George White Junior School Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026

It has been another busy and positive week at George White, with lots of fantastic learning taking place across the school. It is always lovely to walk around classrooms and see children engaged, working together and continuing to grow in confidence as we settle further into the new school year.

A huge thank you to all our Year 6 parents and carers who attended our residential trip meeting yesterday. It was wonderful to see such a large turnout, and we really appreciate your support. The residential is always a very special experience for our children and such an exciting way for them to end their time in Year 6 and at George White. We are already looking forward to all the memories they will make together!

A reminder that children are welcome to bring a healthy snack to school. Fruit and vegetables are ideal choices and help children to stay energised and ready to learn.

We are beginning to see a growing amount of unnamed lost property, including jumpers, cardigans and coats – some of which looks almost brand new! Please take a few moments this weekend to check that your child's name is clearly written inside their jumper, cardigan, coat and on their water bottle. Named belongings are much easier for us to reunite with their owners and will hopefully prevent our lost property collection from continuing to grow.

Our Parents' Evening booking system will go live on 1st October at 6:00pm. Parents' Evening is an important opportunity to meet with your child's teacher, hear how they have settled into their new year group and discuss their learning and progress so far. We hope to see as many parents and carers as possible on the 20th and 21st October.

Finally, a big thank you to the group of parents who are giving up their time on Friday afternoons to sell ice creams. The money raised is supporting our plans to purchase new playground equipment for the children. We are extremely grateful for your time and support – thank you!

Have a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday from 8:30am.

Owl House Cake Sale

If your child is in Owl House, we would be very grateful for donations of cakes or biscuits for their house cake sale on Thursday 1st October. Please can cakes and biscuits can be brought to the school office on Wednesday or Thursday morning.

If you are kindly donating homemade cakes or biscuits, please include a full list of ingredients so that we can clearly identify any allergens and help keep everyone safe.

Thank you in advance for your support – we look forward to the first cake sale of the year.

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.

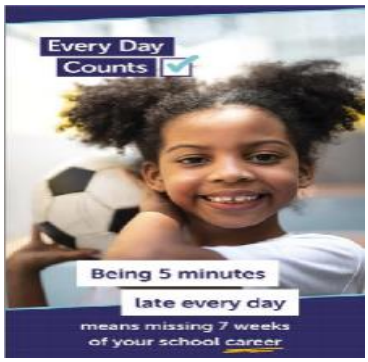
Well-done to 5M this week, for having the highest attendance.

6E: 95%
6W: 96%
5W: 96%
5M: 99%
4T: 94%
4B: 98%
3C: 96%
3P: 97%

Whole school attendance for this week: 96%

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.

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:

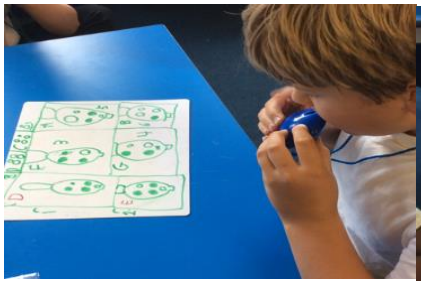
CADS – Children's Advice and Duty Service – 0344 800 8020



Look at what we're learning

Year 3

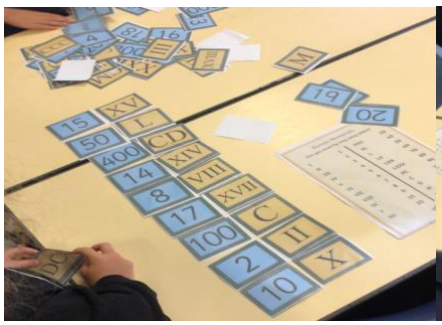
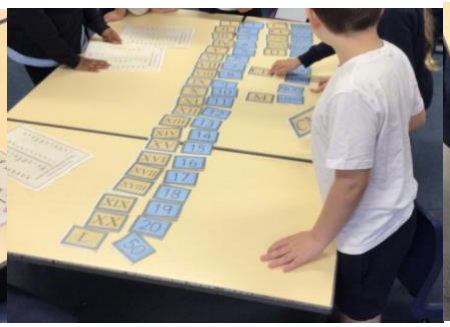
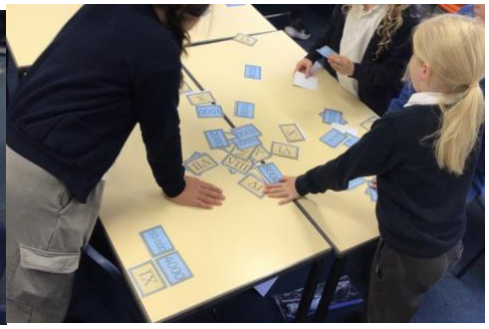
This week in Music, Year 3 got to try out their new instruments — the ocarina! We learned how to hold and play our ocarinas correctly and practised playing the notes A, B, low D and high D. We also drew our own ocarinas and carefully showed how to cover the holes to make each of the different notes. It was a fun and exciting week of learning as we began our ocarina journey!





Year 4

What a wonderful week of learning we have had in Year 4! On Monday, we travelled back in time during our history lesson to learn about the ancient Greek cities of Athens and Sparta. The children enjoyed discussing democracy and explored the similarities and differences between life in Ancient Greece and modern-day life. On Tuesday, we continued our exciting work in science, focusing on electricity. The children investigated complete and incomplete circuits and developed their understanding of how electricity flows through a circuit. Wednesday's maths lesson was a particular highlight! We learnt about Roman numerals and took part in a collaborative activity. The children then enjoyed a matching game, pairing digits with their corresponding Roman numerals. It was fantastic to see everyone working together and putting their mathematical knowledge into practice. On Thursday we started to create our mythical creature in English, working towards our character description writing. Well done, Year 4, on another fantastic week of learning! We are incredibly proud of your enthusiasm, teamwork, and hard work.

Year 5

It has been another busy and exciting week in Year 5, with lots of fantastic learning taking place across the curriculum. It has been wonderful to see the children showing such enthusiasm, curiosity and resilience in their learning. In English, we have been exploring the story of *Beowulf* and thinking

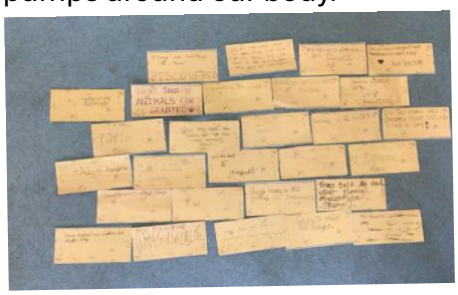
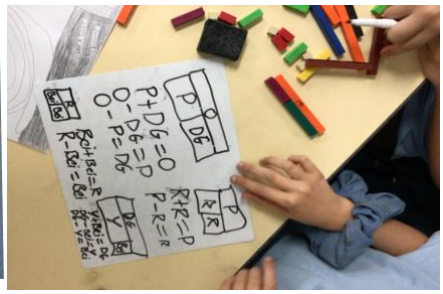
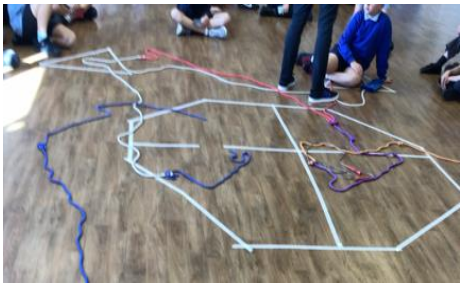
carefully about what makes a great hero. The children have begun considering the qualities and skills a hero would need, ready to create their own job advert for a hero. We have been developing our vocabulary and thinking carefully about how we can use language to persuade and engage our readers. In Music, we have begun our keyboard lessons using Charanga Beginner Lessons. The children have been learning how to find and play notes on the keyboard, starting with C, D, E, F and G. They have been developing their understanding of pitch, rhythm and steady beat, while building confidence in playing simple musical patterns. It has been lovely to see the children listening carefully, persevering when learning something new and beginning to play short musical phrases independently. Across the rest of the curriculum, we have continued to build on our learning, with the children demonstrating a fantastic attitude and a real willingness to challenge themselves. We are very proud of the effort they have shown this week. Well done, Year 5, on another fantastic week! We are already looking forward to seeing what next week brings.





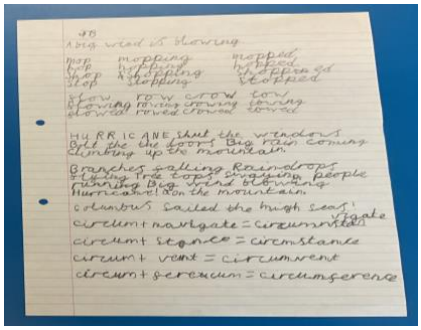
Year 6

This week was our first round of assessments (or Mock SATs as they're affectionately known!). Our children did fantastically well to adapt to the routine of the week. Well done everyone. In other learning, we have finished our wonderful writing on Shackleton's Journey and recapped our formal methods for addition and subtraction. In History we looked at the impact that learning had on Early Islamic Civilisations, and made a wall of knowledge that we want to be remembered by future generations. In Science, we made a model of the heart to consolidate our learning on how blood pumps around our body.

SRB

This week the SRB have been able to see their cress growing ready for their experiment for science, figuring out what plants need to grow. In art we looked at street art and graffiti artists, creating a group piece mimicking a wall. We have been focusing hard on hard writing this week and have seen huge amounts of progress


Dates for the Diary 2026/2027

Wednesday 30th September	**Times Table Rock Stars** - Dress like a rock star for the day
Thursday 1st October	**OWL HOUSE** cake sale for all children – 3:20 on the school playground. If the weather is wet the sale will take place under the shelter areas.
Thursday 1st October	Parent evening bookings go live at 6pm
Monday 5th October – Friday 9th October	Harvest Festival – please bring non-perishable food items to school to support our local foodbank at the Silver Road Rooms.
Tuesday 20th October	House singing competition
Tuesday 20th October	Parents evening 3:30pm-6pm
Wednesday 21st October	Parents evening 3:30pm – 6pm
Thursday 22nd October	Wear it Pink Day – children come to school wearing something pink with a £1 donation in support of Breast Cancer – more information can be found https://breastcancernow.org/wear-it-pink/
Thursday 22nd October	End of Half Term – a reminder that Friday 23rd is a non-school day
Monday 2nd November	School starts for the start of Autumn2 half term – gates open at 8:30am
Wednesday 11th November	Parent cafe – supporting dyslexia at GWJS – 8:50am
Thursday 19th November	**BADGER HOUSE** cake sale for all children – 3:20 on the school playground. If the weather is wet the sale will take place under the shelter areas.
Thursday 26th November	Open Classrooms for all parents and carers from 3:20pm
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day and whole school Christmas lunch
Thursday 10th December	GWJS Christmas Fayre from 3:20pm
Friday 18th December	End of Term at 3:20pm
Tuesday 5th January	Start of the Spring term from 8:30am