George White Junior School Newsletter

Friday 23rd January 2026

We are not quite sure how we are already halfway through this half term. The days and weeks seem to be flying, and it is wonderful to see just how much the children are growing and developing already this term. The children's positive and engaging attitudes towards learning continue to inspire and amaze all their teachers.

This month, our focus is on our school value of **Kindness**, and it has been wonderful to see this reflected so clearly around the school. From children saying good morning with a smile, to children asking how adults are and waiting for the reply. The kindness links displayed across the hall continue to grow, celebrating the many thoughtful and caring actions shown by the children each day. It is heartening to see how proud the children are to recognise and share acts of kindness with others. Each week in Celebration Assembly our Year 6 house and vice house captains share the ongoing total of kindness links for their house. I wonder how many links there will be at the end this whole school house activity?

Finally, it was lovely to welcome so many parents into school on Tuesday afternoon for our open classroom event. Thank you for taking the time to join us and for the positive support you show for your child's learning. If you missed this event and would still like to see your child's learning, please contact your child's class teacher who can arrange a suitable time for you to pop in.

Have a lovely weekend.

From the GW 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. Each individual child's attendance counts towards this.

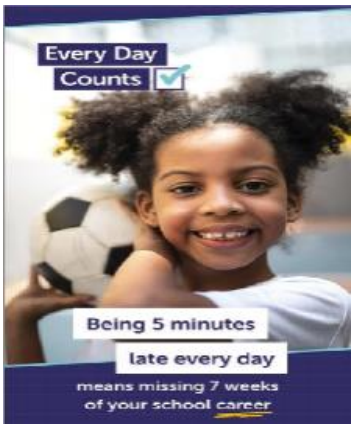
Well-done to 3L & 6E this week, for having the highest attendance.

6E: 97%
6W: 90%
5W: 89%
5D: 93%
4T: 95%
4B: 96%
3C: 96%
3L: 97%

Whole school attendance for this week: 94%

School Target: 96%

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

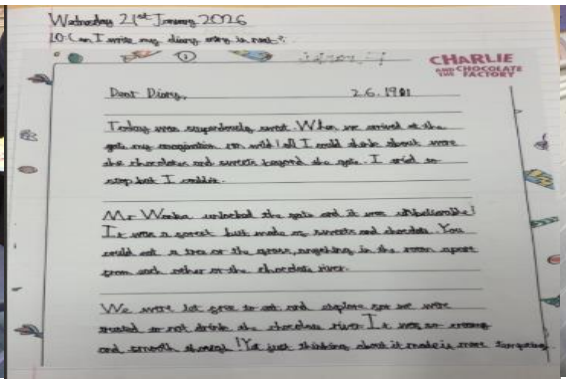
In science, we have been comparing and grouping materials based on whether they are magnetic. We have found that everything that is magnetic is or contains metal, but not all metals are magnetic. This has led to a great deal of discussion around how useful (or not!) it would be to have a magnet if we lost a ring in the sand.





Year 4

This week in English the children have completed their Diary entries, we have been studying the book Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and have been looking at putting events in chronological order. The children have worked incredibly hard on their writing. Another highlight this week has been in our DT learning; the children have had the opportunity to work collaboratively showing perseverance and resilience whilst making dome structures. Well done!



Wednesday 21st January 2015

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

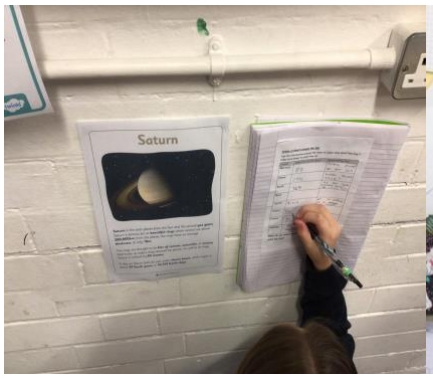
Dear Diary,

2.6.1981



Year 5

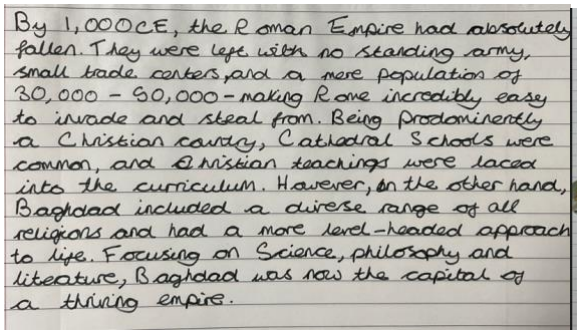
We have had another fabulous week in Year 5! The children have been working incredibly hard in Science as we explored space and learned all about the planets and their orbits around the Sun. The children were fascinated by how the Solar System works and impressed us with their enthusiasm and curiosity.

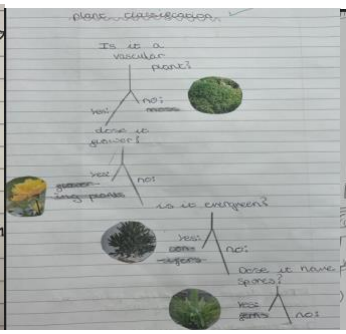
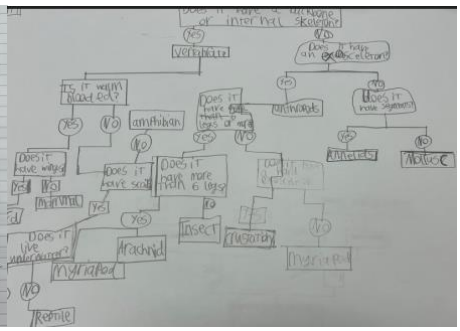





Year 6

This week has seen our Year 6s work so hard at their next round of testing. So many of them are impressing us with their resilience and drive to improve. Well done to you all. In other subjects, we have been learning more about the Islamic Empire by comparing Rome and Baghdad in the year 1000CE. In Science, we have continued our topic on classification, extending it to look at different species and characteristics of plants as well as animals this week.


By 1,000CE, the Roman Empire had absolutely fallen. They were left with no standing army, small trade centers, and a more population of 30,000 - 50,000 - making Rome incredibly easy to invade and steal from. Being predominently a Christian country, Cathedral Schools were common, and Christian teachings were laced into the curriculum. However, on the other hand, Baghdad included a diverse range of all religions and had a more level-headed approach to life. Focusing on Science, philosophy and literature, Baghdad was now the capital of a thriving empire.

SRB

Children in the SRB have been thinking about life skills and how to be independent and we decided that one of the easiest ways was to be able to make a simple meal for ourselves. Buttering bread, choosing and preparing fillings and knife safety were some of the things we had to consider. We were very impressed with their work and they enjoyed eating their sandwiches!





Dates for the Diary 2025/2026

Tuesday 27th January 2026.	Year 5 Virtual Reality (VR) Experience Day for all children
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