George White Junior School Newsletter

Friday 13th February 2026

As we reach the end of the first half of the spring term, it has been such a busy and productive week!

On Monday, pupils in Years 4–6 took part in our annual CPR training which equipped them with valuable life-saving knowledge and practical skills. We are incredibly proud of how engaged the children were throughout their training session and putting into practice their skills and understanding.

Tuesday marked Safer Internet Day, and pupils took part in a whole-school live lesson delivered by the BBC, focusing on internet safety and responsible online behaviour. This linked closely with Children's Mental Health Week, during which the children have explored wellbeing, emotional health and strategies to support themselves and others.

This week, we were proud to take part in two wonderful partnership events. On Wednesday, our Year 3 and Year 5 pupils joined together for a partnership singing assembly at MIANS. It was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to perform and collaborate together through singing.

Yesterday, our Year 5 and Year 6 readers took part in another shared reading session, promoting a love of reading and building confidence across the school. It is always lovely to see older children sharing their interest in books and reading with our younger children at Mousehold Infant School.

Yesterday also saw a small group of children representing the school at a Swimming Gala. They demonstrated excellent determination, teamwork and encouragement for each other and we are so proud of their efforts. Well done and thank you for representing our school so successfully.

It was also a pleasure to welcome so many parents and carers into school for Parents' Evening on Tuesday and Wednesday. These meetings are an important opportunity to share and celebrate progress as well as discussing next steps. Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

It has certainly been a very full and enriching final week to end this half term!

All staff at GWJS wish you a safe and enjoyable half term break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Monday 23rd February from 8:30am**.

Missing Coat

We have had a child's black Nike coat reported missing since last Friday.

If your child has accidentally taken this coat home or has seen it, please could you check and return it to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

Changes to Breakfast Club and Acorns Afterschool Club Fees

From Monday 4th May there will be a change to the charge for Breakfast Club and Acorns Afterschool Club.

From this date, the daily cost of our provision will be as follows:

- Breakfast Club: £3.50 per day
- Acorns Afterschool Club: £10.00 per day

Breakfast Club will continue to provide a healthy breakfast, and Acorns Afterschool Club will continue to offer a range of snacks, ensuring pupils are supported at the start and end of the school day.

We have worked hard to keep increases to a minimum and to continue offering the high-quality, safe and supportive provision our children are used to. We appreciate that any price increase can have an impact on families and thank you for your understanding and continued support.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Chester or Mrs Petchey in the school office.

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.

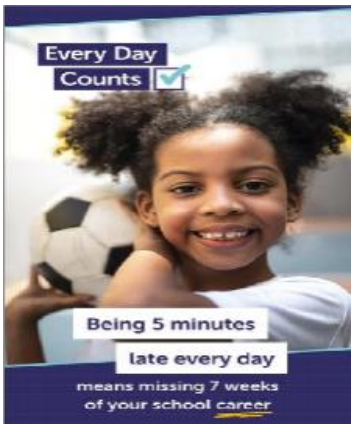
Well-done to 3C this week, for having the highest attendance.

6E: 90%
6W: 97%
5W: 87%
5D: 95%
4T: 89%
4B: 95%
3C: 98%
3L: 92%

Whole school attendance for this week: 93%

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, 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 in science, we conducted a comparative experiment to find out which type of magnet is the strongest. The children had to carefully plan their test, make thoughtful predictions, and ensure their measurements were accurate and fair. It was wonderful to see their curiosity and attention to detail.





Year 4

This week, Year 4 have learnt about AI and using AI responsibly as part of our Internet Safety Day. Children have also completed some Art around Belonging as part of Children's Mental Health week. Children have had the opportunity to create a map showing all the places and groups and other activities that help the children feel like they belong. The children have created some beautiful pieces of work around the topic of belonging.

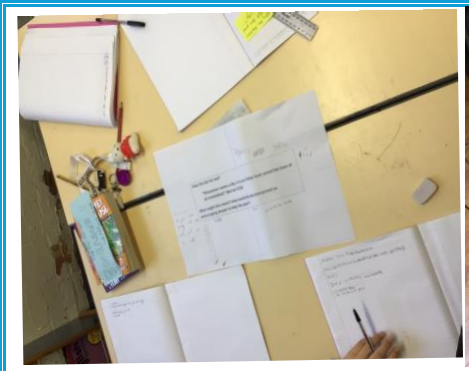


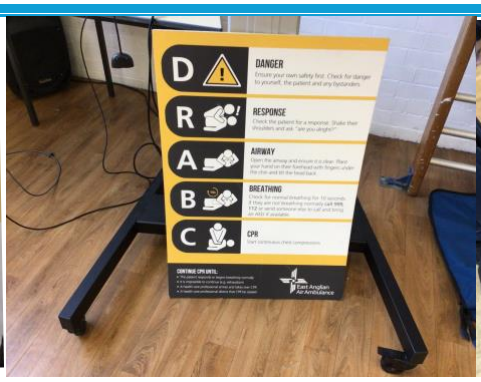




Year 5

This week, Year 5 were privileged to have a visit from the East Anglian Air Ambulance for CPR training! The children had the opportunity to learn essential CPR skills and find out more about how the air ambulance helps people in emergencies. The session was full of energy and curiosity, with our students engaging really well and practicing life-saving techniques. It was wonderful to see them so focused and enthusiastic while learning such important skills - well done Year 5!







Year 6

Our Art project this half term has looked at protest Art; we have been inspired by the work of Banksy to create pieces of Art that reflect the injustices in society. We planned for and used a range of medium to create this work that we were very proud of. On Tuesday, we also celebrated Safer Internet Day with a webinar and some work on AI; we created information leaflets to explain to Year 3 about the positives and pitfalls of using AI in our daily lives.







SRB

In art, children have been learning about architecture and looking at interesting buildings around the world. They then designed and made their own buildings using materials available in the classroom. They were very creative with their ideas and supported each other to bring their designs to life. We are very proud of the city we have made!







SEND news



At the end of each half term, we include an article about supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities. This half term, we are talking about how we support children with Dyslexia.

Our school was recently awarded the Dyslexia Friendly Schools Quality Mark which recognises that Dyslexia is supported across the whole school.

We are an accredited
Dyslexia Friendly School
Dyslexia Outreach SERVICE

At George White, we value what every child has to offer and recognise that not all children learn in the same way. We have support set up for reading, writing, handwriting, spelling, maths and all curriculum subjects. Children are encouraged to love reading through a variety of methods such as being read to and listening to audiobooks. They can use technology in a variety of ways, such as using Times Tables Rock Stars to practise times tables, or using TalkTyper to record ideas onto an ipad using speech to text. All classrooms display key subject vocabulary to support working memory with pictures to assist with understanding.



We have activities to develop fine motor skills, concentration and memory, and our sensory room can help children to regulate when they complete a circuit of activities.

This award is the culmination of hard work by all members of staff in working together to support Dyslexia in every area of the curriculum and throughout the school day.

If you would like to know more about supporting a child with Dyslexia at home, please request a free guide from the British Dyslexia Association

Guidance for parents - British Dyslexia Association

Dates for the Diary 2025/2026

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
Monday 9th March	Year 4 trip to How Hill
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