



20/05/22
Issue 9

NON UNIFORM DAY – 27th MAY

On Friday 27th May, we will have a non-uniform day to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. The theme is red, white and blue. There is no charge for this.

TERM DATES 2022-2023

Term dates for 2022-2023 can be found on our website (link below). Reminder term time holidays will not be authorised. Please check term dates before booking holiday.

<https://grahamjamesacademy.co.uk/term-dates/>

JUBILEE THEMED MENU

Reminder that we have a Jubilee themed menu change all of next week. Please see the link below for details.

[Menu – Apr 2022 to Oct 2022 | Graham James Primary Academy \(grahamjamesacademy.co.uk\)](#)

PTA SUMMER FAYRE

This year's summer fayre will be held on Friday 24th June 3.15pm -5.00pm

A DAY FOR UKRAINE

Our non-uniform day raised a fantastic £442. Well done to everyone for taking part.

ATTENDANCE

The classes with the best attendance in week ending 13/05/22 and the winners of the Graham James Attendance shield are:

EYFS/KS1

Class 2LP with 96.7%

KS2

Class 6JCA with 98.3%

DIARY DATES



Wednesday 25th May
3OT Class Assembly

Friday 27th May
Non-Uniform Day
Break up for half term

Monday 6th June
Return to school

Wednesday 8th June
5ES Class Assembly

Friday 10th June
2KR Class Assembly

Monday 13th June
Year 2 Trip - Barleylands

Wednesday 15th June
RAC Class Assembly

Friday 17th June
RSK Class Assembly

Tuesday 21st June
**Sports Day - KS1 AM
KS2 PM**

Wednesday 22nd June
Year 6 Trip - Matilda

Wednesday 22nd June
5RW Class Assembly

Friday 24th June
2LP Class Assembly

Wednesday 13th July
**Year 6 Leavers Assembly - 2PM
Break up for summer holidays**

Thursday 1st September
Return to School

IMPORTANT NOTICE -

DINNER MONEY

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

Our only 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.

We no longer accept cash.

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 £11.00. We will not provide a school dinner for children if the arrears are over £11.00 and parents will be contacted informing them that they need to either pay before 11.30am, 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 £11.00, 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're 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. During school holidays we make weekly payments to those entitled to free school meals and you could be missing out if you do not apply.

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION:

Should you have any queries or concerns, in the first instance please ensure you speak with your child's teacher.

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)

BREAKFAST CLUB - IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to the popularity of our Breakfast Club, we do ask that you pre-book. Places should be booked by Friday for the following week. Forms can be collected from the school office.

The advance notice will help us ensure that the club is fully staffed and enough food is ordered.

Please arrive before 8.20am for your child to receive breakfast.

Although we ask parents not to, we know that some do continue to drive into the school grounds and we ask that you ensure you turn your engine off when the car is stationary to prevent the amount of exhaust fumes in the air.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES ARE BACK!

We are pleased to announce that class assemblies are back. Please check front page for upcoming assemblies. Parents are welcome to watch class assemblies. They take place in the morning and are usually finished by 9.45am. Other family members are welcome to attend if parents are unable to watch

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 24p per day.

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 won't 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.

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.

After School - Club Timetable

Monday	Jujitsu ran by Angela Conquest	
Tuesday	Netball	Years 3-4 (until 24 th May)
Wednesday	Tennis	Years 4 (until 25 th May)
Thursday	Cricket	Year 2 (until 26 th May)
Friday	Athletics	Year 3-6 (until 27 th May)

PARKING

There is no parking for parents on the school grounds. This includes Breakfast Club drop off. This is to ensure the safety of the children.

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). Please note traffic wardens have been in the area and have issued at least one ticket to a parent who parked at the dentist surgery during the school run.

CONGRATULATIONS KAYDN

Congratulations to Kaydn who became the u10 national champion on Saturday 23rd April. He came away with 4 x gold medals & 2x bronze. Gold on rings, high bar, vault, and parallel bars and bronze on pommel & Floor. The competition was against 63 elite boys across the country. He also retained his title from last year when he became the u9 national champion.



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.

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) |

WELL DONE KAYDEN



Congratulations to Kayden and his team mates at West Ham who were overall winners of the Half term league tournament at Luton on 7th May.

WELL DONE JENSEN

Congratulations to Jensen who competed in her very first gymnastics competition on the weekend of 23rd April. The competition was out of 15 girls and she came away with 3rd position overall and a bronze medal.





TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS AWARDS

Most Correct Answers – 25th April-12th May 2022



Kylan Whittaker	3OT	1 st	Daisy Fitzgerald	3MW	1 st
Ashton Gorham	3OT	2 nd	Ronnie Lake	3MW	2 nd
Savva Lapajev	3OT	3 rd	Ryder Notley	3MW	3 rd
Mia Clark	4AS	1 st	Sarina Kaur	4SD	1 st
Daria Gorobcic	4AS	2 nd	Olivia Kench	4SD	2 nd
Dylan Gray	4AS	3 rd	Elise Rayner	4SD	3 rd
Jessie Flowers	5ES	1 st	Jamie Newton	5RW	1 st
Tyler Holmes	5ES	2 nd	Eren Van Litsenborgh	5RW	2 nd
Caleb McQuade	5ES	3 rd	Harry Baalham	5RW	3 rd
Freya Rimini	6CM	1 st	Adam Wafik	6JCA	1 st
George Durden	6CM	2 nd	Jasmine Roff	6JCA	2 nd
Kayla-Brooke Brenchley	6CM	3 rd	Nathan Vice	6JCA	3 rd



NUMBOTS WINNERS

HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS
From 25th APRIL-12th MAY 2022



1 st	Christian Vear	RAC	1 st	Simi Ojuri	RSK
2 nd	Isabelle Smith	RAC	2 nd	Timi Ayoade	RSK
3 rd	Brandon Taylor	RAC	3 rd	Aiylah Aldridge	RSK
1 st	Oliver O'Donnell	1GS	1 st	Cameron Dickins	1KC
2 nd	Lottie Walshe	1GS	2 nd	Harrison Cosentino	1KC
3 rd	Desiree Abdul-Azeez	1GS	3 rd	Elizabeth Walker	1KC
1 st	Ivy Webster	2KR	1 st	Connie Denton	2LP
2 nd	Chloe Nason	2KR	2 nd	Matas Eidukas	2LP
3 rd	Bonnie Merrigan	2KR	3 rd	Jayden Pham	2LP

Year 5 Egyptian Day

"On Monday 28th March Year 5 had 2 visitors that explained to us about the ancient Egyptians. It was really fun and in the morning they put on a lovely show and in the afternoon, they read a few stories about the Gods and Pharaohs."

Jacob 5ES

"On Monday the 28th March we had two lovely ladies come in and we had an Egyptian day in year 5. It was lots of fun doing activities and listening to stories. There was many different characters and we watched a show in the morning. It was lots of fun."

Daisy 5ES

"We had 2 people come in one was an explorer and one was a countess. We had to go on a mission to help the explorer from the dance curse. Everyone got the curse after. So, then we had to do a mission ourselves. After we heard some stories from Anubais, Nefertiti, Snepu."

Alissa 5RW

"There was this lady called Daffony Witherspoon. She was cursed and we had to help her complete 3 challenges to lift it. 1st was the time challenge, then a map challenge, then the linking. We summoned a phantom and met 4 people Snepu, Anubis, Tutankhamen and Nefertiti. We finally done linking and freed Daffony from the curse, but it went on us instead! There was also a really loud lady called the countess. We had lunch then Daffony came back to lift our curse but failed. We learnt sit and sai, North, West, South and East. We met the countess in the inner chamber to learn stories from the people the Phantom had summoned earlier."

Minh 5RW



YEAR 1 TRIP - LAYER MARNEY TOWER - 26th April

We asked some of the children to tell us what their favourite part of the day was:

I liked making the dragons.

Penelope

Everything!

Lottie & Olly

Making the stretchy dragons.

Katy & Kya

I enjoyed seeing and wearing a real knights armour.

Harry

Holding the knight armour.

Essie

The dragon hunt. Finding the plastic balls and turning it into gold.

Beau

I liked stroking the lambs.

Gabriel

Being at the top of the coach both ways.

Jenson

I loved shooting the arrows.

Naomi

I loved the dragon hunt.

Anderson, Desiree & Lacie

I liked seeing the big castle.

Harrison

I enjoyed archery but I didn't manage to hit the knight. I also liked making a dragon.

Logan

Seeing the fish in the pond when we was on our hunt.

Archie

Having lunch outside in the pretty gardens

Lily-May

The puppet show of George and the Dragon.

Matilda

I loved seeing the baby lambs, stroking the cat and looking at the pigs. It was a good day.

Carlton

All of it!

Hayden

The bus drive through the animals.

Layla-Rose

I liked everything on our school trip. Searching for the dragons was fun.

Holly

Making the dragons. Elizabeth & Ethan

Finding the balls at the end of the hunt and getting a gold coin.

Maddox

I enjoyed making the dragon, the archery and the shield hunt. I fell asleep on the coach on the way back.

Ana

Making the dragons stretchy by using the ribbon.

George

George and the dragon puppet show

Victoria

Trying on the knights armour.

Henry

Going outside and seeing all the baby animals.

Chidera

I loved shooting the arrows because mine went far.

Summer

Hunting for treasure.

Oliver

YEAR 1 TRIP - LAYER MARNEY TOWER - 26th April



CONGRATULATIONS JACOB AND HARRY

Jacob (left) from 6CM played his first round of golf for the USKids tour at The Shire, London and came 3rd, this was a fantastic achievement. He also scored a hole in one !

Harry B (right) from 5RW who was awarded Man of the Match last month.

Well done Jacob and Harry!



	HOLIDAY DATES 2021-22
Autumn	Wednesday 1st September to Friday 17th December Half term: Monday 25 th October to Friday 29 th October Christmas break: Monday 20 th December to Monday 3 rd January
Spring	Tuesday 4th January to Friday 1st April Half term: Monday 14 th February to Friday 18 th February Easter break: Monday 4 th April to Monday 18 th April Bank holidays: Good Friday 15 th April, Easter Monday 18 th April
Summer	Tuesday 19th April to Wednesday 13th July Half term: Monday 30 th May to Friday 3 rd June Bank holidays: Monday 2 nd May, Thursday 2 nd June, Friday 3 rd June Last day of school is Wednesday 13th July 2022