



The Greysbrooke Grapevine

Friday 4th March 2022

Spring Term Newsletter No: 4

Welcome Back

It's lovely to welcome you all back to the second half of the Spring term. We know this is always a busy half term so please be sure to keep checking the Grapevine (including the 'Important Dates' section), as well as emails, texts and our Twitter account: [@greysbrookeatlp](https://twitter.com/greysbrookeatlp)

This week, we launched a new look website. Hopefully it's clearer and easier to navigate and all information is available at the touch of a button. You can view our website via:

<https://greysbrooke.staffs.sch.uk/>

I am delighted to inform you that over the coming weeks, we are planning in opportunities for you to come into school and share your child's learning. It has been over 2 years since we opened our doors to parents and so we are very excited that with the easing of restrictions and recent reduction in COVID rates, we are now in a position to welcome you in. The format for workshare afternoons is as follows:

- Arrive at main office school entrance for 2.45pm
- Meet your child in the hall and/or classroom and spend time looking through their books
- Leave via main entrance at 3.10pm (and collect any siblings)

Dates that are already confirmed are as follows:

Year 2 - Wed 23rd March

Year 3 - Wed 30th March

Year 4 - Wed 30th March

Year 5 - Thursday 17th March

Other year groups will confirm their dates as soon as possible.

Red Nose Day

This year Red Nose Day is on Friday 18th March, and whatever you do, no matter how small, you can help people live free from poverty, violence and discrimination. This includes funding organisations that are supporting people right now in Ukraine, and those attempting to cross the border because you have the power to change lives.

This year it's all about 'You' - yes, You! The people at home, in schools and on the ground, doing your bit. Buying Red Noses, baking cakes, smashing challenges or simply picking up the phone and donating - you can make a real difference. We are asking children to come to school on Red Nose Day wearing something red in non-school uniform and/or to have a funky unusual hairstyle! We always have great fun in school on Red Nose Day and children will be partaking in class-based activities to celebrate the special day. We are kindly asking that you donate £1 or more on the day in cash.



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Tchoukball

We had an exciting end to last half term with all children taking part in a Tchoukball Enrichment Day. On 14th February, the children donned their sweatbands (literally!) and took part in a fast and furious game of Tchoukball. The aim of the game is to bounce a ball off a special net without an opponent catching it on the rebound. Children could take 3 steps with the ball and then had to pass it to a team mate. There needed to be 3 passes before a goal was scored. It was simplified for Reception and KS1 who took part in a range of drills, aiming, throwing and catching exercises. Needless to say, the children loved it and their enthusiasm was palpable! It was fun and furious with teams rotating in quick succession. Another game learned and a favourite for many!



Amazing morning playing tchoukball with Mr Banks from progressive sports!



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World Book Day

It was so wonderful to see everyone taking part in World Book Day, by dressing up either as a favourite book character or by wearing their PJ's. The school felt like a hub of enthusiasm for reading and the day focused on the celebration of books and authors.

During an assembly, children shared their love of reading and explained why we celebrate books. Their enthusiasm was a joy to see and they shared so many reasons to love books and reading.

Throughout the day, classes paired up to enjoy a session of 'paired reading'. Older children read stories to younger children and younger children read aloud to older children. The excitement from the children really was incredible and the interactions between the children in sharing their love of reading were so fabulous. It is difficult to say who enjoyed the sessions most, the children or the staff privileged to be part of the experience.

In addition to this, classes independently completed tasks related to World Book Day. Board games were created, author studies completed, book covers designed and book characters were invented...to name but a few of the many activities that the children took part in. How wonderful for the whole school to immerse in this celebration of all that is books.



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Parent Consultation Meetings

Staff enjoyed virtually connecting with parents during our recent Parent Consultation meetings. If you were not able to meet with your child's class teacher and would still like to have the opportunity to discuss their progress, please contact the school office.

Nurture Garden

We are hoping to develop and update the pond area at the front of the school building to become a nurture garden for children and staff. If you are a parent, carer or family member who is experienced in this line of work and would be able to offer your expertise/advice to develop this area, we would love to hear from you. Please email:

notification@greysbrooke.staffs.sch.uk

Thank you!

Easter Bonnets and Baskets

This year, we will be inviting children to take part in an Easter decoration competition which will be carried out at home and then brought into school.



KS1 = Easter bonnets

KS2 = Easter baskets

More details to follow!



Art Club Reminder!!

As previously advised, after school Art Club will not be taking place next week (Thursday 10th March) due to Mrs Hepworth being at Laches Wood.

Shenstone Scouts Fundraising Event

Please see the attached Flyer - Mrs Wharton will be selling tickets on Wednesday 9th March after school.

Payment Reminders

Boreatton Park House Residential (Y6) - The 4th instalment was due on Monday 28th February. If you have not yet paid, please do so by Monday 7th March at the latest. Thank you.

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

Important Dates

Monday 7th March - Friday 11th March - Y5 Residential Trip to Laches Wood

Thursday 10th March - NO AFTER SCHOOL ART CLUB

Friday 11th March - Y4/Y6 commence Swimming Lessons (Burntwood Leisure Centre)

Friday 11th March - Non-Uniform Day (Woodland Trust) - £1.00 cash donation please

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

Thursday 7th April - School closes for the term

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



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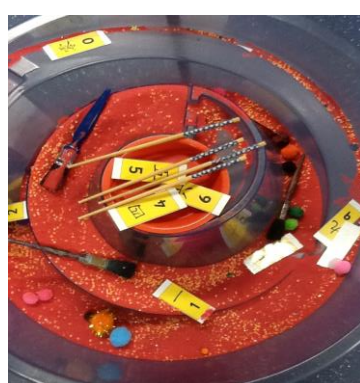
Learning Update

Reception



Last half term in math's we learned about odd and even numbers. We made these odd and even numbers to help our learning.

Our topic last half term was to learn all about Chinese New Year, here are some of the things we had fun making!



Our water tray was filled with red sand, rice, lentils and pom poms. We used chopsticks to see how many pom poms we could find in the tray. Here is the list of vocabulary which we focused on during the topic.



We made blossom trees using tissue paper and also made these lovely lanterns using our collage skills.

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We made dragon puppets and also these Chinese Red Envelopes, they even had Chinese money inside them.



We used our cutting skills to make these red lanterns. We learned so much about Chinese New Year! Red is meant to give you good luck, that is why we made red envelopes and lanterns. We also learnt about the dragon dance and the Chinese New year Zodiac.

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Learning Update

Year 1

Year 1 have recently completed a painting and printing topic. We looked at primary colours and discovered which secondary colours we could make by mixing different combinations. We then used our skills to paint amazing abstract art. We also found out about different printing techniques. We used a polystyrene tile and carved out an abstract pattern. We then used printing ink and a roller to help create our final prints. We loved the finished pieces of art.



In ICT we enjoyed learning all about directional commands using the Beebots.



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We have also been working really hard in PE. We have had an enrichment day where we played a new sport which was great fun. We have also been practising our gymnastics and golf skills.



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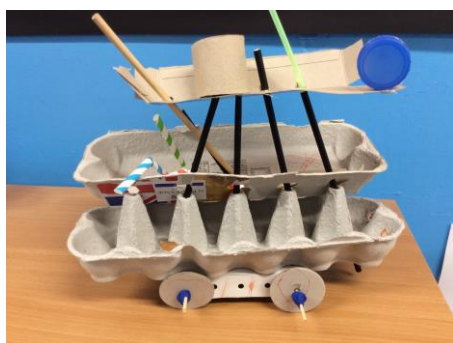
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Learning Update

Year 2

Last half term the children finished their DT moving vehicle models, they then evaluated their work. Here are a few examples of what they created - aren't they great!



In PSHE we have been focusing on teamwork and working with others. The children were set a variety of challenges they had to complete as a group to achieve one outcome. We then discussed how they worked as a team and what was successful and why and if they had any issues as a group why they thought these arose - it was an interesting discussion!



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In IT this half term we are being 'researchers', we will learn how to use search engines to research a given topic and then we will present that research on a PowerPoint. This week we began to create a mind map of questions and topics to research, we used the laptops to access a file on the shared drive, we then saved this as a named file and began to edit them.



In Art this week we have started our new topic of painting and printing techniques, this week we have used thick and thin lines to create a landscape picture, here are some of the results!



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