



Green End Primary School Newsletter – Spring 2024

Feedback from parents was that some of you wanted more information about what was happening in school. Last year we introduced the half termly updates for each class so that you know what your children will be covering each half term. I hope you are finding them useful. I am delighted to share our new style newsletter with you. I hope you enjoy reading about all the amazing things each year group is doing this spring term.

You will also notice that we have included attendance information. This is something which we really appreciate all your support on as being in school every day makes such a difference to the children's progress.

May I also take this opportunity to wish you a lovely half term break.

Mrs Vyas

ECO NEWS

Thank you, to all parents and carers that have been supporting our walk to school Friday campaign. Currently 75% of the children walk, scoot, cycle, come by public transport or park at Aldi and then walk to school. Our Eco warriors are aiming to increase this to 90% by the end of the year. Please do all that you can to support this ambitious target. Currently NG and 2G are the winning classes who have won the Golden boot 2 times, well done! They both enjoyed their prize of an extra playtime.



NURSERY

In Nursery, through our phonic themes, we have been learning all about people who help us! We have had some visitors come into school tell us all about their jobs and how they help other people. We tried on a police officer's hat, learnt all about important bus routes and found out how nurses look after their patients. We have been developing our love of reading through taking home a reading book, for us to read all by ourselves, and choosing a book when we visited our local library. We are enjoying sharing our library books with our friends. We have also been learning our letter sounds; practising the sounds, actions and songs, and looking for these letters all around us.



Next half term we will be learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar and welcoming our very own into the classroom. We are so excited to see how the hungry caterpillars will grow into beautiful butterflies! We will also be focussing on caring for our playground and growing plants and flowers to make it a welcoming home to lots of different minibeasts. We will be meeting the Gingerbread man in one of our stories and making our own chocolate chip cookies.



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RECEPTION

In Reception this half term our focus has been all about animals and pets. We have been role playing in our 'pet home corner' which then changed into a veterinary surgery, where we have been caring for the animals using different medical equipment and acting out real life scenarios. Our topic of animals has linked well with exploring the different continents around the world and the different animals that may live in these places. This has given us the opportunity to compare the similarities and difference of habitats. We invited our grown-ups in class to share a story time with us to progress our love of reading. At the end of this half term we will be visiting Burnage library for the second time this year and also visiting Pizza Express where we will follow instructions to make our very own Pizza! Next half term Reception will be immersed into the land of fairytales where our role play area will become a castle full of magical and imaginative experiences. Our most exciting news for Spring 2 is that we get to visit Smithills farm which allows us to apply our amazing animal knowledge that we have been learning in Spring 1! We get to explore the farm and see what life is like for the animals, go on a tractor ride and even ride a donkey.



YEAR 1

In both geography and English lessons, we have loved learning about our local area. We went on a long walk around Burnage spotting places of interest such as the library, St Margaret's church, Aldi and Martins. To find out more about Manchester and as a pre-teach for our next topic, Ancient Egyptians, we had a great day out at Manchester Museum. The children loved looking at all the varied and wonderful artifacts they have. They particularly enjoyed looking at the mummies, finding frogs and lizards in the Vivarium and meeting Stan the T-Rex.

In art, we have been exploring art using the technique of weaving. We have been exploring the work of artist, Sheila Hicks an American artist working in textiles. The children used everyday items such as red cabbages, beetroot, bicarbonate of soda and lemon juices to produce 7 different dyes. We then used our dyed fabric strips to create our final piece.

Next half term in history we are looking forward to finding out about what life was like for the ancient Egyptians and even mummifying a tomato! In English we will be creating our own fact file about the United Kingdom. In science we will be investigating different forces by finding out what forces are used in daily life experiences. We will be using works by the artist Kandinsky to explore different shapes in dance. We will also be going on another litter pick in an effort to improve our local area.





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YEAR 2

This half term, Year 2 have been learning about global warming in English and also exploring an adventure story – Dinosaur Cove. In RE we have been learning about Judaism and exploring the beliefs held by Jewish people. Maths learning has focussed on fractions and shape. In art, we have been developing our painting skills and have created our own printing blocks with polystyrene. Our science learning has explored everyday materials and we have investigated the best waterproof material and the material which absorbs the most water. We have explored Burnage Library and been on a litter pick in the local area, helping care for our community.

Next half term, we will explore the Golden Age of Baghdad in history and go on an exciting visit to the Muslim Heritage centre. We will also complete our DT unit and will sew our own puppets!



YEAR 3

This half term, year 3 have been learning about the Tudors, in particular, learning about Henry VIII and if he was a fair king or not. We have enjoyed investigating primary and secondary sources, dressing up and singing as Tudors. We visited Ordsall Hall in Salford and explored the Grade 1 listed building by stepping back in time to help to prepare for a Tudor celebration feast. We got a real feel for the day in the life of a Tudor whilst wearing ridiculous clothes and having a lot of fun!

Another exciting trip this half term is our visit to Lyme Park. As a school, we are committed to providing children with exciting experiences, getting closer to nature, and maintaining physical and mental well-being. As part of the National Trust's initiative, we take the children to Lyme Park to complete a variety of the ['50 things to do before you're 11½ initiative.'](#) The children get to hike over grasslands of the Peak District, den building, flying kites and skimming stones across the lake.

Next half term we are learning about the artist Henri Matisse. Matisse had many bold, brave and experimental approaches which altered the course of art history. The children enjoy experimenting with collage, layers and using vibrant and exciting materials to create their own art.



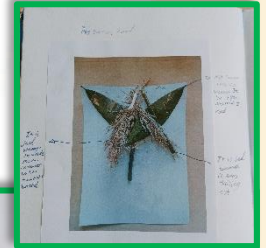


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YEAR 4

Year 4 has been very busy this half term in maths learning new methods of multiplication and division. We have also been exploring the artist Kazuhito in art and trying to recreate his techniques of using natural resources and weaving/embroidery. The children are in the process of creating their final pieces and have really enjoyed art this half term. In geography, we have been learning about the Great Barrier Reef and how it has been negatively impacted by pollution and climate change while developing their map skills. We are currently reading the book Varjak Paw in our reading sessions and the children have been engrossed in the story and wanting to know what will happen next. We have out class assembly coming up at the end of this half term and are looking forward to using some of our Great Barrier Reef poetry in it which we have been writing in our English lessons.

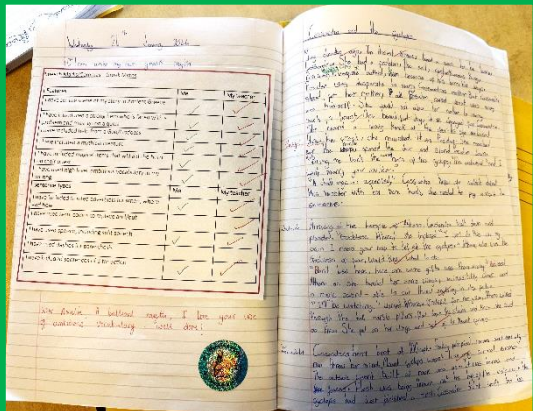
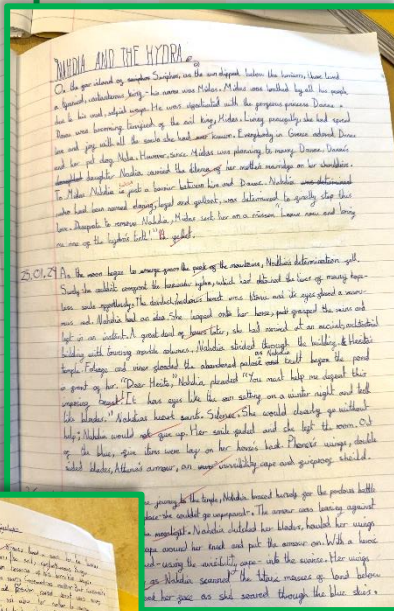
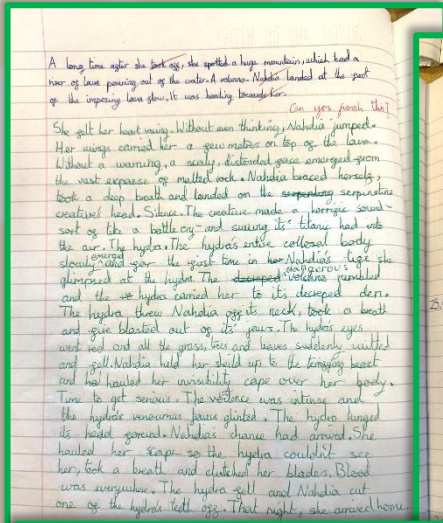
We have an exciting half term coming up. We will be visiting the Bridgewater Hall to see the Halle Orchestra for youth for our children's charter trip and of course many of the children will also be going on the overnight residential to Kingswood.



YEAR 5

This half term Year 5 have been learning all about the Industrial revolution as our history topic. In RE, we have been looking at 'Being a Muslim in Britain'. As part of this unit we have visited the mosque. We have really enjoyed looking at racial equality in PSHE and we have written our own persuasive speeches in English that we are going to perform in an assembly to the governors next half term.

We have also written some incredible Greek Myths this half term. In maths we have been learning about fractions, decimals and percentages and can now convert, compare and order these.



Next half term, we have some exciting trips to look forward to! We are going to be visiting Quarry Bank Mill where we will participate in various workshops linked to our Industrial Revolution unit. We are also going to The Lowry Theatre to watch 'A Boy at the back of the Class', which is one of our year 5 challenge books.



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YEAR 6

This half term, Year 6 have begun learning about rights and revolutions in history. We welcomed Tom from the Z Arts Centre, who delivered workshops relating to the Peterloo massacre. We thought about what is important to us and what we would stand up to fight for. In art, we have been developing our sketching skills using L.S Lowry as our inspiration. We have used his iconic paintings of Manchester to look at creating our own industrial scene using pencil techniques. We have enjoyed investigating electricity in our science unit and have looked at the placement of components in a circuit and whether increasing voltage can affect a circuit. In dance, we have been inspired by our rights and revolutions unit and using a combination of levels, call and response and lifts, we have taken on the role of protestors standing up for what we believe in.



In Spring 2, we will be continuing to improve our sewing skills during our DT textiles unit. Using different stitch types and a sewing machine, we are going to will design and make our own phone case for either ourselves or a family member or friend.



HOUSE CAPTAINS

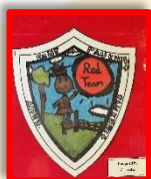
This half term the House Captains have launched our Asthma Friendly School Work. After 7 weeks of training in the Autumn term, the 8 house captains are now fully-fledged 'Asthma Champions'. They have learnt all about the triggers and effects of asthma and how they can be brilliant peer supporters for the children who have asthma in our school. They have worked closely with Hannah from Youth Focus and Claire from the NHS to develop their asthma knowledge, listening skills and ability to empathise with others. They have delivered an assembly to introduce the Asthma Friendly School plan.

During Spring 2, the House Captains will be creating a video to showcase their work as Asthma Champions and attending a conference with other schools to encourage them to also become Asthma Friendly. This is alongside their general duties of counting the house points, supporting the pupils in their teams and representing our school whenever they are needed.



House Point Winners – Spring 1

Pankhurst



824 points

Lowry



886 points

Kingsley



891 points

Modhal



901 points



Current leaders for the year are Lowry which a total of 2,935 points, followed by Kingsley in second place with 2,730, Modhal in third with 2,682 and Pankhurst in fourth place with 2,550.



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Please bear in mind that occasionally trips or clubs may be arranged or cancelled last minute. Where possible we will give as much notice as we can.

Out of Hours Learning – Spring 2

| Day | Activity | Year groups | Where to collect | Room | Club Leader |
|-------|----------------------------------|-------------|--|------------------------|---------------|
| Mon | Hockey | Year 5 & 6 | Main Entrance | Playground | Miss Khalil |
| | Arts and Crafts | Year 1 & 2 | Main Entrance | Atrium | Miss Dixon |
| | Cooking club | Year 3-6 | Community room | PPA room | Mrs Lee |
| | Beginners Ukulele | Year 3 & 4 | Main Entrance | Back of 6G | Miss Palmer |
| Tues | Girls Sports | Year 3-6 | Main Entrance | Playground | Miss Khalil |
| | Computing club | Year 3-6 | Main Entrance | Year 5 classroom | Mrs Hardman |
| | Cooking club | Year 1 & 2 | Community Room | Community room | Mrs Everall |
| | Gymnastics club | Year 3-6 | Community Room | Main Hall | Mrs Smith |
| Wed | Boy sports | Year 3-6 | Main Entrance | Playground | Miss Khalil |
| Thurs | Basketball | Year 3 & 4 | Main Entrance | Playground | Miss Khalil |
| | Choir club | Year 3-6 | Main Entrance | 6G/ main hall | Miss Ellis |
| | Creative club | Year 3-6 | Community Room | Atrium | Mrs Kaur |
| | Reading club | Year 1 & 2 | Community Room | Community room | Mrs Al-Najjar |
| | Advanced Ukulele | Year 3-6 | Main Entrance | Back of 6G | Miss Palmer |
| | Steel Pans | Year 3-6 | Main Entrance | Small hall/ back of 6G | Mr Sinclair |
| | Gardening club | Year 3-6 | Community Room | 1G | Mrs Hurst |
| Fri | Multisport | Year 1 & 2 | Main Entrance | Sports hall | Miss Khalil |
| | Watercolour Club | Year 3 - 6 | Community room | 5G | Mrs Chadd |
| | Year 6 homework club (selective) | Year 6 | Main Entrance as and when homework is finished | Atrium | Mrs Asif |

Dates to Remember – Spring 2

| | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Whole School | School opens – Spring 2 | Monday 26 February |
| Whole School | Walk to School Friday | Every Friday |
| Year 4 | Kingswood residential | Friday 1 – Saturday 2 March |
| Year 5 | Trip to Quarry Bank Mill | Tuesday 5 March |
| Year 4 | Youth Orchestra trip to Bridgewater Hall | Tuesday 5 March |
| Nursery | Parent story time 2.40pm (parents welcome) | Wednesday 6 March |
| Year 3 | Trip to Lyme Park | Thursday 7 March |
| Whole School | World Book day (no dress up) | Thursday 7 March |
| Year 2 | Trip to British Muslim Heritage Centre | Tuesday 12 March |
| Whole School | School photographs | Wednesday 13 March |
| Whole School | Comic Relief day | Friday 15 March |
| Whole School | 'Big Clean Up' | Wc 18 March |
| Whole School | Music assembly | Thursday 21 March |
| Nursery | Outdoor learning day | Thursday 21 March |
| Whole School | STEM Project Super Learning day | Tuesday 26 March |
| Whole School | Second hand uniform sale am and after school | Tuesday 26 March |
| Year 5 | Trip to the Lowry Theatre | Wednesday 27 March |
| Whole School | Attendance assemblies | Wednesday 27 March |
| Whole School | School closes – End of Spring term | Thursday 28 March |
| Whole School | School opens for pupils – Summer term | Monday 15th April |



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Attendance & Punctuality

| Attendance for Spring 1, 2024 | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------|------------|
| Class | Attendance | Class | Attendance |
| NG | 83.9% | NE | 90.5% |
| RG | 88.4% | RE | 93.4% |
| 1G | 90.1% | 1E | 93.6% |
| 2G | 91.3% | 2E | 94.5% |
| 3G | 92.7% | 3E | 93.8% |
| 4G | 93.3% | 4E | 95.5% |
| 5G | 93.4% | 5E | 91.0% |
| 6G | 96.1% | 6E | 96.0% |
| 6P | 97.5% | | |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| Being late for school disrupts the class. | If your child is 5 minutes late every day, they miss over 16 hours of education. This equates to 3 DAYS LOST. | Being late for school embarrasses your child. | Be prepared. Set the alarm early |
| Be prepared. Leave plenty of time to get to school. | Be prepared. Make sure you know what your child needs for school. E.g P.E Kit. | Being late for school interrupts the class teacher from teaching. | Be prepared. Get your child's things ready the night before. |
| Being late for school means being late for, or missing assembly. | Being late for school means missing out on the chance to talk to the teacher before lessons. | If your child is 10 minutes late every week, they miss over 6 hours of learning. This equates to 3 Maths lessons and 3 Literacy lessons. | Missing education means your child will not achieve their full potential. |
| Punctuality is a life skill. | In later life, being late can mean losing a job. | Every minute counts, don't lose learning time. | Its good to be on time. |



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Punctuality



Less chance of success

Serious impact on education and reduced life chances

Please help us improve our attendance and hit our target of **96%** We can only achieve this target if we work together.

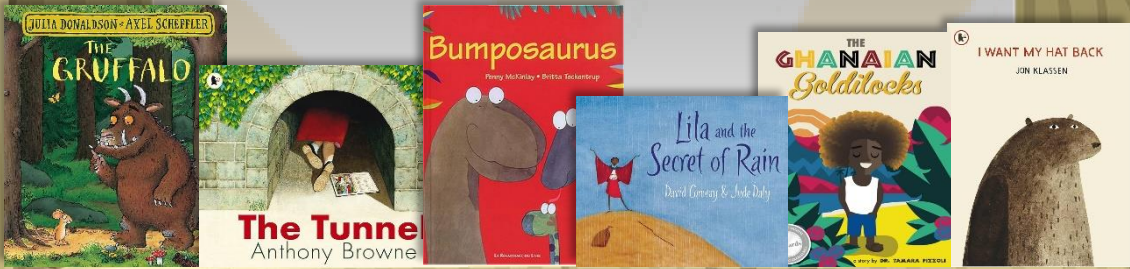
Attendance for this half term is **93.1%**

Attendance for our year to date is **94.0%**



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We are passionate about every child becoming a reader for life. We have developed a collection of engaging books which we recommend for the children to read at home.



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

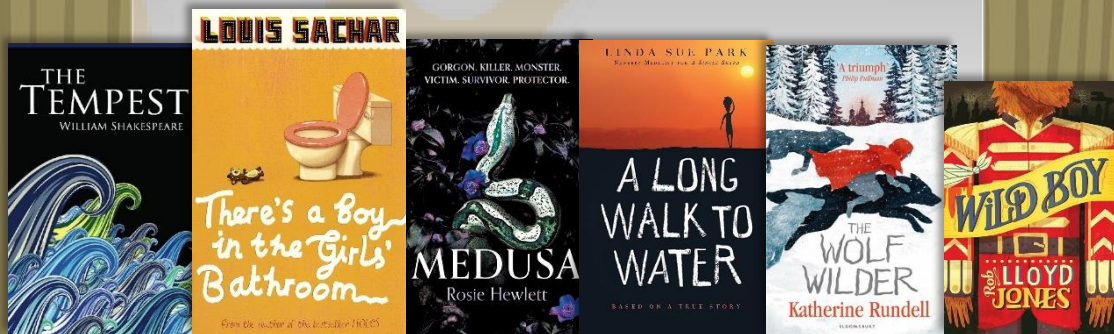


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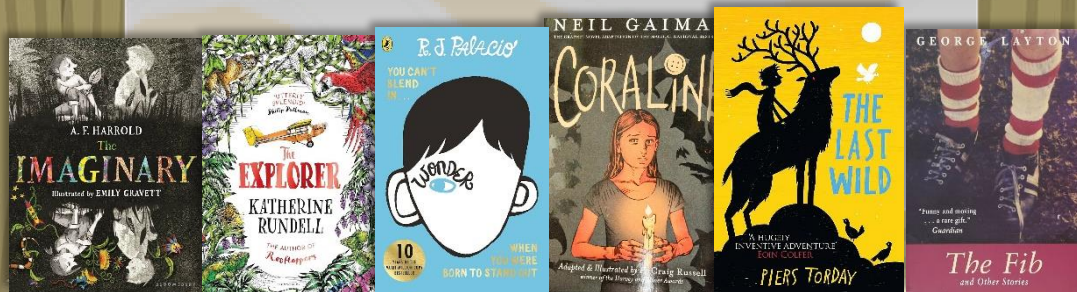
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Year 4



Year 5



Year 6



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Free School Meals And Pupil Premium

Some children are eligible for Pupil Premium funding, extra funding that comes into school based on 'Free school meals' applications. This is funding that is used by the school in various ways to help with the provision of education and support. It is important that you find out if you are eligible and apply, to help with your own costs associated with meals but also to help school.

Even if your child receives free Infant school meals due to their age, we would appreciate you still applying, as if awarded it then means school receives extra funding. If you haven't applied but think you may be entitled, then please apply. Click [here](#) to find out if you are eligible.

E-Safety

GET TO KNOW AGE RATINGS

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing.



Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?

Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online, using social media or downloading other apps – check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. In addition, the likes of PEGI include further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence, if accessing the app/game etc. It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, it is also important to review the content yourself. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it would be beneficial to apply further parental controls. Further information Parent Zone have published this article about why age ratings matter: <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/age-ratings>