



04/12/20
Issue 6



JOLLY JUMPER DAY



On Wednesday 16th December we will be taking part in Jolly Jumper Day. Your child can come to school wearing a Christmas jumper if they have one. There is no need to purchase one if you do not have one though.

Children do not have to wear uniform but we ask that they do not wear football kits.

We are asking for a suggested donation of £1.00 per child for wearing non uniform and this money will go to Basildon Hospital.

One of our pupils, Amelia, became unwell in 2018 and after a blood test at Basildon hospital she was quickly called back to hospital and transferred to Great Ormond Street Hospital. She was diagnosed with Leukaemia and has spent the last two years having treatment at both hospitals. Anytime she feels unwell, she is transferred to Basildon and spends time in the apartment room for children like her. This means she cannot go into main children's play area and can only use what is available in this room.

The money raised will be used to buy a Nintendo switch for children with Cancer that will often have to spend up to a week in this apartment.

ATTENDANCE

The classes with the best attendance in week ending 4/12/20 and the winners of the Graham James Attendance shield are:

EYFS/KS1

Class 2LP with 100%

KS2

Class 5RW with 97.8%

DIARY DATES



Monday 14th December
Reception/KS1 Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 15th December
KS2 Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 16th December
Jolly Jumper Day - details across

Friday 18th December
Last day of term

Monday 4th January
Return to school

Monday 10th May to Thursday 13th May
KS2 SATS WEEK

Monday 10th May to Friday 14th May
Year 5 Residential Trip to Swattenden

Wednesday 19th May to Friday 21st May
Year 6 Residential Trip to Stubbers



CHRISTMAS PLAYS



We are pleased to announce that children will still get the opportunity to perform in Christmas plays this year. Unfortunately, Government guidance means that we will not be able to have parents watching this year but the plays will be recorded by a professional company and parents will have the opportunity to purchase the recording either as a digital download or on a USB.

Please return the form to the school office by Wednesday 9th December.

IMPORTANT NOTICE -

DINNER MONEY

Reminder that dinner money should be paid on the day or in advance.

Our preferred method of payment is Parent Pay. If you do not have a log-on, please ask at the office and we can arrange this for you.

Now more than ever we are encouraging parents to pay using ParentPay where possible as receiving cash payments increases the chance of contact between staff, parents and children whilst social distancing measures are in place - exposing everyone to unnecessary risks.

It is the parents' responsibility to know how much credit is on their account. **Parent Pay now shows up to date running balances.**

Office staff will now only send dinner money arrears texts once per week.

However, please note that we do not allow arrears to go over £10.50. We will not provide a school dinner for children if the arrears are over £10.50 and parents will be contacted informing them that they need to either pay before lunch time, bring in a packed lunch or collect their child to take them home for lunch.

REGULAR ARREARS

When an account is regularly in arrears, we will insist on payment up front and a lunch will not be provided without payment in advance.

BREAKFAST CLUB

When arrears reach £10.50, parents will be contacted and asked to bring the arrears up to date immediately. Failure to do this could jeopardise a child's place at Breakfast Club.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive either:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit - provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Universal Credit - provided your total net earnings are no more than £616.67 each month, starting from 1 April 2018
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Please apply online if you think you may be entitled.

<https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/school-meals/free-school-meals>

Even if you do not currently pay for your child's meals (because they are in reception, Year 1 or Year 2) you should still apply if you think you are entitled. Whilst in lockdown we were able to make weekly payments to families who receive free school meals and you could miss out if schools are forced to close again.

APPLYING FOR RECEPTION 2021 PLACE

If your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017, you must apply for their reception school place for September 2021.

The applications opened on Monday 2nd November and you must apply before 15th January 2021.

Check out our website for virtual tours of the school. Please check these out by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.grahamjamesacademy.co.uk/>

Please share with friends and family who are looking at prospective schools for next year

VIRTUAL TOUR

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we are unable to have visitors in school for tours. However, our teachers have made short videos of their classrooms and some of our Year 6 children have also made some videos of our school.

Lots of children took part in the filming of these videos and the children all enjoyed taking part.

Please share this with friends with children who are due to start school next year.

We would love to have prospective parents in to see our school but we hope that these virtual tours give parents some opportunity to view the school and nursery.

<http://www.grahamjamesacademy.co.uk/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01375 675889 or by email.

IF YOUR CHILD IS OFF...

If your child is absent then you must phone on the first day of absence and leave a message when prompted. Please state the following:

- your child's name
- class
- **reason for being off**

It is not sufficient to just say that they will not be in. As a school we are expected by Ofsted and the Local Authority to know why a child is not in school and report any cases where there are persistent and/or unexplained absences.

Please ensure that you send a letter in with your child when they return to school. Please state the reason for absence as we need this for your child's file.

When children are off regularly and parents do not call in to report their child's absence we will consider doing a home visit.



SECRET SHOP



The Secret Shop will back on Monday 7th December. If your child would like to purchase a gift please return the clear cellophane envelope with the correct money.

LATENESS

Can we please remind you that the school day starts at 8.55am. We have an increasing number of children arriving after this time. It is disruptive to classroom and office staff when your child is late and your child is missing out on valuable learning time when they arrive after their classmates.

Letters are sent home to those with persistent lateness and meetings will be arranged if there is no improvement after the first letter has been sent.

MILK

Children under 5 receive free milk at school.

If your child is over 5 and you would like them to receive milk then please register your child online, visit www.coolmilk.com The current cost is approximately 22p per day.

After School - Club Timetable

Monday	Jujitsu (not running during lockdown)
Tuesday	Study Club – Year 6
Wednesday	After school clubs are under review and we will notify parents when they re-start.
Thursday	
Friday	

P.E. KITS

Please could you ensure children have both indoor and outdoor P.E. kits.

- Indoor - red or black shorts, plain white T-shirt and plimsolls/trainers
- Outdoor - Outdoor trainers, tracksuits or joggers and sweatshirts or hoodies (any colour)

MUSIC LESSONS (Years 3-6)

If your child is interested in participating in Music lessons from January, then please contact the office. A minimum of at least 3 children per instrument is required for the lesson to go ahead.

The cost is £56.00 for 10 lessons.

The form and payment will need to be returned by Friday 11th December.

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION:

Should you have any queries or concerns, in the first instance please ensure you speak with your child's teacher. **At the current time this should be by emailing into the school office. Emails/messages will be forwarded to the class teacher who will deal with the situation accordingly.**

Please note that emails will not be routinely answered but will be actioned and dealt with accordingly.

After speaking with the class teacher, and you are unhappy with the response received please follow the escalation procedure below:

- Class Teacher
- Key Stage Assistant Head Teacher (by appointment)
- Deputy Head Teacher - Mr Turner (by appointment)
- Head Teacher - Mrs Back (by appointment)

EARRINGS ON P.E. DAYS

Reminder that the only earrings that are permitted in school are simple stud earrings. These should be removed on P.E. days. Those who have newly pierced ears i.e. within the last 6 weeks, may keep them in provided that ear tape is worn. This must be provided by the parent.

PARKING

There is no parking for parents on the school grounds. This includes Breakfast Club drop off. The gate will be closed between 14:50 and 15:30 and the Site Manager has been instructed not to open the gate to parents during this time. This is to ensure the safety of the children. Therefore, if you park at school before 14:50 you will not be able to exit the gate until after 15:30.

In addition, please be considerate of our neighbours when parking in the side roads and do not park across driveways (this includes the dentist surgery).



RAFFLE TICKETS



Each child has been given raffle tickets to bring home to sell to friends and family to raise funds for the PTA. Each ticket costs £1 (your child has been given 5 in total). If you wish to purchase these please place the stub back into the provided cellophane envelope and return to the school with money no later than Friday 11th December ready for the draw to take place the following Monday.

OFFICE

Please limit your visits to the office. Where possible could you call or email instead.

Please see 'channels of communication' on next page for more information re contacting teachers.

If you do need to come into school, then we ask that only one person is at the office window at one time. If another parent is there, please wait outside until they have finished.

GOLD AWARDS

26.11.20	Ollie Nathan	5RW	For knowing times tables - different order
26.11.20	Katie Moore	5RW	For knowing times tables - different order
26.11.20	Jack Rollins	5RW	For knowing times tables - different order
26.11.20	Jacob Moloney	5RW	For knowing times tables - different order
26.11.20	Thomas Pope	5RW	Times Tables 144/144 PB: 4m 3s - Amazing!
26.11.20	Katie Moore	5RW	Beautiful singing whilst playing ukulele
27.11.20	Lyla Collier	4SAT	Writing a great dialogue using inverted commas correctly
27.11.20	Daisy Turner	4SAT	Writing a great dialogue using inverted commas correctly
01.12.20	Fletcher Rimini	2KR	Fantastic SPAG work
01.12.20	Amelia Monksfield	2KR	Fantastic SPAG work
01.12.20	Phoebe Gray	4AB	Brilliant information booklet about London
02.12.20	Murray Nifton	5ES	Great times tables
02.12.20	Scarlett-Rose Baffour-Asare	5ES	Great times tables
02.12.20	Ella Ajayi	3AC	Fantastic Christmas poem
02.12.20	Joey Piper	3OT	Fantastic P.E.
02.12.20	Leah Sargent	5ES	Great perimeter problem solving
03.12.20	Callum Groombridge	5ES	Great perimeter problem solving
03.12.20	Phoebe Nathan	3AC	Fantastic Christmas poem
04.12.20	Callum Anderson	6JCA	Fantastic speech sharing his bravery

DAISY - 6CM

Daisy helped her mum build this post box for children to send letters to Santa. If your child would like to write to Santa they can pop the letter in the letterbox. It is by the kiosk in Morrisons. The deadline for letters is 11th of December at 4pm.



CHRISTMAS DINNERS



Christmas Dinner will take place across two days this year.

If your child does not wish to have a Christmas Dinner on their designated day, then please send them in with a packed lunch.

Monday 14th December Reception and KS1 Christmas lunch. There is no charge for this age group. **All KS2 children will need a packed lunch.**

Tuesday 15th December KS2 Christmas lunch. Cost £2.10.

All Reception and KS1 children will need a packed lunch.

READER OF THE MONTH NOVEMBER

RSD	Harrison Cosentino
RSK	Alice Homer
1GS	Karis Rogers
1MW	Tomas Latham
2LP	Jesse Renew
2KR	Ethan O'Sullivan
3AC	Freddie Merrigan
3OT	Rose Denton
4AB	Minh Tran
4SAT	Ruby-May Simpson
5ES	Maisie Rudman
5RW	Isabelle Bates
6CM	Tyler Griffiths
6JCA	Matthew Galea



TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS AWARDS

Highest Studio Speed - 2nd December 2020



Charlie Lloyd	3AC	1 st	Dylan Gray	3OT	1 st
Ayden Nason	3AC	2 nd	Rose Denton	3OT	2 nd
Daria Gorobic	3AC	3 rd	Mason McGovern	3OT	3 rd
Jessie Flowers	4AB	1 st	Travis Gorham	4SAT	1 st
Kai Collier	4AB	2 nd	James Baalham	4SAT	2 nd
Kayden Joseph	4AB	3 rd	Mack Boxall	4SAT	3 rd
Adam Wafik	5ES	1 st	Thomas Pope	5RW	1 st
Harry Spenceley	5ES	2 nd	Freddie Wright	5RW	2 nd
Joseph Mann	5ES	3 rd	Rhea Hall	5RW	3 rd
Tyler Griffiths	6CM	1 st	Ronnie Garland	6JCA	1 st
Bobby Long	6CM	2 nd	Lily Conquest	6JCA	2 nd
Harrison Meredith	6CM	3 rd	Adam Bassett	6JCA	3 rd

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING IN CORRINGHAM TOWN CENTRE



Our Year 4 & Year 5 children made Christmas decorations to decorate two of the Christmas trees in Corringham Town Centre.

The trees are outside Gregg's and Corringham Library.



HOLIDAY DATES 2020-21

Autumn	Tuesday 1st September to Friday 18th December Half term: Monday 26 th October to Friday 30 th October Christmas break: Monday 21 st December to Friday 1 st January
Spring	Monday 4th January to Friday 26th March Half term: Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February Easter break: Monday 29 th March to Friday 9 th April Bank holidays: Good Friday 2 nd April, Easter Monday 5 th April
Summer	Monday 12th April to Friday 9th July Half term: Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June Bank holidays: Monday 3 rd May, Monday 31 st May Last day of school is Friday 9th July 2021



NUMBOTS WINNERS
MOST MINUTES PLAYED
 Week ending 27.11.20



Cameron Dickens RSD 1st
 Callum Dobson RSD 2nd
 Theo Winchester RSD 3rd

Lottie Walshe RSK 1st
 Lacie Whittle RSK 2nd
 Holly Rook RSK 3rd

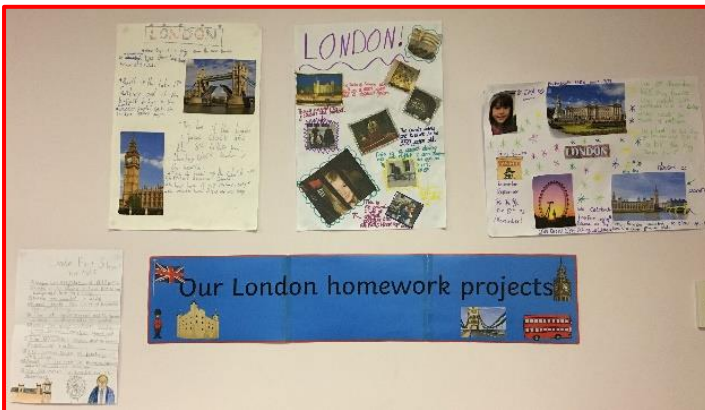
Darcy Alves 1GS 1st
 Connie Denton 1GS 2nd
 Arthur Lloyd 1GS 3rd

Dulcie Simpson 1MW 1st
 Connor Griffiths 1MW 2nd
 Francesca Walker 1MW 3rd

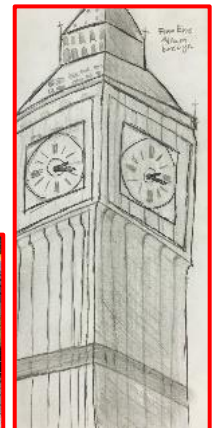
Evie Hinks 2LP 1st
 Amelia Clark 2LP 2nd
 Nathanael Nsubuga 2LP 3rd

Ashton Gorham 2KR 1st
 Kylan Whittaker 2KR 2nd
 James Putnam 2KR 3rd

LONDON HOMEWORK PROJECT



YEAR
4



ODD SOCKS DAY

To celebrate what makes us all unique the children were encouraged to wear odd socks on Friday 20th November, the last day of Anti-Bullying Week.

