



GEORGE WHITE
JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER – Friday 5th May 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Finally, this week we have seen some sunshine and warmer weather and what a difference it makes. Long may it continue!

This week, 3 Oak had a fantastic trip to the farm on Tuesday. They came back full of stories about their day. Next week it is 3 Rowan's turn to go and I am sure they will have a wonderful time too! Year 4 have been busy with their times table skills, using our online TTRS platform to support them. The artwork Year 4 have produced this week has been eye catching and detailed, well done Year 4! Year 5 have produced some amazing work this week about coastal erosion. Their ability to talk with confidence about how coastal erosion occurs is fantastic.

POEM ABOUT SATS

Unknown Author

SATS don't measure sports,
SATS don't measure art,
SATS don't measure music
Or the kindness in your heart.

SATS don't see your beauty,
SATS don't know your worth,
SATS don't know the reason
You were put upon this Earth.

SATS don't see your magic,
How you make others smile,
SATS don't time how quickly
You can run a mile.

SATS don't hear your laughter,
Or see you've come this far,
SATS are just a tiny glimpse
Of who you really are.

So sitting at your table
With your pencil and your test,
Remember SATS aren't who you are,
Remember you're the best!

I would like to wish Year 6 the very best for their SATS tests next week. It was lovely talking to the Year 6 children altogether in the hall this morning to let them know how amazing they are and how proud we all are of their hard work. I shared the following poem with Year 6 and their teachers this morning. We are proud of you Year 6!

Finally, it was lovely seeing the children dressed in red, white and blue today to celebrate the Kings Coronation on Monday. The crown designing and creating this afternoon brought the whole school together as we got to see a parade of crowns along our school catwalk. I hope the children had as much fun as the staff did this afternoon!

I would like to wish you and your family a lovely bank holiday weekend.

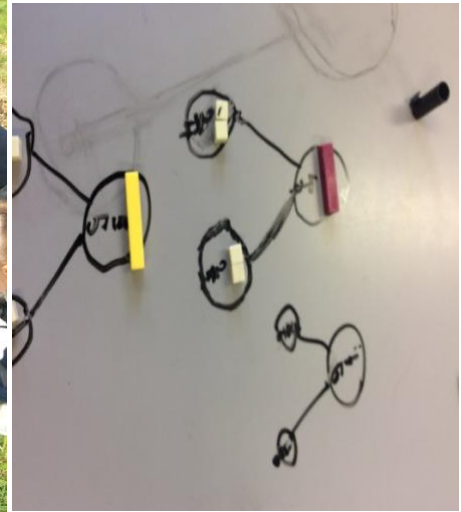


OUR LEARNING THIS WEEK

YEAR 3

This week in Year 3 started with 3 Oak visiting Eves Hill Farm. We learnt about the life cycle of plants and crops and how important they are to producing the food we eat. We investigated how water drains in the soil and how plants use the energy from the sun to make their own food. We met a sow with piglets and fed them their breakfast!

In History we studied the River Nile and learned how this played a vital role to the Ancient Egyptians. In Maths we are continuing learning about Fractions and the parts that make a whole.



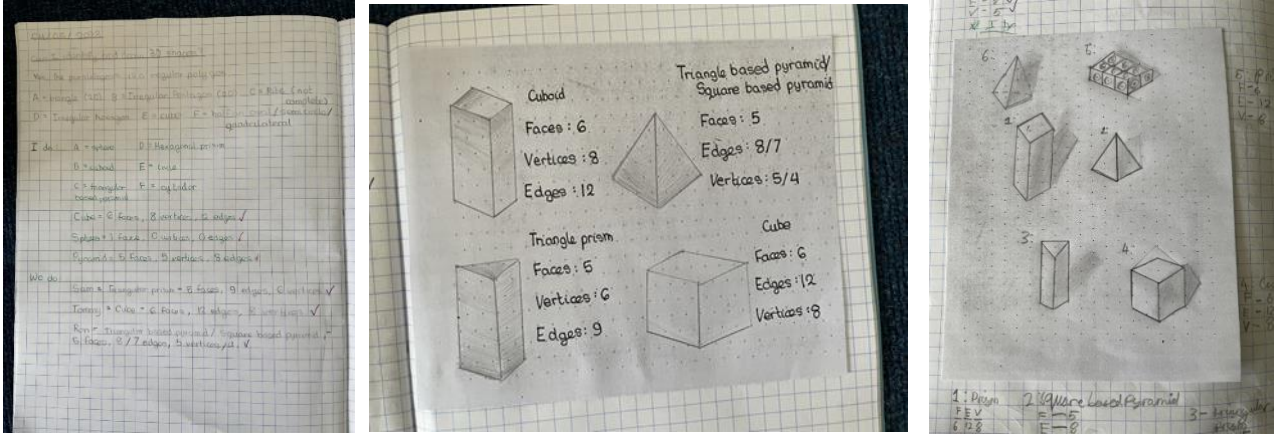
YEAR 4

Year 4 have had an exciting week of learning. In Maths, we have been learning about money and applying this to our decimal knowledge. We have finished our fantastic sentences in English and will be writing our fantasy stories next week. The children can't wait to share their stories with you. In Geography, we've enjoyed sharing our favourite meals and learning about where each ingredient comes from. A truly magnificent afternoon was had by all when creating our tremendous crowns for our royal catwalk. Don't forget if you have a child in Year 4, you can pop into school at the end of the school day every Tuesday to Friday to support your child with their times tables. A huge thank you to those parents and carers who have already taken us up on this offer.



YEAR 5

We have had a super busy week this week! In English, we have come to the end of our sentence stacking and have begun to plan our independent writes based on the short film 'One Small Step' by Taiko Studios. In math's we looked at finding missing lengths and angles, and we looked at 3D shapes (have a look at the photos below!). In PE, we practiced sprinting and helped our partners perfect the sprinting stance. We had a discussion about different things that could influence somebody to use - or not use - drugs in our PSHE lesson, which was then followed by science where we looked at the 'childhood' stage of the human life cycle. In this lesson, children had to write a report on how they have changed since being a newborn to now. We then made a crown for the King's Coronation!



YEAR 6

Year 6 have worked hard this week with their final preparations for SATS. In English, we have moved on to poetry, continuing our theme of environmental change by studying a poem about the peppered moth. In History, we continue to look at how Norfolk has changed in the last 100 years. We are planning a walk around Mousehold heath to look at its history: airfields, tram routes and army barracks. If any parents/carers know more of Mousehold Heath's history, we would love to hear from you.

In Science, we are constructing electrical circuits using different components. In PE, we are team-building in small groups (they enjoyed the clothes-horse game) and practising cross-country and sprinting for Sports Day. Next week, our SATS begin on Tuesday with SPAG, Wednesday is Reading, Thursday are the Maths papers 1 and 2. Finally, Friday is Maths Paper 3.

We are inviting Year 6 in for a SATS breakfast each day from 8-8:30am. We find this helps children relax before the tests in the company of their friends.



APPLE CLASS

We had a fantastic visit from the Norfolk Library Service this week. Apryl and Adam spent a morning in Apple class, talking to children about their favourite books and authors. Children were very interested in what the library has to offer and we plan to visit the Millennium Library next half term.

We have also been working hard on times tables, looking at relationships between multiplication and repeated addition. To do this, we used Numicon, counters and multilink so we could spot patterns.

Children worked hard to show the calculations using concrete and abstract recording.

In art this week, we looked at the work of Sula Rubens in preparation for our trip to Mandells Gallery next week. Lots to look forward to!



What's On

MAY 2023	
Monday 8 th May	Bank Holiday – Kings Coronation
Tuesday 9 th May – Friday 12 th May	KS2 SATs Week begins
Wednesday 10 th May	3 Rowan Visit to Elm Farm
Monday 15 th May	Cross country event at Sewell Park School
Tuesday 16 th May	Year 4 parents presentation for the Multiplication Check. 2:50pm in the school hall.
Wednesday 17 th May	Year 5 trip to West Runton
Thursday 18 th May	Whole school French Day, more details to follow.
Wednesday 24 th May	Year 5 to Theatre Royal – Connecting Cultures Music event
Thursday 25 th May	DT Day. Parents and carers invited in to school to work with their child on their DT project at 9-10am and 1:30-3:00pm
Monday 29 th May	HALF TERM
JUNE 2023	
Monday 5 th June	Welcome back after half term – gates open at 8:40am
Monday 5 th June	Arts Week – whole school arts week events
Monday 5 th June – Friday 16 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)
Tuesday 13 th June	Year 3 and 4 Sports Afternoon from 1pm on the school field
Wednesday 14 th June	Year 5 and 6 Sports Afternoon from 1pm on the school field
Thursday 15 th June	International Day – whole school event. More details to follow
Friday 16 th June	Day of Welcome – whole school event
Friday 23 rd June	Athletics Event at UEA
Monday 26 th June – Wednesday 28 th June	Assessment week for Year 3, 4 and 5.
Monday 26 th June	Year 6 Crucial Crew trip
27 th and 28 th June	GW Got Talent
Thursday 29 th June	Science Day – whole school event

JULY 2023	
Monday 3 rd July	DT Day. Parents and carers invited in to school to work with their child on their DT project at 9-10am and 1:30-3:00pm
Thursday 6 th July	Athletics Event at Heartsease
Friday 7 th July	Summer Fair from 3:20-5:00pm
Tuesday 11 th July	Year 3 & 4 end of year disco from 3:20 – 4:45
Wednesday 12 th July	Year 5 end of year disco from 3:20-4:45
Thursday 13 th July	Year 6 leavers disco – 3:20-4:45
Friday 14 th July	End of year reports out to all parents and carers
Dates to be Confirmed	Year 6 Farm Trip
Friday 21 st July	Whole school final assembly at 11:30am
Friday 21 st July	Year 6 leavers assembly – parents and carers invited 2:30pm
Friday 21 st July	Term ends at 3.20pm

No Smoking On the School Site

Please can we remind all parents and carers that smoking is not permitted in any part of the school at any time. This includes all school buildings and the outside areas of the school including playgrounds, sports field or car parks.

Silver Road Community Centre

Large Collection of School uniform & Food bank - Open: Thursdays 10.30 - 12.15

Community Fridge Saturdays & Food Bank Fresh food & bakery - Saturdays 11.00 - 12.15. To Book an Appointment Please call [07786694325](tel:07786694325)

SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Derer is on our school playground every Thursday and Friday morning from 8:45am. Mrs Derer is our school Parent Support Advisor, and you may already recognise her as she works at Mousehold every Monday and Tuesday. Mrs Derer is always happy to talk to you about any worries or concerns relating to your child at home or any further support we may be able to offer or signpost you to.

Our school Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mrs Petchey, Mrs Stolworthy, Mrs Eaglen, Miss Alderton, Ms Connor, Mrs Derer and Mrs Burman

Please speak to one of these members of staff if you are worried or concerned about the safety of a child at school.

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child out of school hours, the number to ring is:

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



ONLINE SAFETY



10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's SchoolTime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-tweeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.



BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.



TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audible alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police; location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'fall' detectors, which send a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's slumped too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.



Meet Our Expert

Mary Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 22 years, writing for titles such as the Sunday Times, which is a national newspaper. We've appeared regularly on technology panels on the BBC and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 4 Live and the TV News at ten. We've had two children and write regularly about internet safety issues.



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