GLC Lansdowne Primary Academy

All Different: All Equal: Together Improving Upon Our Best

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GLC Lansdowne Primary Academy

All Different: All Equal: Together Improving Upon Our Best

Friday 23rd January 2026

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! It has been wonderful to welcome all our pupils back to the academy for the start of this new year. We have made an excellent start, and the energy across our classrooms is already inspiring to see.

More Than Just a Classroom: The Power of Enrichment

As we begin this year, I want to share with you our vision for your child's journey at our academy. We believe that to become "active and thriving citizens," children need a "vast breadth of opportunities" that challenge them and build their confidence.

Hands-on enrichment is a clear strength of our academy. This term is already packed with "rich cultural experiences" and "immersive learning opportunities" designed to bring learning to life:

- Year 2 are stepping back in time at the Tower of London.
- Year 6 are heading into the capital for a River Cruise and Tate Modern gallery visit.
- Year 3 are taking part in a specialised Saxon workshop led by our Forest School leader, Miss Bevan.
- Reception have had an immersive Dinosaur workshop.
- Our pupils are also representing us in numerous PE competitions through the Thurrock School Sports Partnership.

Why Attendance on Trip Days Matters

We have received some enquiries from parents regarding their child not attending these visits. I would like to take this opportunity to clarify that trips and workshops are official school days, and we expect every pupil to attend. They are fully risk assessed and led by experienced academy leaders who have previously visited the venue.

These experiences are carefully chosen to build "cultural capital"—giving every child the background knowledge and life experiences they need to succeed in the future. When a child misses a trip, they miss a vital part of the curriculum that cannot be replicated in a classroom. We want every child to have an "equal opportunity to achieve their full potential," and your support in ensuring they attend every visit is greatly appreciated.

Important Dates: National Testing 2026

While we focus on a broad and rich education, we are also dedicated to ensuring our pupils are fully prepared for their academic milestones. Please ensure you have these statutory dates for 2026 in your diary:

- Key Stage 2 SATs (Year 6): Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May 2026.
- Multiplication Tables Check (Year 4): Within the two-week window starting Monday 1st June 2026.
- Phonics Screening Check (Year 1 & Year 2 retakes): Week beginning Monday 8th June 2026.

Thank you for your continued partnership as we work together to foster a thriving, fair, and equal community for all our children.

We are here to support you and your family in any way we can, so as ever, please do not hesitate to contact us by emailing our support email address: Support4u-LPA@theglc.org.uk

Kind regards

Dan George

Head of School

IMPORTANT DATES

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Highlight in Green: ***Parents/Carers are invited to attend***
Highlight in Blue: ***Pupils only [Parents/Carers are not required to attend]***
Highlight in Yellow **- *Parents by invitation only***

- ***Highlighted in red*** **- *late addition to the document***
- ***Highlighted in pink*** **- *amended***

Date	Year Group	Event Information	Time of the event
Monday 26th January	Year 6	Year 6 SATs Meeting	2:30 - 3pm
Monday 26th January	Year 1	Phonics parent workshop - INVITE ONLY	2.30 - 3.00
Monday 26th January	Reception RS and RT	Visit to Library	Morning
Monday 26th January	Reception RI	Visit to Library	Afternoon
Tuesday 27th January	Year 6	Year 6 London trip	
Wednesday 28th January	Year 5	Family Learning Session	2:00pm-3:00pm
Wednesday 28th January	Year 6	Basketball Training at The Gateway Academy - INVITE ONLY	3.00 - 5.00pm
Friday 30th January	Year 1	Family learning session	2.15 - 3.00pm
Friday 30th January	Year 2	Family learning session	2.15 - 3.00pm
Friday 30th January	Reception and Year 5	Road Safety walks and assembly	
Monday 2nd February	Year 2	Phonics parent workshop - INVITE ONLY	2.30 - 3.00
Tuesday 3rd February	Year 3	Family Learning Session	2:15 - 2:50pm
Thursday 5th February	Acorns	Family Learning Session	1.50 - 2.50pm
Thursday 5th February	Nursery AM	Family Learning Session	10.15 - 11.15am
Thursday 5th February	PM/30 Hours	Family Learning Session	2.00 - 3.00pm
Friday 6th February	Seedlings	Family Learning Session	2.00 - 3.00pm
Friday 6th February	Year 1 and Year 2	Key Steps Gymnastics Competition - INVITE ONLY	8:30 – 11:30am
Friday 6th February	Year 4	Family learning session	2.15 - 3pm
Friday 6th February	Year 3 and Year 4	Key Steps Gymnastics Competition - INVITE ONLY	10:30 – 1:00pm
Friday 6th February	Year 5 and Year 6	Key Steps Gymnastics Competition - INVITE ONLY	11:30 – 2:30pm
Monday 9th February	KS2	Herts for Learning Parent Workshop - INVITE ONLY	2.30 - 3.00pm
Tuesday 10th February	New Starters	Potty Training Session	2.00 - 3.00pm
Wednesday 11th February	Year 6	Basketball Tournament Round Five at The Gateway Academy - INVITE ONLY	3.00 - 5.00pm
Wednesday 11th February	Year 5	Year 5 trip to London	
Thursday 12th February	Year 6	Year 6 Family Learning session	2pm - 3pm
Wednesday 11th February	Year 5	Year 5 trip to London	
Thursday 12th February	Year 6	Year 6 Family Learning session	2pm - 3pm

PUPILS OF THE WEEK

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Reception	Ethan Theo	Muhammad Reina	Arabella Safiate
Year 1	Liyana Osman	Cody-Blu E Carlos L	Tafida Dolly
Year 2	Elvie Emily Iyana	Akorede Muna Emily	Keira Harvey Amellie
Year 3	Akshara Olivia Eliza-Mae	Lacey W Erney BD	Lexie-Mae G Millie J
Year 4	Chloe Timothy	Jordan O Abigail Erik	Rome Nellie Jayden
Year 5	Diana Kamilah Aryan	Nikola Anum	Danny Olivia Oliver
Year 6	Sienna D	Jessie S David F	Michael Y Yousaf S
Acorns	Christopher	Hudson	Elliott
Seedlings	Amber	George	Ridaan



SCHOOL CONTACTS

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Office Staff

Miss K Luckin – Support Service Manager

Miss K Hetherington – PA to Head of School and Senior Leadership

Mrs J Meurs – Admin Assistant

Mrs K Gopsill – Data Manager

Mrs L Davey – Attendance Officer

admin.lansdowne@theglc.org.uk or support4u-lpa@theglc.org.uk

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities:

Mrs S Curtis - TRUST SENCO

Mrs S Worrow - SENCO

Mrs J Phillips - SENCO Assistant

support4u-lpa@theglc.org.uk

Inclusion team

Miss Sparrow - Inclusion manager

Miss Bass - Inclusion advocate: Nursery/Reception/Year 1/Year 2

Mrs Austin - Inclusion advocate: Year 3 and 4

Miss Bevan - Inclusion advocate: Year 5 and 5

support4u-lpa@theglc.org.uk

STAYING SAFE AND HEALTHY

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DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD

NAME: Mr Daniel Burnett

CONTACT: 01375 487200

EMAIL: dan.burnett@theglc.org.uk

DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING LEAD

NAME: Anna Sparrow

CONTACT: 01375 487200

EMAIL: anna.sparrow@theglc.org.uk

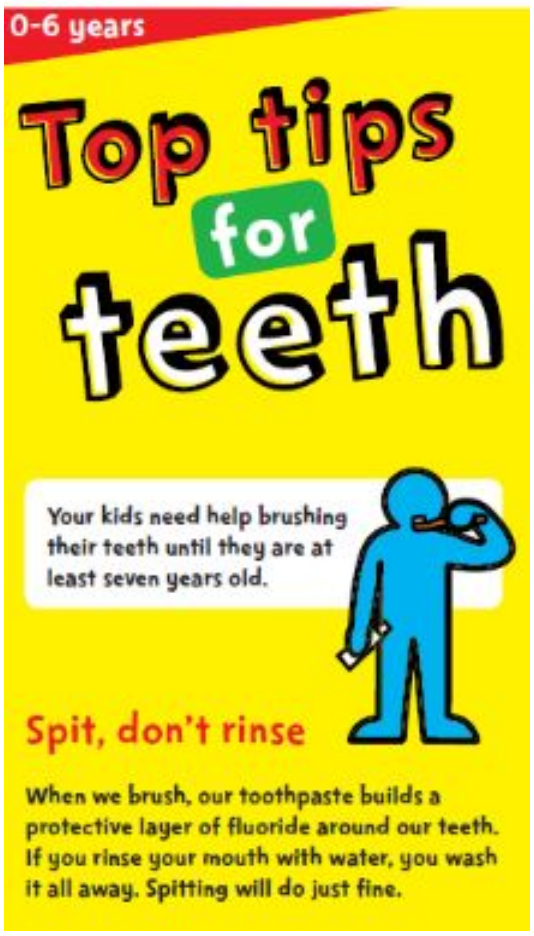
me, you, us
safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

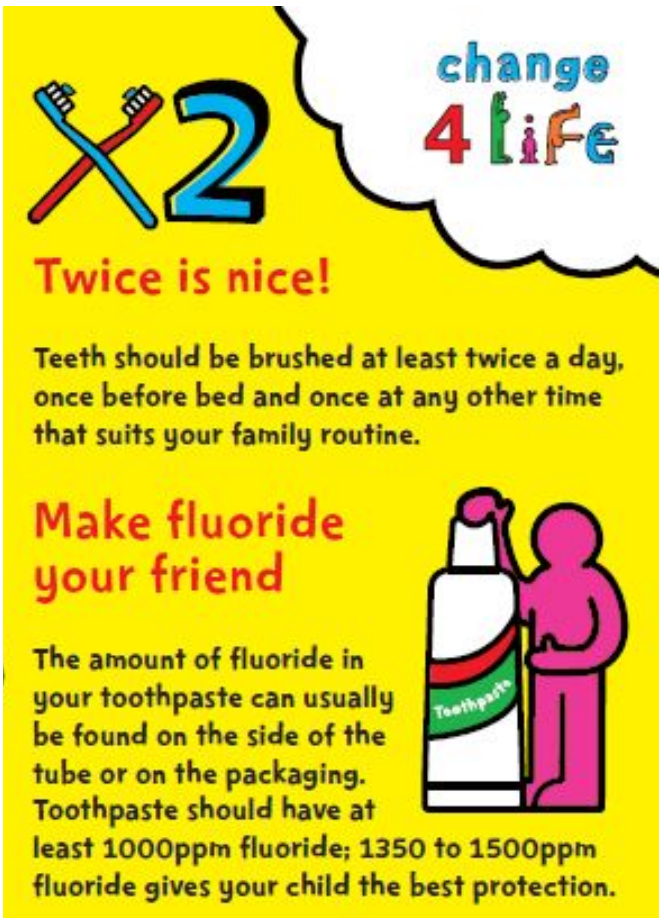


KEY CONTACTS WITHIN THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

The Thurrock Multi-Agency Support Hub [MASH] is available for advice on any Child Protection matter and can be contacted on 01375 652802 [Out of hours 01375 - 372468]







STAYING SAFE AND HEALTHY

PARKING PLEDGE

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GLC Lansdowne Primary Academy

All Different: All Equal: Together, Improving Upon Our Best

At Lansdowne, we operate a "**Parking Pledge**" with the main aim of keeping our children **safe**.

We ask that all parents/carers:

- think if their journey could be made in an alternative way to reduce pollution first, such as walking or cycling.

If a car journey is unavoidable we ask that parents/carers:

- avoid parking on Alexandra Road or Dunlop Road - Park a little further away and walk the last few minutes to help our community.
- slow down around our school - 20 mph is safer for all our children.
- park legally and safely away from our entrance gates, zig zag markings, railings and dropped curves.
- keep off the pavements as these are for pedestrians only.
- do not obstruct our neighbours driveways or park in disabled bays.
- keep junctions and crossing points clear.
- behave in a polite and courteous manner with our staff, other parents and the parking patrol officers.

Thank you for your continous support.



PUPIL LEADERSHIP

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GLC All Different: All Equal All Leading The Change

Careers Week 2026

Monday 2nd February 2026 to Friday 6th February 2026

Through gathering pupil voice GLC 'All Creating Our Futures' personal develop pupils have designed and created a careers for all primary pupils. Across the week a series of activities , workshops, trips and events that aim to inspire and inform pupils in a range of career pathways whilst developing the GLC core vales and competencies.

Our Partners:

ESSEX POLICE Protecting and serving Essex

Harrods

LITTLE CITY



Dentist



THURROCK COUNCIL

Madame Mayor of Thurrock



THURROCK COUNCIL

Deputy Mayor and Councillor of Thurrock

BOW LODGE CAT RESCUE



Social worker

JPMorganChase

MURPHY WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE



Chef

Thurrock PLAY Network



Royal Air Force

NYN Group

UXL Tech



Tattoo Artist



Bricklayer



Team Leader



Veterinary Surgeon

Sponsored by Ormiston Trust

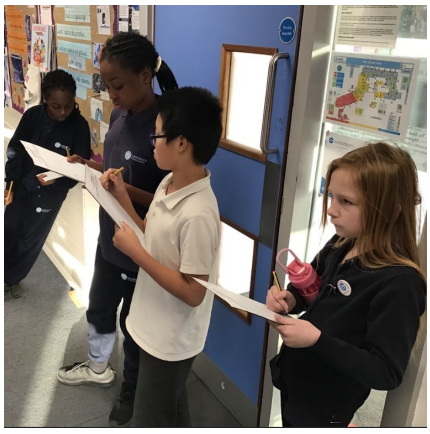
PUPIL LEADERSHIP

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Teaching and Learning Champions

Dear Parents,

We are your classroom Teaching and Learning Champions for this academic year! Our role is to make sure that children are behaving and learning to the best of their ability.
Last half term, we completed a learning walk of Years 4-6 and are excited to share our findings with you.



In Year 4, we saw many pupils tracking the speaker respectfully, discussing the different sketching techniques in art effectively with their partner. Everytime a child needed a reminder or assistance to meet the expectations, the teachers were quick and efficient to provide help!

In year 5, we were really pleased to see that most of the students were tracking their teaching whilst they were talking, ensuring they were focused and listening carefully to their instructions. We wanted to give a particular shout out to Miss Hayden and Mr Muzaffar for giving out lots of Dojos for children meeting expectations.

In year 6, we saw lots of effective partner talk with Partner A and Partner B both sharing information about their topics. All children were effectively tracking the speaker within 6M and we were pleased to see lots of dojos being awarded.

Look out for the next newsletter where we will be sharing our findings in Year 1-3!



Family Hub Information

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26th January
10am-11am
Supporting Young Parents
Stay and Play

Tuesdays:
9:15am-10:15am
Chatterbox/Early words

27th January
10am-11am
Fun with paint and mark making

Thursdays:
1:30pm-2:30pm
Start for life - Stay and Play

30th January
10am-11am
HENRY - Big cook, little cook.

Scan here for timetable

Scan here to register

Address: Anchor Field, London Rd, Tilbury RM18 8EY

Phone: 01375 858243

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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LPA Book Swap

We are thrilled to announce the relaunch of the LPA Book Swap. Our shelves have been fully restocked with exciting new adventures, and we can't wait for everyone to discover them!

LPA Book Swap will be open every day after school. Children can find our book stations located at both school gates, making it easy for them to swap a book on their way home.

Does your child have a book at home that they have read many times? Perhaps they know the story by heart and want someone else to have the chance to enjoy it?

Bring a book: Bring your pre-loved book to the gate.
Swap it: Trade it for a "new-to-you" book from our collection!

Maybe they don't have many books at home right now, or they've finished everything on their shelf—that is ok! If they would like a new story to read, please come and take a book from our swap.

Helping everyone in our school community grow their love of reading.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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PE & School Sport



To continue their recent success of 1st place at the Boccia Thurrock event, our pupils were invited to the Boccia county finals. These pupils have spent their time during lunch to practice with the hope of achieving success by progressing their skills of accuracy and precision.

Lansdowne finished the event in 5th place, only losing one game! They competed against over 100 schools across Essex to be in this position, which is an incredible achievement! Their hard work, dedication and teamwork has paid off tremendously.

All of the pupils demonstrated the schools core values throughout the whole event and represented themselves exceptionally. The whole of LPA are so proud of these students!

SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

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Thurrock Local Offer



Please click on the link below to Thurrock local Offer where you can find a wrath of information and support on a wide range of topics.

https://www.askthurrock.org.uk/kb5/thurrock/fis/localoffer.page

INCLUSION

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Together productions

Together Create

Making art together. Making change together.

Activities for you and your family to get creative together. Create shared artworks, boost wellbeing, meet new friends and make a difference



Join us for weekly visual arts sessions:

Landsowne Primary Academy, Tilbury - Wednesdays 3.30-5pm

Welcome to the UK, Grays - Thursdays 10am-12pm

Sessions run w/c 12th Jan - w/c 23rd March except w/c 16th Feb (half term break)

Book your FREE place via our website (see below)

Learn new textile techniques from around the globe as we create a pop up community art space. Whether you're a beginner or have lots of creative experience, come and discover new skills, make friends and become part of something special.

Free taster session then small suggested donation per term.
Free subsidised spaces available. No experience required. All are welcome





ATTENDANCE

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Why is it important to attend school everyday?

Learning is a progressive activity; each days' lessons build upon those of the previous day(s),building on children's knowledge and skills. Many classes use discussions,demonstrations, experiments and participation as part of the daily learning activities,and these cannot be made up by those who are absent. Pupils learn through actively taking part in each lesson..

Risk of frequent absences

A child who does not attend school regularly will be unlikely to keep up with the work and will miss essential learning which helps build their knowledge.
The more pupils miss school,the lower their academic outcomes.They may then want to be in school less.

What parents can do to help?

- Parents must model the value of education, including the importance of regular attendance.
- Make sure that your child attends regularly and punctually- you will establish good habits that they will carry through life.
- If your child starts missing school, work with the school to put things right.Make sure that you do not condone them missing school unless they are genuinely too ill to attend.
- Do not allow your child to take days off school for shopping trips,birthday treats or days out.Arrange family holidays/events so that your child does not miss any learning.
- Where possible book hospital,doctor or dentist appointments outside of school hours. Where this is unavoidable make sure that your child attends school before or after the appointment.
- Take an interest in your child's school work and be involved in the school as much as possible-your child will value you more if you do.

REMEMBER-Regular attendance is necessary for success in school.
Help ensure that your child has the best opportunity for success by making sure they attend school EVERY DAY!



Top 3 Classes

4C 97.2%
5HD 97.2%
6B 97.1%



PE AND SCHOOL SPORTS

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Year 2 in PE this half term have learnt the skill agility with our focus being on their reaction and response. The pupils were introduced to 2 shot types “the dig” and “the set”

In their groups they had a resource sheet which had the technique broken down into steps. They team taught each other to understand the techniques.





Year 3 have been introduced to archery by developing their coordination skills. The pupils learnt the terms accuracy & precision. Once again using our resource sheet to understand the stance, they team taught each other using our pilot & navigator strategy.

NURSERY

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Spring term has provided lots of opportunities for the children to explore the weather outside and have enjoyed jumping in muddy puddles and exploring ice!
Our topic has been focusing on where we live, we have created maps of our local area, used junk modelling to build our own homes and discussed people who help us in the local community. This week we have been writing letters to people who help us.











In Maths, we have been learning about pattern, exploring different materials that have stripy, spotty, zig zag patterns. We have also been creating repeating patterns with objects in the class but also taking our learning outside and using sticks, leaves and stones to make a pattern.







RECEPTION

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The children enjoyed listening to the story *Little Red Riding Hood* and then discussed the meaning of the word **"disguise."**They took part in a variety of activities related to the word *disguise*. The children dressed up and made beards, glasses, and hats to disguise themselves. It was an afternoon full of fun!





We had a very special visit from a special person, **Professor Memo**! Before her arrival, Professor Memo set the children a number of exciting tasks, such as creating camouflage to help her return safely to the land of the dinosaurs, building a shelter for her, and completing many other challenges. The children were extremely excited to dress up and welcome Professor Memo for her special visit!









RAINBOW STREET

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It has been a busy start to the term, the class have been learning about dinosaurs and exploring habitats, diets and fossils. They have loved exploring tuff-trays and reading new stories. In maths we have been looking at different ways to make 5 and using different resources in our exploration. We had an exciting visit from Professor Memo who needed our help to travel back in time! For our family learning session we read 'Little Red Riding Hood' we learnt what the word 'disguise' means and then practiced making or own disguises with help from our parents. The children enjoyed making glasses, beards, hats and dressing up.







YEAR 1

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The Spring 1 half term has got off to a great start in year 1, the pupils have been showing lots of excitement about learning new knowledge in their topics. In geography, they are learning about famous London landmarks, they had a wonderful time on their virtual bus tour where they got to see famous buildings such as Buckingham Palace and the Houses of Parliament. They have learnt that London is the capital city of England and they have been working out which of its features are human and which ones are physical. Thinking like geographers! In music, the pupils have been learning the importance of warming up their vocal chords before they begin to sing, they loved pulling funny faces when doing the exercises. They have also been learning how to beat the rhythm of the song on a drum. This is quite a skill and they were great! In physical education, the pupils have learning all about dynamic balance, they have been practising how to stay in control when they are rolling. During their partner work they are give each other feedback on what they have done well and what they can to improve their balance. In art, the pupils have begun their new topic by learning about the famous artist Henri Matisse, they explored a range of his famous work and then used an app on the Ipad to recreate some of his work.

A huge thank you to all of the parents who attended our DEAR time event in week 1. The pupils love you coming in to share a story with them.















YEAR 2

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The Spring 1 half term has got off to a great start in year 2, the pupils have been showing lots of excitement about learning new knowledge in their topics. In history the pupils have been learning all about the Great Fire of London. They already know so many facts, such as; the fire started in a bakery in Pudding Lane in London when the King's baker Thomas Farriner did not put the fire out properly. They are very excited about using their historical enquiry skills to find out more! The pupils had a tremendous day on their school trip to the Tower of London, during their workshop with Jane the maid they learnt all about why the fire spread so quickly and how it was eventually put out. They loved exploring the historic building. In science, the pupils are learning about the properties of materials. They carried out an investigation to see what happens to a range of materials when they bend, squeeze and twist them. In art the pupil have been taking inspiration from the greats, they are learning the skills they need to create their own silhouette picture of the Great Fire of London. In computing, the pupils have been learning the skills needed to take photographs. They had great fun, using the Ipad to take pictures of things around their classroom and captured some great photos of their classmates. A huge thank you to all of the parents who attended our DEAR time event in week 1. The pupils love you coming in to share a story with them.

















YEAR 3

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It has been an action-packed few weeks for Year 3! From ancient history to modern technology, here is a snapshot of our learning.

History & Art: The Anglo-Saxon Way

We kicked off our topic with an immersive **Now Press Play** audio adventure, transporting the children back to an Anglo-Saxon village. This led into a fantastic **Forest School** day where history truly came to life:

- **Archaeology:** Students hunted for artifacts in a mock dig to uncover clues about the past.
- **The Hearth:** We baked and enjoyed traditional **peasant bread** over a campfire.
- **Artistic Weaving:** The children learned the patience and skill required for Anglo-Saxon weaving, creating their own beautiful textiles.

Science: Plant Power

In Science, we have been investigating the **parts and functions of plants**. The children can now explain how roots, stems, and leaves work together to keep a plant healthy. We've been particularly focused on how water travels through the plant to help it grow.

Computing: Desktop Publishing

Our digital skills are soaring! Using **Desktop Publishing** software, the children are learning to layout text and images effectively. They have been experimenting with fonts, colors, and image placement to create eye-catching reports on our recent Anglo-Saxon discoveries.









YEAR 4

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This half term, the Year 4 children visited the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. After a long coach journey, they eagerly explored the museum grounds, discovering historic aircraft such as the iconic Spitfire and the Hawker Hurricane, and admiring a range of wartime vehicles up close. The children stepped inside an Anderson air raid shelter, experiencing firsthand the cramped conditions and imagining what it must have felt like during air raids. They also examined authentic uniforms, weaponry, and medals, which brought their recent learning about World War II vividly to life and helped them connect with the people who lived through this period. The visit tied in perfectly with our current class text, *Friend or Foe*, deepening their understanding of the story's historical context.

Several groups were lucky enough to witness a real 1940s Hawker Hurricane taxiing along the runway, its engine roaring and wings slicing through the air, providing a thrilling glimpse into aviation history. Whilst at Duxford, the children also explored the interior of Concorde, marveling at its sleek design, tiny cockpit, and unusual passenger cabin layout. For many, it was their very first opportunity to step inside an aeroplane, making the experience even more memorable. Between the sights, sounds, and hands-on experiences, the visit was both educational and unforgettable, leaving the children with a tangible connection to history that sparked their curiosity and imagination.



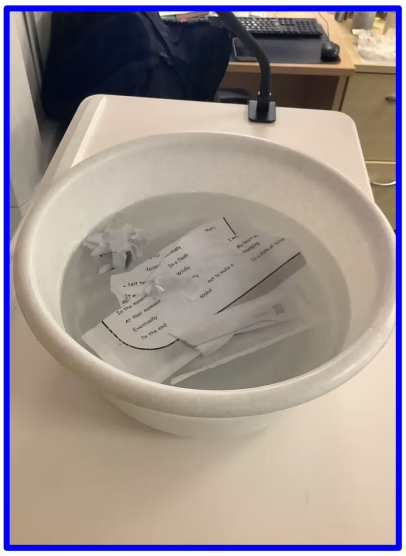


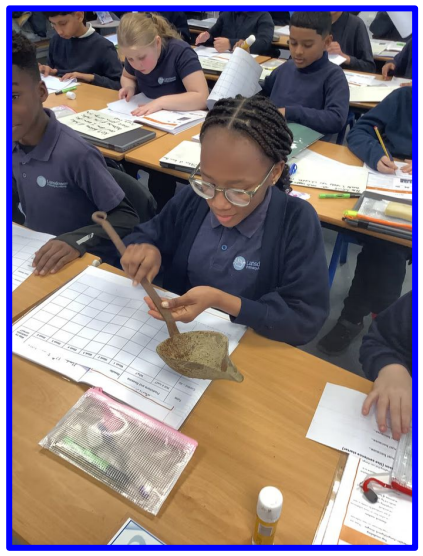


YEAR 5

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It has been a busy and inquisitive start to the half term for our Year 5 scientists! We have been diving deep into the properties of matter, specifically applying our knowledge of solids, liquids, and gases to determine the most effective ways to separate complex mixtures.

To build on this, we have moved into investigating chemical changes, using the real-life example of rust to anchor our learning. By examining how iron reacts with its environment, the children have learned to identify the physical signs of oxidation, which served as a scaffold for their latest challenge: planning and setting up a long-term observation.

The pupils have worked brilliantly to design a fair test that investigates how different liquids—ranging from saltwater to vinegar—affect the speed of rust over time. We are now eagerly monitoring our jars each day, recording meticulous observations as we wait to see which variables accelerate the change and which might hinder it.

Alongside our scientific inquiries, we also held a dedicated **Road Safety afternoon**. As many of our Year 5s begin to move toward greater independence, we focused on the transition to secondary school. The children participated in workshops exploring the "**Stop, Look, Listen, Think**" sequence and identified potential hazards in urban environments. We discussed the "Science of Stopping," looking at how speed and weather conditions affect a vehicle's braking distance—a perfect link to our work on friction and forces!



YEAR 6

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Year 6 have had a busy start to the year:
PSHE - They had a workshop about staying safe online and cyber bullying led by Essex Police. This was very informative for both the children and adults.
Geography - The children have been learning about regions and counties of the UK. They have also been looking at OS maps and using four-digit grid references to locate places on a local map.
DT - In the first lesson, the children were able to taste three different dips and give their opinion of these, rating their appearance, texture and taste - as you can see from the photos, there were some mixed reviews! 6G have had a go at making tzatziki, learning how to use a knife safely and how to follow a recipe.







ACORNS

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In Acorns, the children have been enjoying exploring the new resources in our outdoor area. The new role play zone, which is currently set up as a cafe, has been particularly popular and the children have been selling cakes to staff as they pass by! We have also had a focus on dinosaurs, including going on a dinosaur hunt, reading stories about dinosaurs and using small world resources.









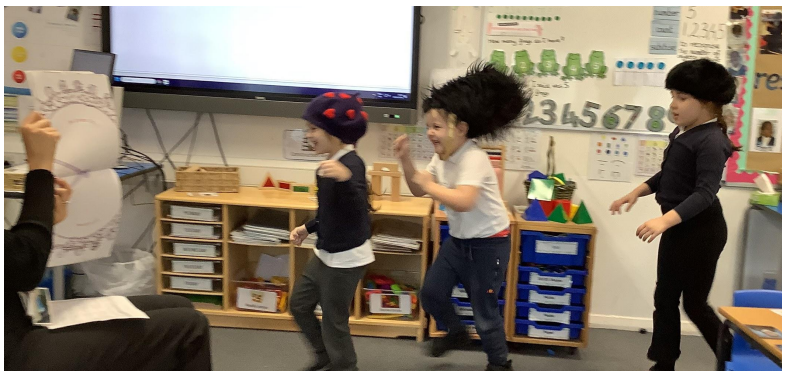
SEEDLINGS

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This half term, the children have been very excited to learn all about London landmarks! They have enthusiastically taken part in a wide range of fun, hands-on activities linked to London and have shown great curiosity and enjoyment throughout. One of the highlights has been our new story, *The Queen's Hat* by Steve Anthony, which is set in London and has quickly become a class favourite. The children absolutely love it, some children have even independently made their own crafts which includes London buses!





