



17/06/22
Issue 10

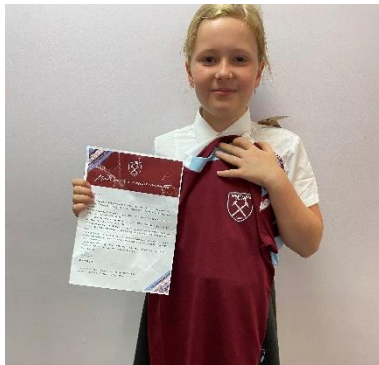
TERM DATES 2022-2023

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

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

SURPRISE FOR GRACIELLA

Graciella (5ES) is a West Ham fan. She was nominated to receive a new West Ham shirt before they got released to the general public. Graciella was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes last year and has overcome lots of hurdles. She is a brave girl who always has a smile on her face. Well deserved Graciella.



CLASS PHOTOS

Following feedback from some parents we have approached the school photographer to request a more traditional style of class photo for next year.

ATTENDANCE

The classes with the best attendance in week ending 10/06/22 and the winners of the Graham James Attendance shield are:

EYFS/KS1

Class 2KR with 98.3%

KS2

Class 4AS with 98%

DIARY DATES



Tuesday 21st June

Sports Day - Parents Welcome
Rec/KS1 9.15 AM
KS2 1.30 PM

Wednesday 22nd June

Year 6 Trip - Matilda
5RW Class Assembly

Friday 24th June

2LP Class Assembly

Friday 24th June

PTA Summer Fayre 3.15-5.00pm

Wednesday 28th June 3.15-4.15

Open School - details to follow

Wednesday 29th June-Tuesday 12th July

Transition

Wednesday 6th July

Meeting re Mersea Trip - 3.30pm

Wednesday 13th July

Year 6 Leavers Assembly - 2PM
Break up for summer holidays

Thursday 1st September

Return to School (Years 1-6)

Monday 5th September

1st day of school - Reception/Nursery

Monday 26th-Friday 30th September

Year 6 Residential Trip

Monday 24th-Friday 28th October

Half Term (one week)

Monday 31st October

Return to School

Class Assemblies 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.

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.

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.

DANCE SUCCESS FOR MACIE

On 4th June Macie (1KC) attended her first big competition for Latin and Ballroom dancing at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool. She got through 2 rounds into the final for her Waltz in ballroom placing 6th. An amazing achievement!



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 24p per day.

After School - Club Timetable

Monday	Jujitsu ran by Angela Conquest	
Wednesday	Tennis	Years 3 (until 6 th July)
Thursday	Cricket	Year 1 (until 7 th July)

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.

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) |

GREAT WORK AMELIA



Well done to Amelia (4SD) and Florence (Little J's) who spent all week making a bug hotel to help the wildlife with a bit of help from their Dad. Amelia designed it herself and the girls painted it and decorated the bug hotel themselves.

We think it looks amazing.

Well done Amelia and Florence



WELL DONE ETHAN



Well done to Ethan (3MW). His team won a football tournament cup last month.

LUKE AND KATY - RACE FOR LIFE

Well done to Luke (4AS) and Katy (1GS) who completed the 5km race for life to raise money for cancer research last month.





TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS AWARDS

Most Coins Earned - 13th May-15th June 2022



Nathan Sotire	3OT	1 st	Ronnie Lake	3MW	1 st
Kylan Whittaker	3OT	2 nd	Jesse Renew	3MW	2 nd
Owen Kiely	3OT	3 rd	Fletcher Rimini	3MW	3 rd
Daria Gorobcic	4AS	1 st	Mason McGovern	4SD	1 st
Jimmy Ellison	4AS	2 nd	Logan Cummings	4SD	2 nd
Isla Webster	4AS	3 rd	Elise Rayner	4SD	3 rd
Jessie Flowers	5ES	1 st	Harry Baalham	5RW	1 st
Isabelle Gaywood	5ES	2 nd	Kaydn Jackson	5RW	2 nd
Bobby Carney	5ES	3 rd	Danny Brine	5RW	3 rd
Maisie Rudman	6CM	1 st	Adam Wafik	6JCA	1 st
Evie Bean	6CM	2 nd	Leah Sargent	6JCA	2 nd
			Jasmine Roff	6JCA	3 rd



MUSIC LESSONS (Current Year 2-5)



If your child will be in Years 3-6 in September and is interested in participating in Music lessons from September, then please contact the office. A minimum of 3 children per instrument is required for the lesson to go ahead.

The cost is £58.65 for 10 lessons. **Payment due by Friday 1st July.** The cost is £29.32 for those entitled to free school meals.



NUMBOTS WINNERS



MOST COINS EARNED

From 13th May-15th June 2022

1 st	Austin Gray	RAC	1 st	Simi Ojuri	RSK
2 nd	Christian Vear	RAC	2 nd	Timi Ayoade	RSK
3 rd	Mollie Flowers	RAC	3 rd	Aiyah Aldridge	RSK
1 st	Lacie Whittle	1GS	1 st	Malachi Jackson-Layne	1KC
2 nd	Oliver O'Donnell	1GS	2 nd	Harrison Cosentino	1KC
3 rd	Desiree Abdul-Azeez	1GS	3 rd	Elizabeth Walker	1KC
1 st	Tomas Latham	2KR	1 st	Connie Denton	2LP
2 nd	Lila Martin	2KR	2 nd	Dulcie Simpson	2LP
3 rd	Lennie Wright	2KR	3 rd	Matas Eidukas	2LP

FRENCH DAY - 17th MAY 2022

On Friday 17th May, Miss Dibble organised a French Day in school. Mrs Siddiqui, French Teacher from St Clere's came in to take an assembly where children were given the opportunity to eat snails. We also had Mr. Lynn in from Gable Hall School who worked with children in Years 4 and 5. Here are some of the children's comments about French Day:

"I enjoyed French Day because we got to eat snails and learn more about French". - Ella Mae

"My favourite part was watching people eat snails". - Bayleigh

" I liked eating snails and flag making". - Mabel

"I liked it when the man came in and we played games and he taught us some French". - Gracie

"I really liked the French Day. We had a man come in to teach us body parts in French". - Amelia

"We got to do Bingo and a wordsearch. I learned about a French sportsman called Zinedine Zidane". - Caleb

"I really liked Miss Dibble letting us try snails and getting to choose different activities about France". - Ruby

"I liked speaking French". - Maya

"I liked ordering my lunch in French and our independent learning in the afternoon". - Poppy

"I liked the French music whilst we ate our lunch". - Cassidy

"The French cupcakes were delicious". - Casey

"I liked having a visitor and doing the French activities". - Sienna



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

RECEPTION TRIP TO BARLEYLANDS - 20th MAY



Kai Day - I liked the tractor and I have seen it before.

Poppy Cooke- My favourite bit of the school trip was going on the tractor ride and the big bus.



Elsie - I liked looking at all of the old things and the big things.

Cooper - I liked the coach and finding the Little Red Hen story.



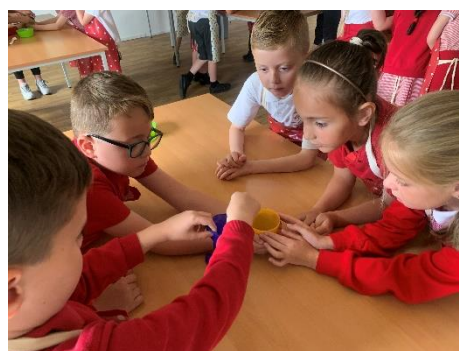
Brandon - I think my favourite part was when we made our bread and fed the animals. I think the animals were my favourite maybe three were my favourite, the coach, feeding the animals and the bread.



Zack - I liked making bread, reading the stories, going out to see the animals, the tractor, and I also liked when she said the Donkeys play football at night time. I liked it when Cooper made the flour with the seeds. It was the best day ever!



YEAR TWO TRIP TO BARLEYLANDS - 13th JUNE



PLATINUM JUBILEE

We had various activities to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee finishing off with a "street party" on the playground on the 27th May where children wore red, white and blue. We had a special themed dinner menu all week. Dave Monk, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Essex, came into speak to some of the children about his involvement with the Royal Family. Also our Year 6 children designed crowns which have been displayed in one of the planters in the town centre and we received the following message via email:

On behalf of the forum, I'd just like to thank your pupils, staff and volunteers for their amazing support with our planters this year.

I'm sure you will agree that the planters looked fabulous and we know the community loved them too. It's so lovely to see the children taking an active part in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and we hope that decorating the planters has contributed towards the children making life-long memories at such an historic occasion.



INTRODUCING OUR NEWLY APPOINTED HOUSE CAPTAINS AND VICE CAPTAINS



House Captains - William, Emmanuel, Daisy, Ava T
Vice Captains - Katie, Murray, Lola-Belle, Ava M.