



The Greysbrooke Grapevine

Friday 18th March 2022

Spring Term Newsletter No: 5

Ukraine Donations

We have been utterly overwhelmed again with the kindness and generosity of the Greysbrooke community. Together, with all other ATLP schools, we have been collecting essential items to be sent to Ukraine. The last day for collections was yesterday so please don't send any more in as these items have already been picked up from site by Nether Stowe (part of the ATLP family) and will be delivered to 'Feed The Hungry', which is one of the agencies working hard to get supplies through. Thank you so very much.



It's inevitable that all the coverage of war in the media will bring about a variety of questions from children. 'Save The Children' have put together some useful information for parents/carers about the importance of talking to children about war and how to approach this difficult conversation: <https://www.savethechildren.org/us/charity-stories/how-to-explain-conflict-ukraine-to-children>



Red Nose Day

Many thanks to everyone who took part and contributed to today's fundraising event. So far, we have raised **£439** which is superb! If you would still like to donate, please drop donations into the school office by Monday 21st March. Thank you.

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Y5 Laches Wood

Last week, Y5 went to Laches Wood. This was the first residential we have taken part in for over 2 years and so staff and children were extremely excited. They had an amazing week; there was never a dull moment or time to rest as they completed a jam-packed week of activities.



The Twitter feed was a fabulous way for parents, carers and the whole school community to keep in touch and see what was going on. No doubt more photos and the highlights will be shared in the Y5 learning update in the next Grapevine, so I just want to take this opportunity to say a massive well done to all the children for their impeccable manners, mature attitudes and for giving 100% effort to everything. They were superstars and made us all super proud. Special thanks must go to the GB staff who spent the week nurturing and inspiring our children to be brave and resilient and try new experiences.

Woodland Trust

Year 6's Woodland Trust fundraising day on Friday 11th March was a huge success. With a forest themed non-uniform event and decorated stone sale, they made a whopping **£307.83**. Well done Y6, you did an amazing job planning, co-ordinating and running the whole day.



Work Share

This week, we hosted our first work share event. It was wonderful to open our doors and have parents back in the building.

We look forward to welcoming parents from other year groups over the next few weeks.

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Attendance

As you are aware, children's education over the last 2 years has been significantly impacted due to the pandemic. We continue to work hard to ensure children catch up and make progress and therefore remind you that:

- Family holidays should be booked during school holidays, not term time. Holidays during term time result in children missing vital learning. Please note that any applications for leave of absence during term time must be made in advance and will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Leave of Absence forms are available from the school office.
- Children should arrive on time each day. Arriving late to school can have an impact on pupil achievement and it can also disrupt the teaching routines and affect the learning of others.
- Medical and dental appointments should be made for after school time or during school holidays. Proof will be required if an appointment is during the school day.

The tables below indicate how much learning time is lost due to differing levels of attendance and lateness.

Attendance %	Days absent over the year
95	10
90	19
85	28
80	38

Minutes late every day	Days of education lost per year
5	3
15	10
30	19

Term dates for 2022-2023 have been requested from ATLP to assist you with booking holidays out of term time. As soon as we have these, we will email them out and put them on the website.

We are committed to working with parents and carers to ensure all students achieve as high attendance as possible.

Polite Reminder

Please do not enter/exit school site through the carpark gates

We have vehicles/deliveries coming at all times of the day and the car park is not for pedestrian access. Parents/children should access school site on foot via the top pedestrian gate. Thank you.

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Payment Reminders

Ingestre Hall Residential (Y3/Y4) - The 3rd and final instalment is due on Friday 25th March via ParentPay.

Boreatton Park House Residential (Y6) - The 5th instalment is due on Wednesday 30th March.

Easter Soccer Clubs

Aston Villa and King Edward VI School will be holding Soccer Clubs during the Easter holidays. Please see the attached flyers for further information.

Important Dates

Tuesday 22nd March - Workshare afternoon for YR/Y1 parents (2.45pm)

Wednesday 23rd March - Workshare afternoon for Y2 parents (2.45pm)

Friday 25th March - Llamas land for the children who missed planting a tree (email sent on 17/03/22)

Wednesday 30th March - Workshare afternoon for Y3/Y4 parents (2.45pm)

W/e Friday 1st April - All clubs finish for the term

Monday 4th April - Wednesday 6th April - Easter Competition entries

Thursday 7th April - KS1 Easter Bonnets/KS2 Easter Baskets Parade on the school field - parents welcome (3pm)

Thursday 7th April - School closes for the term

Friday 8th April - INSET DAY - School closed to all pupils



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Learning Update

Year 3

Science

This half term we have started our new topic on Plants. The children really enjoyed exploring a range of plants and discovering what the functions of the different parts of the plant were. They sketched beautiful labelled pictures of a plant of their choice. They have also set up and recorded an investigation into what plants need to grow well. Ask them what their conclusions were!



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Maths

This week we started our new topic on Fractions. We used lots of practical apparatus to demonstrate equal parts of a whole before moving on to identifying fractions of a shape/amount.



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Learning Update

Year 4

Year 4 really enjoyed the start to the half term. They arrived at school dressed as Anglo Saxons and the only costume stipulation was that they must wear a belt! They were set the task of making a money container which could be attached to the belt. You will see from the photographs that they worked so hard to design and create their money container. They still have the finishing touches to add to their work but it is fair to say that they are incredibly proud of their work so far!



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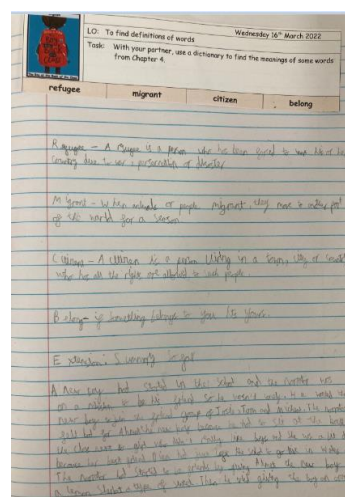
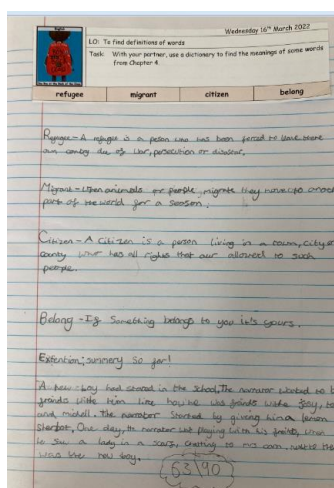
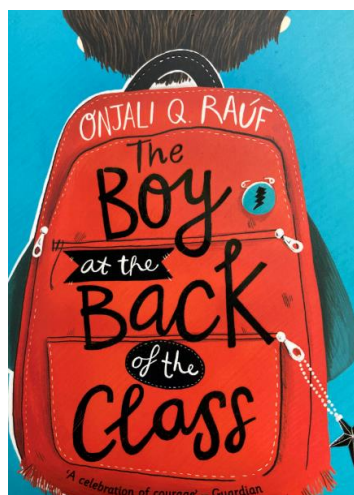


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The class text that Year 4 are reading at the moment is 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q Rauf. It is a beautiful book and tells the story of a young refugee child arriving in London. The children are fully engaged in the text so far and are naturally making links to the events going on in the world at the moment. The writing journey that Year 4 are on at the moment will lead to writing a formal letter to a member of parliament. The children are learning many new words and have enjoyed using a dictionary to find the meanings this week.



Year 4 are working towards producing their very own Explorer Seascapes in Art. They have produced some wonderful sky washes using pastels with a watercolour colour wash. They were asked to consider the mood that they were aiming to create through their piece and the colour palette that they needed to apply to achieve this. The pictures below capture them creating their sky backgrounds.



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