George White Junior School Newsletter

Friday 16th January 2026

As we come to the end of another busy and successful week, we would like to take a moment to share some highlights from across the school.

It has been wonderful to see children from across the school taking great pride in their recorded work and showing real keenness to share their learning. During our whole school celebration assembly this morning, we saw some excellent pieces of work from across the week. It is lovely to see so many children feeling proud and confident to share their achievements with others.

On Wednesday, our Play Leaders attended training with Mrs Stolworthy and Miss Brown. They represented the school exceptionally well, demonstrating excellent behaviour and effective teamwork throughout the session. Their positive attitudes and willingness to support one another were a real credit to our school, and we are very proud of them. We now look forward to seeing our new pupil Play Leaders beginning their new role from next week during playtimes and lunchtimes.

We were also delighted to host our first partnership event of the year, which took place yesterday. A group of children walked to Mousehold Infants where they enjoyed reading to and sharing books with a group of children from Reception and Year 1. It was wonderful to see the children engaging so positively in books and building confidence through shared reading together.







Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We wish you a restful weekend and look forward to another exciting week ahead.

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.

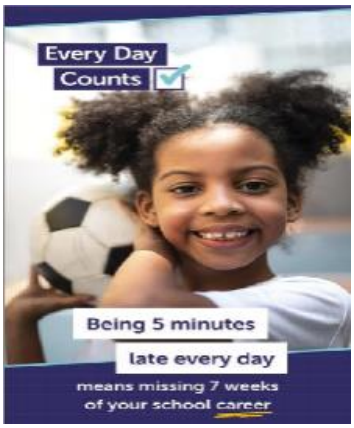
Well-done to 3C this week, for having the highest attendance.

6E: 98%
6W: 94%
5W: 89%
5D: 93%
4T: 98%
4B: 93%
3C: 99%
3L: 96%

Whole school attendance for this week: 96%

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

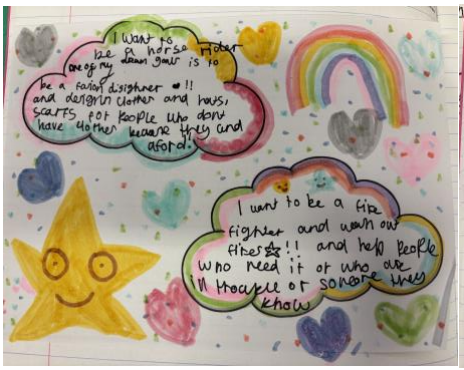
This week, Year 3 have been investigating how forces change on different surfaces using force meters. By pulling objects across smooth and rough materials, we measured how much force was needed to make the objects move. We compared their results, noticing that rougher surfaces required more force due to increased friction.

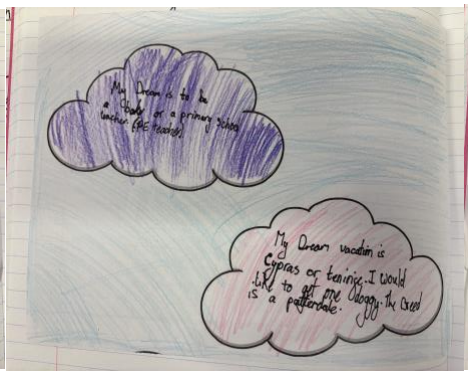


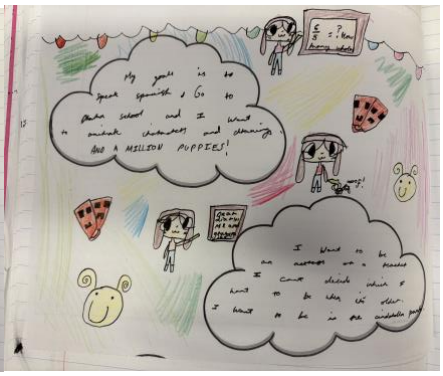


Year 4

This week, we have been learning about excavations in Ancient Greece and sorting artefacts from the Palaeolithic period. In PE, we are learning how to dance in the role of spies. We have been learning how to count in eights to perform different movements and use dynamics. In PSHE, we are learning about our dreams and goals.

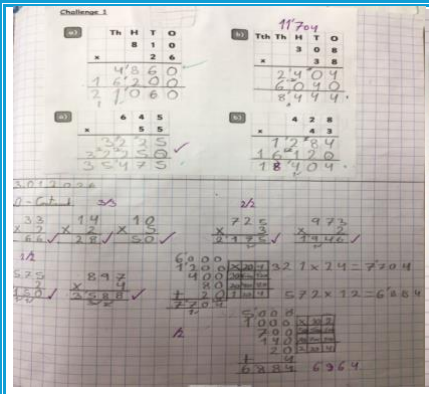
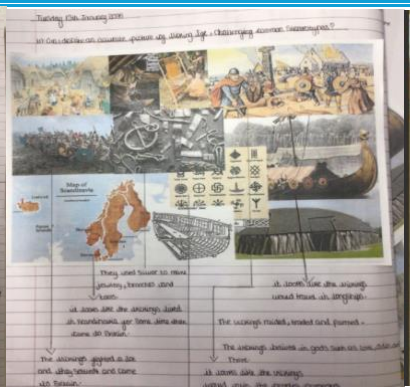






Year 5

We've had another great week in Year 5 – the children have been working so hard across the curriculum. In maths, we have been practising multiplying 2- by 3-digit numbers, and the children have shown real resilience in this. We have also been impressed by the enthusiasm and excitement around our new science topic, Earth and Space, with some wonderful home learning already being shared. Well done, Year 5!

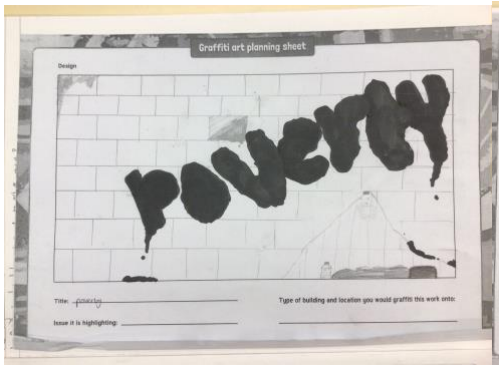



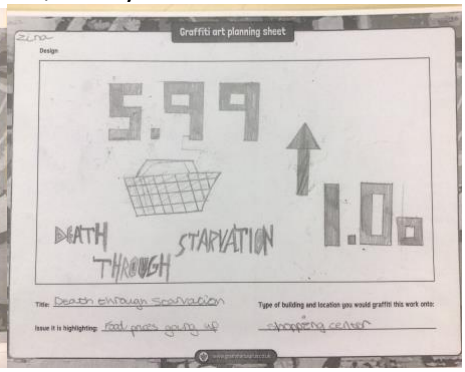

Year 6

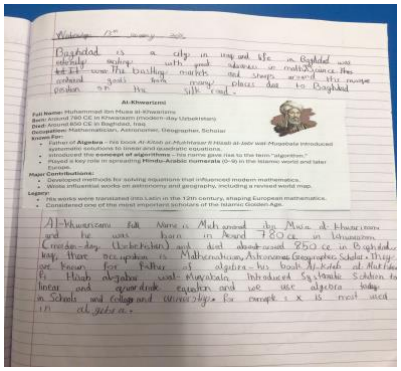
Another full week in year 6. In our English this week we have been learning how to write both direct and reported speech and have planned a newspaper report about a mysterious new creature discovered on Mousehold Heath. Our maths has continued with different topics being taught in our different maths groups. In Art, we have started to look at protest art, with a focus on Banksy. We looked at his work and then planned our own protest art.

Our History this week was all about Baghdad. We learnt how it used to be a centre of culture, art and learning and we found out about some of the important scholars who worked there and considered their impact upon the present day.

In Science this week we have continued learning about classification of animals and created branching databases to sort invertebrates. All in all, a very full week!

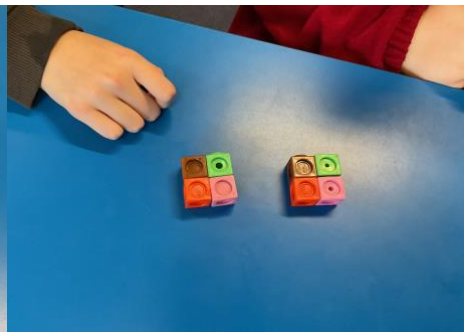
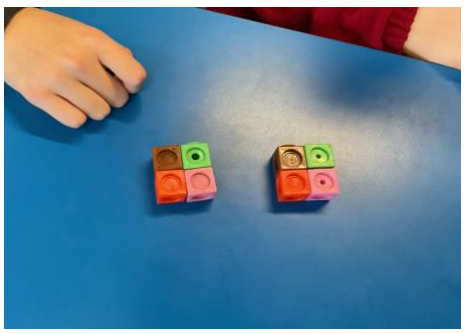






SRB

Our focus this week has been on communication. For our processing games, children have been instructing each other on how to create a shape using position and colour words. They have been very patient and encouraging with each other and the development in language used over the week is clear.

Dates for the Diary 2025/2026

Tuesday 20th January	Open Classroom for all year groups 3.20pm
Tuesday 27th January 2026.	Year 5 Virtual Reality (VR) Experience Day
Tuesday 27th January	Year 6 SATs Parent Meeting 3.30pm
Tuesday 27th January	Year 5 Star Gazing Event 4.30 – 5.30pm at George White
Monday 2nd February	International Day of Heritage- Details to follow
Monday 2nd February	Children's Mental Health week- Details to follow
Friday 6th February	Year 3 Cake Sale
Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 10Th February	Parents Evening 3.30 - 5.00pm
Wednesday 11th February	Parents Evening 3.30 -7.00pm
Friday 13th February	End of Term at 3.20pm
Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February	Half term holiday
Monday 23rd February	Back to school – gates open at 8:30am
Monday 23rd February	Year 4 Multiplication Timetable Check Meeting with Parents at 3.30pm
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day – Details to follow
Tuesday 17th March	Open Classroom for all year groups 3.20pm
Tuesday 24th March	School Photographer in taking Class group photos and Year 6 Leavers Portraits
Thursday 26th March	Easter Bonnet Competition and parade
Friday 27th March	End of Spring Term – 3.20pm
Tuesday 14th April	Start of Summer term 1 – gates open at 8.30am
Monday 4th May	Bank holiday Monday – school is not open on this day
Monday 3rd June – Wednesday 3rd June	Year 6 Residential trip to Eaton Vale
Monday 8th June	Aspirations Week- Details to follow