different beaks of Darwin's finches in order to understand how the different birds had adapted depending on their food source. In Art, we built on our sketching lesson last week to observe closely and follow steps to draw accurately. The children were all so proud of the results. A great week in Year 6 – well done everyone.

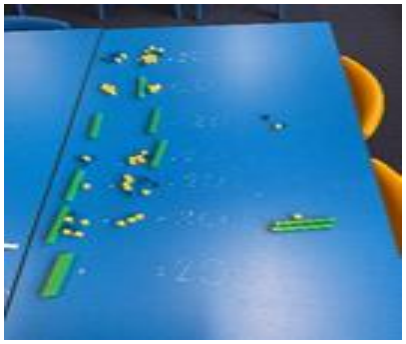







**SRB**

This week in the SRB, we have focused on our number bonds to 20 using multisensory learning. The children have worked incredibly hard to understand all the different ways to make 10 and 20. For our practical cooking session, we practiced our cutting skills and how to be safe when using kitchen knives, we made a beautiful set of fruit salads that the children really enjoyed!





## Christmas Fair 2025

We are pleased to announce our Christmas Fair is taking place on Thursday 11th December from 3.20pm. We are renting stall tables at £5 per table and all businesses are welcome. Please contact the school office if you wish to hire a table. To Support our Christmas Fair, we are holding a Non-School Uniform Day on Friday 5th December. This is an opportunity for children to come to school in Non-school uniform and 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.



| Dates for the Diary 2025/2026 | |
|---|---|
| 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<br>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 |