George White Junior School Newsletter

Friday 26th June 2026

As we reach the end of an extremely hot and humid week I would like to thank all of our families for your understanding and support during the period of exceptionally hot weather we have all experienced this week.

The extreme temperatures have required us to make short-notice adjustments to our usual routines, including offering early collection from 1:30pm to help children avoid the hottest part of the afternoon. We are incredibly grateful for the flexibility and support shown by our parents and carers this week. Working together has helped us ensure that the children have remained safe, well-hydrated and as comfortable as possible throughout the week.

On Tuesday it was a real pleasure to join our Year 3 children on their visit to Whitlingham Country Park. Despite the warm weather, the children had a fantastic morning and represented our school brilliantly. They thoroughly enjoyed taking part in bug hunting and pond dipping activities, showing great curiosity and respect for the natural environment. It was wonderful to see their excitement as they discovered a range of minibeasts and pond creatures while learning more about local habitats.

A huge congratulations must go to our Year 6 pupils, who last week had a fantastic Enterprise Week. Through their creativity, teamwork and entrepreneurial spirit, they have raised an incredible £377.80 profit! The money raised will go towards funding their Leavers' Disco next month. They should all be immensely proud of what they have achieved, well done Year 6! Thank you also to everyone who supported their stalls and helped make this event such a success.

Next week, we are very much looking forward to our Year 5 Drumming Performance on Tuesday afternoon. Our Year 5 children have been working incredibly hard to develop their drumming skills throughout the year, and we are excited to see them showcase their learning. We look forward to welcoming our Year 5 parents and carers into school to enjoy what promises to be a fantastic performance.

A reminder that next Friday, your child's annual school report will be sent home.

Finally, with Saturday forecast to be another extremely hot day, please take extra care if you are spending time outdoors. The sun is at its strongest between 11:00am and 3:00pm, so where possible, try to avoid prolonged periods outside during these hours. If you are out and about, remember to drink plenty of water, seek shade regularly, wear a wide-brimmed hat and apply a high factor sun cream frequently.

We hope you all have a safe, enjoyable and restful weekend, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday at 8:30am.

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.

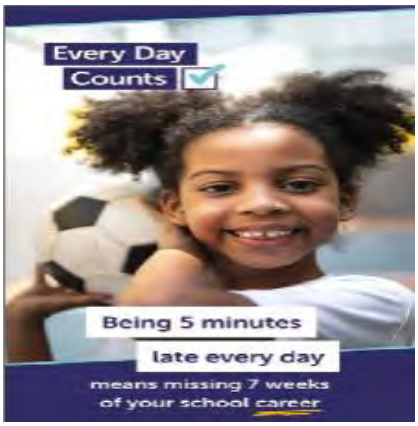
Well-done to 4T this week, for having the highest attendance.

6E: 88%
6W: 85%
5W: 89%
5D: 89%
4T: 93%
4B: 89%
3C: 91%
3L: 91%

Whole school attendance for this week: 89%

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 Year 3 was a hot one, but the children coped exceptionally well and continued to work hard despite the warm weather. We enjoyed a fantastic trip to Whitlingham, where the children had the opportunity to explore a variety of insects and pond creatures through bug hunting and pond dipping activities. They showed great curiosity, enthusiasm and respect for the natural environment as they investigated the different habitats and discovered the wildlife living there. It was wonderful to see the children working together, asking thoughtful questions and sharing their findings with their classmates. We are very proud of how they represented the school throughout the trip. Well done, Year 3, for another successful and exciting week of learning!

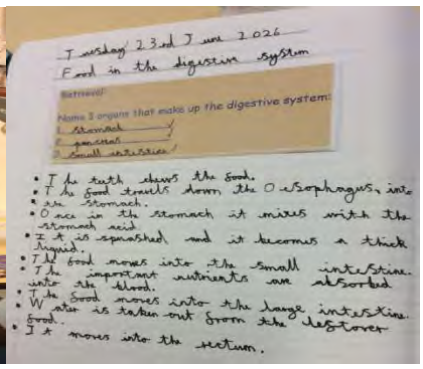




Year 4

What a wonderful (but very toasty!) week in Year 4! The children have been so resilient in this heat and have tried their best to persevere, and we are very proud of them for how well they have coped. In our science lesson this week, we explored what truly happens to our food once it enters the digestive system. We carried out a practical experiment in science that represented the process of digesting food. Children 'chewed' (crushed in a bag) crackers and bananas and added 'saliva' (water) to create a bolus. This then entered the 'stomach' (a bag) before entering the 'small intestine' (a pair of tights). We squeezed out the nutrients and absorbed the water before the waste exited our body as faeces (the mushed banana and cracker!). The children thoroughly enjoyed 'making poo' and exploring the journey of our food in the digestive system.

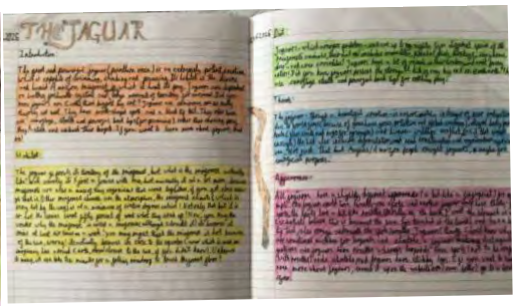




Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic week and have continued to show enthusiasm and determination across all areas of their learning, even in the warm temperatures! This week they have been writing up their non-chronological reports on rainforest animals, showcasing their research skills, creativity, and use of ambitious vocabulary built over the past few weeks. As you can see from the examples below, the work they have produced is impressive and they should be very proud of the effort and positive attitude they have demonstrated. Well done, Year 5.





Year 6

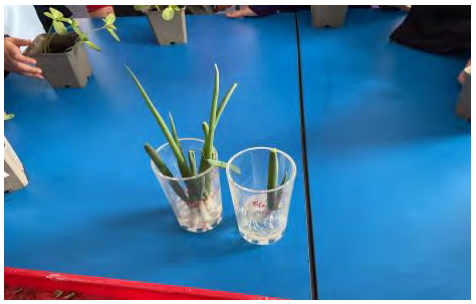
This week we have been reliving the memories of our amazing Enterprise Week! With all the final costs calculated, we made an amazing £377.80. This is an incredible amount and credit to the hard work and creativity of the Year 6 children as well as the generosity of the school community. A huge thank you to everyone who supported us. We have also spent the week preparing for our final Leaver's play – writing scripts and beginning to learn songs. We can't wait to share it with you.





SRB

Children in the SRB have been thinking about differences. We decided to demonstrate that all children don't learn at the same pace using sunflower seeds. Children all planted sunflower seeds in the same type of pot, watered them with the same frequency and left them on the same windowsill, yet they did not all grow at the same time! We then discussed how we can all have the same input but will not all respond in the same way. However, after a week, all sunflowers were growing so we will all get there in the end.





Dates for the Diary 2025/2026

Tuesday 30th June	Year 5 Djembe Drum Performance 2:30 pm.
Thursday 2nd July	Year 6 to Sewell Park theatre to watch Shrek the musical
Friday 3rd July	Annual reports out to all parents for years 3, 4, 5 and 6
Monday 6th July	Welcome meeting for New Year 3 parent & children 5-6pm
Tuesday 7th July	Dance for Rights event – Whole school event
Wednesday 8th July	Transition morning 1 for years 2, 3, 4 and 5
Thursday 9th July	Transition morning 2 for years 2, 3, 4 and 5
Friday 10th July	Transition day for years 2, 3, 4 and 5
Monday 13th July	George White's Got Talent Year 3 and 4 auditions in school
Tuesday 14th July	George White's Got Talent Year 5 and 6 auditions in school
Wednesday 15th July	Year 6 Leavers show to Parents 1:15-3:00
Thursday 16th July	George White Got Talent Grand Final
Friday 17th July	End of term at 3:20pm

Dates for the Diary 2026/2027

Tuesday 1st September	Inset Day – school shut for all children
Wednesday 2nd September	Inset Day – school shut for all children
Thursday 3rd September	Start of the autumn term. Gates open for all children at 8:30am
Monday 7th September	Year 4 welcome meeting for all parents from 3:30pm in the school hall
Tuesday 8th September	Year 5 welcome meeting for all parents from 3:30pm in the school hall
Wednesday 9th September	Year 6 welcome meeting for all parents from 3:30pm in the school hall
Tuesday 20th October	Parents evening 3:30pm-5pm

Wednesday 21st October	Parents evening 3:30pm – 7pm

Norfolk County Council 2026-2027 Norfolk Model Calendar

This calendar applies to community schools, community special schools, VC schools and nursery schools and sets the days on which school transport will be provided. While most Foundation, VA, foundation special, free schools and academy trusts who are able to set their own dates, adopt the Norfolk Model, we advise you to check with your child's school before making holiday or other commitments.

September 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2026

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2027

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2027

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2027

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2027

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2027

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2027

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2027

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2027

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Key : White dates - schools open to pupils
Yellow dates - pupil holiday
Red dates - bank holiday

Five staff training days will be selected from yellow dates, we suggest 1 & 2 September, 23 October, 4 January and 12 April . Some may choose to use twilight hours for staff training instead of some or all of these.

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