



GREYTHORN PRIMARY

"Engaging hearts, equipping minds, opening doors"

Autumn Term

Weekly Newsletter

7th November 2025

DATES FOR THE DIARY

WEDNESDAY 12th NOVEMBER


FS - Y6 Immunisation

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER

Cake Sale - Children in Need

FRIDAY 14th NOVEMBER

9.15am - 10.15am Toddler Stay & Play

Wear something spotty or yellow  for Children in Need £1

TUESDAY 18th NOVEMBER

Bike ability group 1

WEDNESDAY 19th NOVEMBER

9.30am - 11.30am Open Morning for Sep 2026 parents

School Disco

5pm - 5.45pm FS & Year 1/2

6pm - 7pm Year 3/4/5/6

2025/26 TERM DATES

Autumn Term

3 September - 17 October 2025

3 November - 19 December 2025

Spring Term

5 January - 13 February 2026

24 February - 27 March 2026

Summer Term

13 April - 21 May 2026

1 June - 24 July 2026

INSET: 1 Sept, 2 Sept, 23 Feb, 22 May, 27 July



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back!

We hope you all had a wonderful half-term break. It has been lovely hearing about the exciting adventures and celebrations the children have enjoyed over the holiday.

Thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening this week. We really appreciate you taking the time to meet with your child's teacher and to look through their work. Your support makes such a difference to their learning.

This week, we have also begun our Anti-Racism Education programme. Through a range of discussions and activities, the children will be learning about fairness, respect, and the importance of celebrating diversity within our school community.

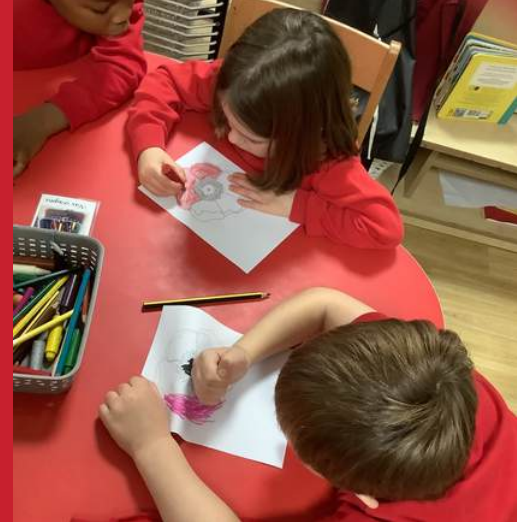
Mrs Carpenter



THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Foundation

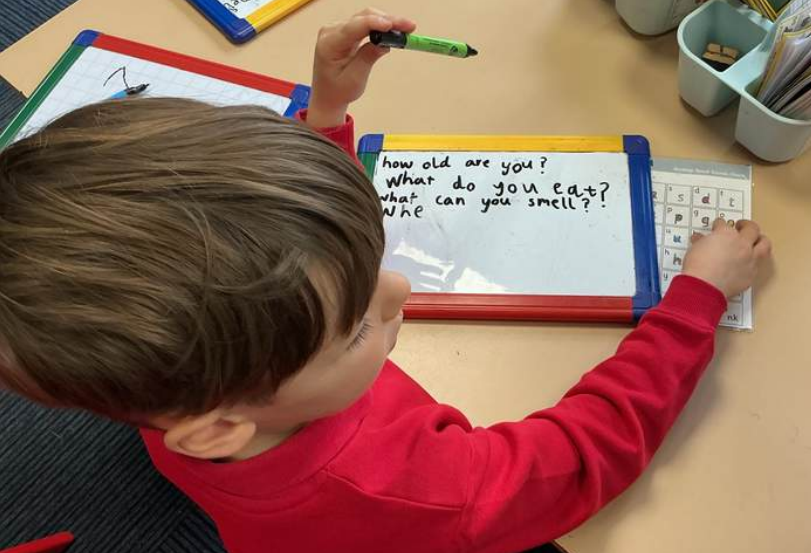
This week in Foundation, we have been learning about Remembrance Day and why it is such an important time to remember and show respect for those who have served our country. The children listened to stories, shared their thoughts about peace and kindness, and took part in a creative activity where they made their own beautiful poppies. We are so proud of how thoughtful and respectful the children were as they learned about this special day.



THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Year 1/2

Year 1/2 have had great fun this week in English, beginning to learn about their new text, *Vlad and the Great Fire of London*, written by Kate Cunningham and illustrated by Sam Cunningham. At the start of the week, the children were visited by Boxton the rat and had fun writing more questions to ask him. They then had fun answering questions as Boxton the rat too!



THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Year 3/4

In Year 3/4, we've started our new learning on Ancient Greece. The children have been busy using their geography skills to identify where Greece is in the world. We then explored when the Ancient Greek civilisation began and looked at some key historical events, organising them on a timeline using our understanding of B.C.

In English, we've begun learning about the Greek myth Theseus and the Minotaur. The children have been fantastic – they created their own story maps to retell the myth and will soon be innovating the story to write their own versions over the next couple of weeks.

Ancient Greece Timeline

2200BC - 1450BC

The first Minoan civilisation developed on island of Crete.

1100BC—800BC

This period is called the Dark Ages as historians are not sure what happened during this time.

490 BC

The Battle of Marathon is won by fighters from Athens, who defeat the Persian Empire.

336BC-323BC

Alexander the Great becomes King and expands the Greek Empire.

146 BC

Greece comes under the control of the Roman Empire after the Battle of Corinth.

1400BC—1100BC

The Mycenaeans lived on the Greek mainland. They spoke Greek and traded goods with nearby countries.

776 BC

The first Olympic Games were held as a festival to honour god Zeus.

470BC—322BC

Three of the most famous philosophers of all time (Socrates, Plato and Aristotle) studied and taught in Ancient Greece.

323BC—146BC

The Age of Science where Greek scientists, mathematicians and astronomers made great advancements.

Monday 3rd November

to know how to plot location on a map accurately

Where is Greece?

Greece is in Southern Europe, by the sea and it is surrounded by sea, Algeria and Turkey are some of the closest countries to Greece.

Thursday 6th November

to be able to retell a narrative

Theseus and the Minotaur

Theseus offered 7 oxen and 7 sheep as an offering to Poseidon. Poseidon told Theseus that he would help. Theseus was helped by his father, Aegeus. Theseus sailed to Crete, where he was captured by the Minotaur. He was helped by Ariadne, who gave him a ball of thread. Theseus defeated the Minotaur and escaped. He was victorious and returned home.

Thursday 6th November

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THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Year 5/6

This week, Year 5/6 have been taught two lessons on Anti-Racism Education. We read two books that teach about different cultures and beliefs, plus we examined quotes and reflected on their meaning. We discussed the benefits of multiculturalism and how we can celebrate differences within a diverse school setting!



1.25
 : To know about racism and what it means.
 - read "A Kids Book About Racism" by Jelani Mann
 - discussed the meaning behind the book in a
 use classroom.



It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept and celebrate those differences.
Audre Lorde

"I never ever think about people's skin colour."

"I think it's important having authors from different cultures and races."

"I find different religious interests"

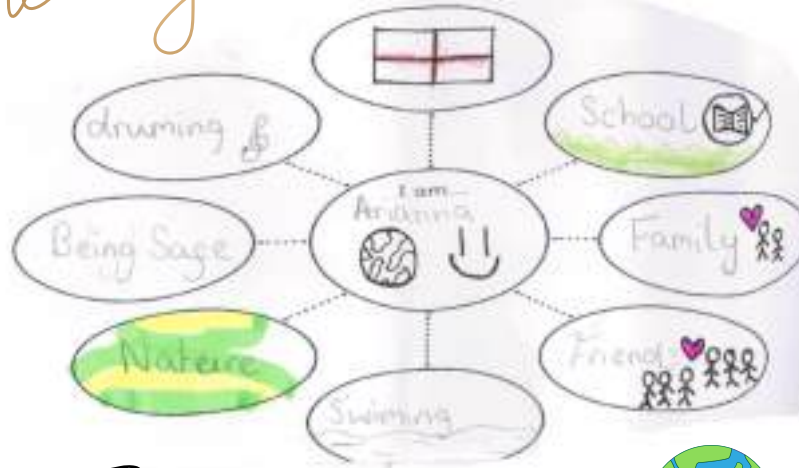


LO: To know about respecting the differences and similarities between people

Complete the Identity Circle Draw a portrait of yourself in the middle circle and include your name. Around the outside, include things that are important to you - use pictures and words. Colour in your Identity Circle.

Belief

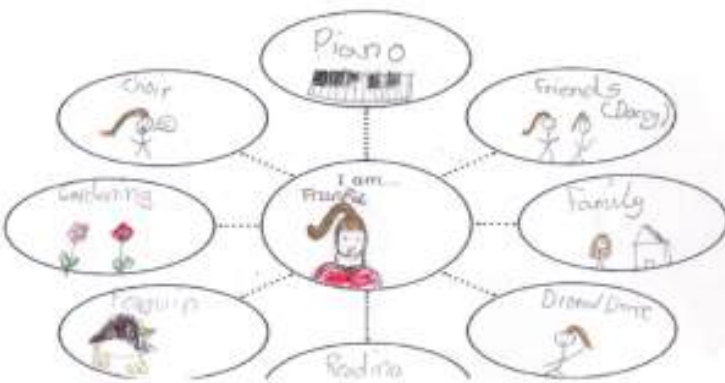
use pictures and...



BELIEF



CULTURE



1.25
 LO: To know about racism and what it means.
 What do you think the quote means?
 Treat different people equally.
 What are our differences?
 If we're kind to those about different people.
 How do they think of it?
 Some are above it, it's more kind or mean about different people.
 What does it mean our inability to recognize, accept and celebrate our differences?
 We should be nice even if it is different and you should treat them for that.
 What message do you think, Mary Murray was trying to share with the book?
 Don't be racist and just being nice isn't what racism is and to tell someone about it is the best way to go.
 Do you think we could read this book to our 30 year olds? Yes, because everybody may should know about it.
 Do you think it is important they learn about racism? Why?
 Yes, it is important because it means and it can really hurt someone, including me and always nobody should be treated badly, just because of their skin color.

It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept and celebrate those differences.
 Audre Lorde

CHILDREN IN NEED



Challenge Yourself to 25

This year, as well as our usual fundraising events, we are asking children to 'Challenge Yourself to 25' and ask friends and family to sponsor them. Please see Class Dojo for the challenge 25 progress tracker and a sponsorship form. If you would like a paper copy, please request this from your child's class teacher.

We are asking children to choose a challenge that involves doing 25 of something. Here are some ideas (but feel free to come up with your own!):

- Read 25 books
- Run or walk 25km before 13.11.25
- Complete 25 acts of kindness
- Go on 25 slides
- Swim 25 lengths
- Make 25 cakes/keyrings/pictures bracelets for others
- Do a 25 minute (or 25 hour!) silence
- Give up electronics for 25 hours



Please then return the money raised through sponsorship by no later than **Thursday 13th November**, to the school office. All money raised will go to Children in Need. The top 5 fundraisers in school will also be awarded with a plush Pudsey keyring.

Thank you for your support!

Other events to look out for:

- Week commencing 3rd November - colouring competition
- Week Commencing 10th November - Merchandise on sale before and after school
- Thursday 13th November - Cake Sale KS1 Playground 3.30pm **Please bring any cake donations on Thursday morning (no nuts please!)**
- Friday 14th November - Wear something spotty or yellow and bring £1



NEXT WEEK



Cake Sale

**Thursday 13th November at
3:30pm**



**Please bring cakes either
homemade or from a shop into
school on Thursday morning.**

**All money raised will be donated to
Children in Need**



Week

2

My School Menu

Winter 2025 - 2026

Week commencing

10th November, 1st December,
12th January, 2nd February,
23th February, 16th March

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Option 1

Margherita pizza
Soya Gluten Milk
with potato balls,
baked beans &
sweetcorn

Quorn dipper
Gluten
wrap Gluten
with tomato
ketchup, peas
& French fries

Cheesy tomato
pasta
Mustard Soya
Gluten Milk
with garlic bread
Gluten Soya Milk
sweetcorn & peas

Bangers & mash
Gluten Sulphur
Dioxide
OR
plant based
sausage
SoyaSulphurDioxide
with seasonal
vegetables &
gravy

MSC Fish fingers
Fish Gluten
OR
Fishless fingers
Gluten
with oven chips,
bakedbeans &
peas

Pudding

Donuts
Soya Milk Gluten
Egg Sesame

JimJam 'nut free'
chocolate
croissant
Gluten Milk

Chocolate muffin
Egg Gluten

Vanilla sponge
GlutenEgg
& raspberry sauce

Fruit ice lolly

Menu

w/c
10 November 2025

Please find attached our
current lunch time menu.

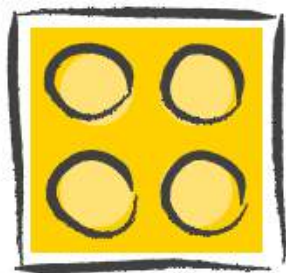
If your child would like a
school lunch they will be able
to order on the day, the cost
is £3.16 and needs to be paid
in advance.

FOOD HYGIENE RATING

0 1 2 3 4 5

VERY GOOD

FOGSA NEWS



Fab Bricks®

Order a discounted personalised LEGO® brick keyring / bag-tag through your school & raise funds at the same time!

We're delighted to offer you a great deal on our personalised LEGO® brick keyrings, whilst helping your school, nursery or preschool PFA/PTA raise valuable funds.

Order through your school for just £3.25 each, that's a discount of 50p off the normal price of £3.75 and for each one you buy, your school receives £1.00!



Order in three easy steps:

1. Pick your colour
2. Pick your font
3. Write the text you would like

The keyrings will be sent to your school/PTA to distribute.

To order, please pay for your keyring(s) via ParentPay and submit your order details using the Google form circulated by FOGSA on Dojo and the year group WhatsApp groups.

Orders close: Friday 14th November

Order as many as you like!
Many thanks, FOGSA

LEGO® is a trademark of the LEGO Group of companies which does not sponsor, authorize or endorse this site.

Fab-Bricks Ltd 2012. Company Reg No: 08204420

keyring colour:



font:

MarShmallow

KOMIKA

Grand

Painter

Sketch

Once you have paid on ParentPay please click this link to place your order

<https://forms.gle/DBtHUHocFS1fpwt5A>

FOGSA NEWS



IT'S DISCO TIME!

WEDNESDAY



19TH NOVEMBER



EYFS/KS1 | 5-5.45PM
KS2 | 6-7PM

£3.50 ENTRY, SNACK AND
TRANSFER TATTOO

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE

TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON PARENT PAY FROM
10TH - 17TH NOVEMBER



**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION POSTED ON
CLASS DOJO**



COMMUNITY EVENTS



Christmas Pudding Club

Friday 28th November 7.30-9pm

Mix up your Christmas Pudding ready for the festive season!

All pudding ingredients included as well as mulled wine and nibbles

Please bring a 2pt/1.2L pudding basin, mixing bowl and a spoon

Enjoy Christmas music and a short, mindful Christmas reflection

£15 per person • Pre-booking essential

Tickets available in the café or scan to book >>> or visit stpaulsboundaryroad.churchsuite.com/events/lkwrcofox

Please let us know any special dietary requirements when booking

St Paul's Church, Boundary Road, NG2 7DB
Get in touch: st.paulschurchconnector@outlook.com



Learn to Swim *with* Core Aquatics



A Multi-Award Winning, Local Swim School

Children 3+ Years and Adults of ALL ABILITIES

- Teachers in the Water
- Small Class Sizes (4,5 or 6 Per Group)
- Fun and Engaging Lessons
- Individualised Programmes
- Regular Progress Updates
- Experienced and Supportive Team

Nottingham High School Children's Classes:
Saturday 1330-1800
Sunday 1400-1800

West Bridgford School Children's Classes:
Wednesday 1800-1845
Saturday 0800-1000, 1645-1845
Sunday 1530-1900
Adult Classes:
Sunday 1900-1930

We maintain waiting lists for children under 3 years. Please contact us to register.

hello@coreaquatics.co.uk | www.coreaquatics.co.uk | 07920 687331



WILFORD HILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

COMMUNITY BULB PLANTING EVENT!



JOIN US ANY TIME BETWEEN 10:00 AND 4:00
SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER
EUROPA WAY / WALCOTE DRIVE EMBANKMENT
ALL WELCOME! BRING YOUR OWN SPADES, TROWELS AND GLOVES!
LET'S MAKE OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD BLOOM!



**A VERY WARM WELCOME
AWAITS YOU
AND YOUR CHILDREN**



*WE TAKE GREAT PRIDE
IN DEVELOPING HAPPY
CHILDREN WHO
BELIEVE IN
THEMSELVES.*

**COME AND SEE
OUR
WONDERFUL
SCHOOL**

OPEN DAYS

**WEDNESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 9.30AM - 11.30AM
SATURDAY 10TH JANUARY 10AM - 12 NOON**

✉ office@greythorn.notts.sch.uk

☎ 0115 914 9779

🌐 www.greythornschoo.co.uk

📍 Greythorn Drive | West Bridgford | Nottingham | NG2 7GH



TODDLER STAY AND PLAY

A VERY WARM WELCOME

AWAITS YOU

AND YOUR CHILDREN

For Parents/Carers with Children (age 0 - 4 yrs) living in the local community

Come and join us for playtime, chat and refreshments



Free of Charge

Friday

9.15AM - 10.15AM

14th November

28th November

12th December



Please email/telephone to reserve your place

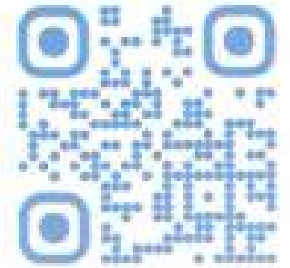
✉ office@greythorn.notts.sch.uk

☎ 0115 914 9779

🌐 www.greythornschoo.co.uk

📍 Greythorn Drive | West Bridgford | Nottingham | NG2 7GH

Miss school... **MISS OUT**



Coming to school when you are a bit under the weather

Feeling a little sniffly? Don't worry, your
child can still learn!

Most mild illnesses like colds and coughs can be managed at school. Keeping your child home unnecessarily can disrupt their learning and social development.

If you're unsure, consult your local pharmacy, or your child's doctor for advice. Let's prioritise their education and well-being together!

#backtoschool #healthykids #education



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13–16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowry is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



The National College