

THE GESHER GAZETTE

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The Bridge

6th March 2026

PURIM CELEBRATIONS

Another year, another Purim, another day of festivities, another great day had by all!

In this month of Adar we are meant to have Marbim B'Simcha - extra joy - and, with parents and members from Pinner synagogue also in attendance, the air was filled with extra excitement and joy with amazing costumes on show.

The morning consisted of an excellent Megillah reading by Rabbi Shaya Green of Northwood United as well as a separate Megillah play ad-libbed by the parents which was hysterically well performed. The students were then able to fulfil the other mitzvot of Mishloach Manot (Making and giving food gifts), Matanot le'evyonim (Giving money to the poor) and having a Seudah (Feast) of sandwich toasties. The highlight of the beautiful, sunny morning were the various inflatables and sumo suit wrestling which the students, staff and parents got fully engaged with! And then there was the yearly staff music video of a compilation of various Queen songs with our very own Freddie Mercury impersonator. Lots of fun was had by everyone and we can't wait for next year.



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WORLD BOOK DAY

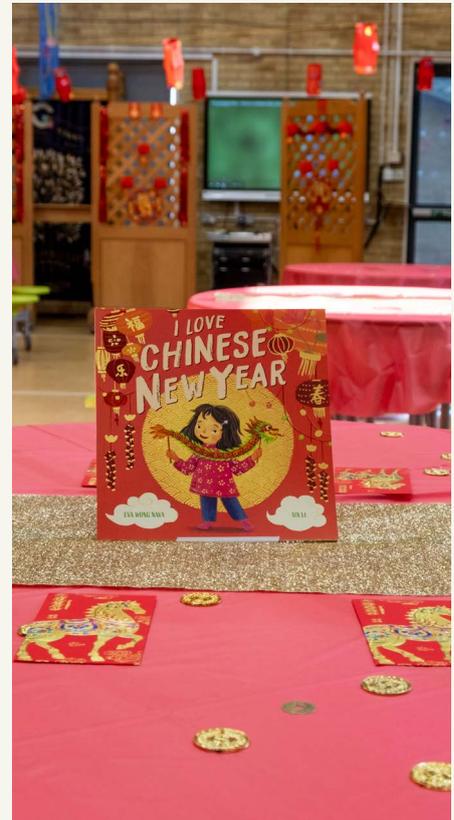


We celebrated World Book Day on Thursday with a theme of 'PJs and Pages'. Students came to school dressed either as book characters or in their comfiest pyjamas. Throughout the day, they took part in a range of engaging activities. They read and also listened to audiobooks. They posed for fun photos while reading in unusual places. Primary classes played pass the parcel to unwrap new books for their classrooms. Many students enjoyed designing creative bookmarks. Students enjoyed guessing who 'masked readers' were and in the afternoon they joined a lively PJ parade. They chose their reading materials from many options: picture books, comic books, graphic novels, chapter books, novels and non-fiction texts. A highlight of the day was enjoying hot chocolate and freshly baked cookies in cosy settings. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm for reading and storytelling throughout the day!



CHINESE NEW YEAR

Celebrating Chinese New Year in school is a wonderful way to promote diversity, inclusivity, and a deeper understanding of the world around us. This year, we embraced the celebrations by transforming our hall with beautiful Chinese lanterns made by the students, creating a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere. Our school chef carefully designed a Chinese-themed menu, giving pupils the opportunity to explore new flavours and experience an important cultural tradition through food. Sharing meals from different cultures is a meaningful way to broaden horizons and encourage curiosity about the wider world.



Students also took part in a range of engaging activities to learn more about the festival and its traditions. As it is the Year of the Horse, they created horse-themed crafts and discovered the significance of the zodiac in Chinese culture. They explored the specific ways families celebrate, including decorations, family gatherings, and symbolic customs, and even practised writing their names in Chinese characters. Learning about different cultures helps our students develop respect, empathy, and appreciation for diversity, preparing them to thrive in a multicultural society.



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Conversation Corner:

The suggestions of Primary and Secondary conversation starters are for a guideline only, please do feel free to use both suggestions, whatever the age, if you so wish! Also if you have any great ideas for conversation starters please do send them in to Miss Victoria victoria.rutter@gesherschool.com

Primary: If you could design a new playground, what would be in it?

Secondary: Which three historical figures or celebrities would you most like to invite to dinner and why? What would you cook for them?

Announcements:

Staff News:

We're delighted to let you know that we have successfully appointed a new School Office Manager. Miss Vanessa will be joining us in three weeks time and we are all looking forward to getting to know her.

We're very pleased to welcome two trainee Teachers from Canada, Miss Maddy and Miss Zoey, who will be joining our school community for the next three weeks. During their time with us, they'll be working alongside our staff, learning about our classrooms, and supporting students, mainly in Chitah and Rimon classes.