George White Junior School Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of yet another busy and productive term, it is incredible reflecting back on how hard the children have worked, with so many wonderful moments of learning, achievement and enrichment across and beyond the school.

It has been especially lovely to end the term today with our whole school celebration assembly, where we were able to recognise and celebrate the many successes of this term.

A huge thank you to all the children and families who took part in our annual Easter bonnet competition. The standard this year was fantastic, and it was clear how much time and effort had gone into each creation. All staff took part in voting, with prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Every child who entered also received a small prize.







Thank you, as always, to our parents and carers for your continued support. We would not be able to provide so many opportunities and experiences for the children without you!

We now all look forward to a restful Easter holiday and hope you all enjoy some well-deserved time together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday 14th April.

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.

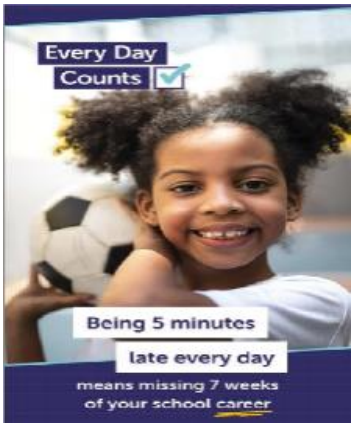
Well-done to 4T this week, for having the highest attendance.

6E: 96%
6W: 93%
5W: 91%
5D: 95%
4T: 98%
4B: 95%
3C: 96%
3L: 92%

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, 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





Year 3

This spring term, Year 3 have been busy with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum. In Maths, the children explored fractions as well as mass and capacity, developing their understanding through practical activities and problem solving. In English, we enjoyed reading *Egyptian Cinderella*, using it to help us develop characterisation in speech and to write our own playscripts. Our History and Geography learning focused on Ancient Egypt and deserts. The children learned about daily life, beliefs and the importance of the River Nile, as well as exploring desert environments. A highlight of the term was our trip to the Castle Museum, where the children brought their learning to life through hands-on experiences. In Science, we investigated forces and magnets, carrying out experiments to explore how objects move and how magnets attract and repel. Well done to all the children for their hard work this term!

Year 4

What an amazing spring term we have had here in Year 4! It may have been short, but we managed to squeeze a lot in! We have created some brilliant poems in the form of Kennings, Tetractys and Free Verse within our English. In addition, we created some lovely diary entries and setting descriptions linked to Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. In maths, we have studied all things fractions and decimals related! Amongst all this, we learnt about states of matter in science and rivers in geography (both linked to the water cycle). We then applied this learning to our amazing How Hill trip where we dyke dipped and walked through nature. We hope everyone has a lovely break, can recharge their batteries and be ready for the summer term!

Year 5

We have had a wonderful half term in Year 5 and we are so proud of all of the hard work and enthusiasm the children have shown. The children have really enjoyed our geography topic learning about natural disasters; they have had so many thoughtful questions and contributions as we explored how earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis occur and the human and physical impacts they can have! They applied this knowledge through writing an explanation text about how volcanoes are formed in English as well as creating their very own natural hazard warning system in DT through creating a CAMs mechanism! They have been working hard in maths to practise their calculating perimeter and area and have impressed us with their reasoning and problem-solving skills! We hope you all have a wonderful Easter holiday and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the Summer Term.

Year 6

Wow, Year 6. What an amazing term of learning and growing. All the adults in Year 6 are so proud of your resilience and drive to improve as learners and as human beings! This week all of our children have honed their culinary skills in our DT lessons, preparing and cooking different Tapas dishes. These were delicious and a really great way to end our term. Some of our Maths classes also took part in a live lesson on Thursday, learning about the best ways to answer word problem questions. This was a really helpful way to understand how to tackle the reasoning papers. Thank you to Mr Elias for organising. We hope that all our children and families have an amazing Easter holiday.

SRB

What a brilliant term we have had! Children have learnt so much about the Stone Age and their diary entries show that they can imagine what life was like for a child living at that time. They have produced some wonderful artwork, including recreating cave paintings, thinking about tools and natural materials which would have been used to produce these. Every day, children have been reading to adults and showing that they understand more and more of the books they choose. A great term of learning and development – well done SRB!

Please can we remind all parents and carers that children are to have only healthy snacks for playtimes. Items such as fruit, rice cakes, bread sticks and cereal bars are great, but no crisps or chocolate thank you, these should be kept for lunchboxes. We do not allow sweets in school. We are also a nut free school.



Dates for the Diary 2025/2026

Monday 13th April	School closed – Inset Day
Tuesday 14th April	Start of Summer term 1 – gates open at 8.30am
Wednesday 29th April	Year 3 and 4 Sports Day 9:30 on the school field at the corner of Crome Road and Mousehold Avenue. After sports day, all parents of children in Year 3 and 4 are invited to bring a picnic lunch to school to share with their child(ren).
Thursday 30th April	Year 5 and 6 Sports Day 9:30 on the school field at the corner of Crome Road and Mousehold Avenue. After sports day, all parents of children in Year 5 and 6 are invited to bring a picnic lunch to school to share with their child(ren).
Monday 4th May	Bank holiday Monday – school is not open on this day
Monday 1 June – Wednesday 3rd June	Year 6 Residential trip to Eaton Vale
Monday 8th June	Aspirations Week- Details to follow

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 have included some information about supporting your child with pre-reading.

Reading is considered an important skill, but it does not start with recognition of words. Sounds (baby babbling), conversations, telling stories, singing songs and chatting about your day are all important steps in learning to read.

Children can learn a lot about vocabulary and sounds by listening to songs, especially rhyming songs such as nursery rhymes. You may have seen the words ‘phonological awareness’ in a report if your child has been seen by a specialist – this means how they hear and use sounds. So if your child loves vehicles, you can sound out a word, ‘Look, there is a bu…’ and wait for them to add the s. If they love animals, you could count the syllables in the names – ‘el-e-phant, gold-fish, kan-ga-roo’.

The National Literacy Strategy website has ideas for activities by age group (and these can be revisited by children of any age depending on developmental need) and are helpful in looking at how to support your child at home with developing vocabulary and literacy skills in fun and interactive ways.

Words for Life | National Literacy Trust | Words for Life

There is also information and advice for teenagers and young people up to 25 on finances, home ownership and more.

Words for Life

National Literacy Trust
Change your story

Learn and play