



GLC Gateway Primary Free School
All Different: All Equal: Together, Improving Upon Our Best

The Gateway Times






MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER



IMPORTANT DATES



PUPILS OF THE WEEK



SCHOOL CONTACTS



STAYING SAFE



PUPIL LEADERSHIP



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS



INCLUSION



ATTENDANCE



PE AND SPORTS

NURSERY

RECEPTION

YEAR 1

YEAR 2

YEAR 3

YEAR 4



WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

YEAR 5

YEAR 6

Burrow /Den





Friday 17th November 2023

[Back to Main Page](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER- Miss Pattison

Dear wonderful parents & carers,

Welcome back to the new half-term! I hope it has started well and your children are ready for the rollercoaster of fun and learning that awaits them.

Firstly, a huge thank you to all who joined our Parents' Evening Bonanza! It was lovely to see so many of you trying our range of food, taking part in the sporting activities and reading with your children in the library. During the evening, we had an amazing response to our parents' survey:

100% of parents agreed their child felt safe at our school

100% of parents agreed their child does well at this school

99% of parents agreed that our school makes sure its pupils are well-behaved

97% of parents would recommend our school to another parent

Hopefully you noticed the wonderful wreaths that were created by our pupils. A standing ovation is due for the talented Mrs. Cottis, who conjured up a Remembrance Day sign. There will be a number of 'photo point' signs out over the course of the academic year- please take photos of your children next to them and share them with us via Instagram or the GLC Facebook page.

This week, we had the arrival of our fantastic mud kitchen for use at breaktimes and lunchtimes. This was made by MEARS Trade School who kindly donated it for the children. We are already in talks of what they might build us next!





IMPORTANT DATES

[Back to Main Page](#)

Pre-loved Christmas Jumper Sale 1.12.23

Christmas Jumper Day 8.12.23

Christmas Dinner Day 8.12.23

Christmas Performances

Early Years- 13.12.23 - 2:00pm

Year 3- 14.12.23- 2.00pm

Year 2- 15.12.23- 2.00pm

Year 4- Drumming and songs- 18.12.23- 2.00pm

Year 1- 19.12.23- 2.00pm

Year 5- 20.12.23- 9.00am

Year 6- 20.12.23- 2:00pm

Markets

23.11.23- PTA Christmas Market

21.12.23- GPFS Christmas Market

Trips

Year 3 Colchester Castle 21.11.23

Year 2 Florence Nightingale in house workshop 6.12.23



PUPILS OF THE WEEK

[Back to Main Page](#)

HOT CHOCOLATE FRIDAY WINNERS:

Rec: Harper, Luna D, Kaelan, Rachel

Year 1: Tommy, Kierah, Mickey, Renezmae, Lexi, Rhema

Year 2: Elsie, Delia, Kayla, Emmanuel, Samuel, Elsie

Year 3: Teddy St, Handel, Iquqa, Isla C, Rennie, Hakan

Year 4: Bella, Zoe, Amelia M, Miruna, Malia, Melissa

Year 5: Travay, Millie, Orlando, Acer, Ibrahim, Daisy

Year 6: Brogan, Bradley P, Robinson, Bernard





SCHOOL CONTACTS

[Back to Main Page](#)

Main Office Phone Number: 01375 489 094

Phone lines are open between 8am and 4pm. Outside of this time you are able to leave a voicemail.

Our main form of communication with parents/carers is via Class Dojo, please contact the school office if you aren't using this yet so we can get you set up.

However, should you wish to contact us via email please use:

support4u-gpfs@theglc.org.uk

Pupil Absences:

If your child is unwell and will be absent from school please contact the school office by calling 01375 489094 before 9am. If calling prior to the lines opening then please do leave us a voicemail. We do ask for as plenty of notice as possible if your child needs to attend a medical appointment during the school day and for supported evidence to be provided.



STAYING SAFE

[Back to Main Page](#)

We're taking part in ROAD SAFETY WEEK

Let's talk about...

19-25
November
2023

SPEED

www.brake.org.uk/RoadSafetyWeek

Organised by
 Brake
the road safety charity

Sponsored by
 ARVAL
BNP PARIBAS GROUP

 DHL

 AUTOGLASS

Supporting
 THINK

Road Safety Week is one of the biggest road safety campaigns. Every year, thousands of schools, organisations and communities get involved to share important road safety messages, remember people affected by road death and injury and campaign for safe roads for everyone.

As a school, we will be learning about road safety and how we can stay safe near roads.

We will be looking at different types of crossings and where to cross safely on roads, what is meant by speed limits and how to be aware of cars, bikes and other vehicles whilst crossing the road.

Look out for our road safety post cards that will be coming home next week!





PUPIL LEADERSHIP

[Back to Main Page](#)

On Monday 6th November, we celebrated our first GLC Pupil Leaders at The GLC Student and Pupil Leadership Launch event. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring together all leaders and parents to discuss the responsibilities that our young people have applied for or been voted to take on by their peers.

There are 6 groups: GLC Heads, GLC Captains, GLC Parliament, GLC Eco Council, GLC Arts Council and GLC Charity Council.

Incredible achievements that have already occurred as a result of collaboration were shared in the areas of Sustainability, Sharing Our Lives and Wellbeing.

We were thrilled to see the dedication and impact of some of our pupil leaders and look forward to seeing what they will achieve this year in each of the groups which will be supported by Mrs Carroll at GPFS, Mr Burnett at LPA, Mrs George at HPA, Mrs Bryant at GA, Mrs Jones at TPA, Mrs Lister from the central team and Mrs Reid, the CEO.

They are all wearing GLC leader badges-ask them what they are going to improve!





IN THE SPOTLIGHT

[Back to Main Page](#)

Our phonics peer mentors have been working hard this half term to support the children in Reception and Year 1 learn their sounds.

Our 6 peer mentors come to Year 1 every morning to work with pupils 1:1 to secure their set 2 sounds.

- Allie
- Natas
- Wareesha
- Ryan
- Olumachi



Our new Year 3 and 4 peer mentors have been going into reception during their own lunchtime to support the children with their Set 1 sounds.

- Rennie
- Nancy
- Chidiadi
- Manmeet
- Lakshmi
- Alexis
- Honey
- Isla





SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

[Back to Main Page](#)

Engagement Opportunities with SEND Heads of Service

As part of our commitment to ongoing engagement and service improvements, the SEND Heads of Service want to meet with parents and guardians and children and young people.

The purpose of these engagement opportunities is to:

- enable the service to hear from parents and guardians and CYP around experiences of SEND services; identification of need and the support provided thereafter, SEN Support, EHCP and annual review processes, preparing for next steps (whether that be the next phase of education or adulthood), community inclusion.
- allow parents and guardians and CYP the opportunity to ask any questions they may have in relation to services that support those with SEND and their families.

Thurrock SEND engagement opportunities.

For all SEND engagement enquiries and to discuss the opportunities within this newsletter, please contact:
QASEND@thurrock.gov.uk

Monthly Annual Review Focus Group

This meeting, held at the beginning of the month, is for those who have recently had an annual review of their child or young person's EHCP. During this focus group, the service will:

- ask parents and guardians for feedback on the annual review process.
- provide a safe space for parents and guardians to share their experiences to date and any concerns they may have.
- answer any questions parents and guardians may have following the recent annual review.

Children and young people:

PHASE TRANSITION - TAKING THAT NEXT STEP IN EDUCATION



WE WANT EVERY SEND PUPIL TO HAVE A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE OF PHASE TRANSITION

ARE YOU IN:

- RECEPTION?
- YEAR 3?
- YEAR 7?
- YEAR 10?
- YEAR 12?

WHAT'S THE ONE THING YOU WISH YOU HAD KNOWN BEFORE YOU HAD STARTED AT YOUR SETTING OR SCHOOL?

HELP YOUNGER PUPILS PREPARE FOR THEIR NEXT BIG STEP IN EDUCATION BY SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCES AND CLASSROOM ROUTINES

YOU COULD:

- CREATE A VIDEO
- WRITE A STORY OR LETTER
- DRAW A PICTURE
- HELP YOUR TEACHER DEVELOP A SOCIAL STORY

SEND THESE IN TO US VIA THE EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW

Email them to:
QASEND@thurrock.gov.uk



INCLUSION

[Back to Main Page](#)



Thurrock Foodbank

We are registered as an issuer for the Thurrock Foodbank.

If you feel you would benefit from this service, please contact Mrs Carroll, via the school office.

West locality

South Ockendon,
Purfleet-on-Thames
and Aveley

01375 413 936

East locality

Tilbury, Chadwell and
Stanford-le-Hope

01375 858 243

Central locality

Chafford Hundred,
North Stifford, Grays Riverside,
Grays Thurrock, Little Thurrock and
Blackshots

01375 387 894



 thurrock.gov.uk

Tilbury and Chadwell Family Hubs are now open and offer a range of different services to support families in the local area. Click on the links below to find out their opening times and what is on at each centre:

[Tilbury Family Hub](#) is located at the following address:

Tilbury Children's Centre, Flagship Centre, London Road,
Tilbury, RM18 8EY

[Chadwell Family Hub](#) is located at the following address:

Chadwell Children's Centre, Claudian Way, Chadwell St Mary
RM16 4QE



ATTENDANCE

[Back to Main Page](#)

Well done to the following pupils who have won their bronze !00% Club award last term:

Nursery & Reception

Isla
Poppie
Lonomi
Niamh
Bluebell
Rachel
Daria
Eso

Year 1

Amelia
Gabriella
Kierah
Mirabel
Edas
Erica
Syed
Elias
Darija
Kristian
Rizwan
Morganna
Josephine
Rhema
David

Year 2

William
Kayla
Reagan
Sonny
Romily
Jarra
Deepshika

Year 3

Emily
Ann
Simi
Rose
Aimee
Mason
Chidiadi
Anastasia
Tyler
Jensen
Jaxon

Year 4

Modesire
Miruna
Lcjan
Tudor
Darius
Isabella
Bentley
Ornella
Nabhan
Hajra
Al-Hasnaa
Desire
Amanda
Josiah
Zoe
Arijele
Sonny
Tudor
Isla
Manmeet

Year 5

Theo
Vivian
Orlando
Rubi
Tomiwa
Kiera
Zyon
Shalom
Emily
Jaiden
Maryam
Shanaiya
Lily
Travay

Year 6

Emily
Auguste
Adrian
Estelita
Poppie
Amelia
Ryan
Ayana
Emily

Will your child be winning
their bronze award this term?



PE AND SCHOOL SPORTS

[Back to Main Page](#)

Autumn 2 PE Day

Monday - Yr 1 & Yr2

Tuesday - Yr 5

Wednesday - Yr 4

Wednesday - Yr 3 (Swim)

Thursday - Yr 6

Friday - Yr 1 & Yr 2

GPFS PE
WEEKLY ROUND UP

YEAR 5/6 GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM



YEAR 1 & 2 MIXED FOOTBALL TEAM



6-2 

 **2nd Place** 

PE Kit



Reminder that as the weather gets colder, please can parents make sure that children are coming into school with at least a jumper to wear for PE.

Our Curriculum





WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

[Back to Main Page](#)

*Christmas
Mini Market*

NOVEMBER 23RD
3:15PM - 5:15PM

THE GATEWAY PRIMARY FREE SCHOOL

A VARIETY OF STALLS, HOT CHOCOLATE,
CHRISTMAS GIFTS, PERSONALISED CRAFTS,
HANDMADE ITEMS, TASTY TREATS

ALSO AN EXCITING RAFFLE
WITH ALL PROCEEDS GOING DIRECTLY TO
THE SCHOOL AND THE CHILDREN IN IT

NURSERY

[Back to Main Page](#)

What a great start we have had to Autumn 2. This term we are learning about families. The children enjoyed sharing their family photos with their friends. We discussed similarities and differences between families.

In Core Text we had a go at drawing and labelling our family members using our RWI sounds that we have been learning in Nursery.



To celebrate Remembrance Day we enjoyed making a poppy wreath in class and took part in the 2 minute silence to show our respect.



Finally, I would like to remind parents that reading journals must be completed daily. We will change books every Friday.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Minnie and the Nursery Team

RECEPTION

[Back to Main Page](#)

What a great start we have had to Autumn 2, it has been lovely to see all the children so eager to return to school!

We launched our new theme, people who help us, with a dress up day. It was amazing to see so many police officers, fire fighters, builders, nurses and doctors.



In Core Text we have been exploring the different uniforms and using our sound knowledge to label a police officer and a firefighter.



As part of our Diwali celebrations we have created Rangoli patterns and made Diya lamps from salt dough.



Finally, I would like to remind parents that reading journals must be completed daily. We will change library books every Wednesday. The weekly homework includes: name writing practise, level 2 red word challenge and RWI videos.

Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs Knight and the Reception Team

YEAR 1

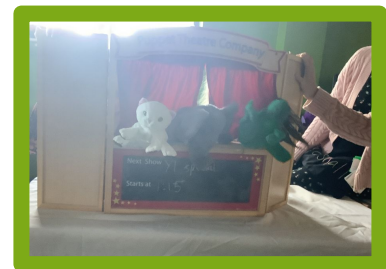
[Back to Main Page](#)

What an amazing first couple of weeks we have had at the start of Autumn 2! It was lovely to see the children return from the half term break still with their excitement for learning and with their great attitudes towards their work.

We began our history topic of toys, by bringing in our favourite toy from home. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their toys with their friends and explaining why it is special to them. Then they started to compare how their toys are different and how they are similar.

In science, we've have begun looking at our five senses. We have identified what they are and where they are on our body.

In design and technology, we had a wonderful start with our class teachers performing with a variety of puppets on a puppet theatre stage. It was really funny to hear all the voices and see the different characters. We then got to explore the puppets and make up our own story with them.



Finally, I would like to remind parents that homework is set on a Friday and due on a Wednesday. Children have all been given their homework booklets which they will need to keep for the half term. The weekly homework includes: handwriting, number bonds, common exception words and RWI videos.

As you know, it is very important the children are learning their sounds in order to pass the Phonics Screen Check in June. Please support us to ensure your child completes their homework on time.

Thank you all for your continued support,

Miss Bush and the Year 1 Team.

YEAR 2

[Back to Main Page](#)

What a wonderful first couple of weeks we have had! We hope you all had a fantastic and restful half term break. It was lovely to see how eager pupils were upon their return back to school, they have come back to school showing great attitudes towards learning.

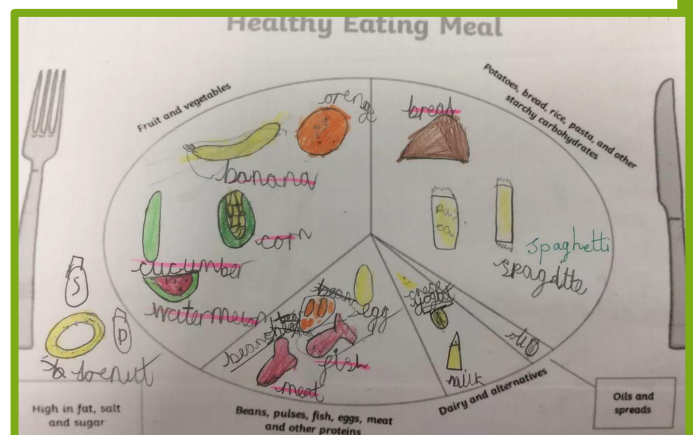
History has started off very exciting as pupils were invited to dress up as either a nurse or soldier to immerse in our new topic about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. Pupils were shown artefacts and pictures from the time of the Crimean War to begin to understand what it was like during this period and how things have changed.



In science, we've started learning about healthy living and lifestyles.

We began by looking at different food groups and creating our own eatwell plate, ensuring we included a variety of foods to create a balanced diet.

It was also lovely to discuss the progress that pupils are making during the recent parents' evening and it's wonderful to see how pupils are taking on their feedback and trying to improve upon their best!



Finally, we would like to remind parents that pupils are expected to read daily and complete their weekly homework (set on a Friday and due on a Wednesday). A weekly maths and grammar homework can be found on Google Classroom and spellings are on Edshed. Thank you from everyone on the Year 2 Team for your continued support. We look forward to the next half term as we approach the festive period!

Miss Storr and the Year 2 Team.

YEAR 3

[Back to Main Page](#)

What a fantastic return to school Year 3 have had, the children have returned with a great attitude for learning. We hope you had a wonderful, restful half term break.

In History, the children have started learning about The Romans. The children have been excited to transfer their knowledge from their History lessons to their DT lessons. They had a fantastic time designing and even creating their own Roman shield. The children can't wait to explore how the Romans used their shields in different formations to protect themselves during combat.



In Science, the children have started to explore our new topic Light and Shadow. The children can't wait to create their own shadow puppets whilst exploring how shadows are created.

It was great to see so many parents at Parents' Evening, the children returned to school the next day full of pride and keen to improve upon their best.

Lastly, please be reminded that pupils are expected to read daily and complete their weekly homework (set every Friday and due on the following Wednesday). A weekly Maths and English homework can be found on Google Classroom and spellings are on Edshed.

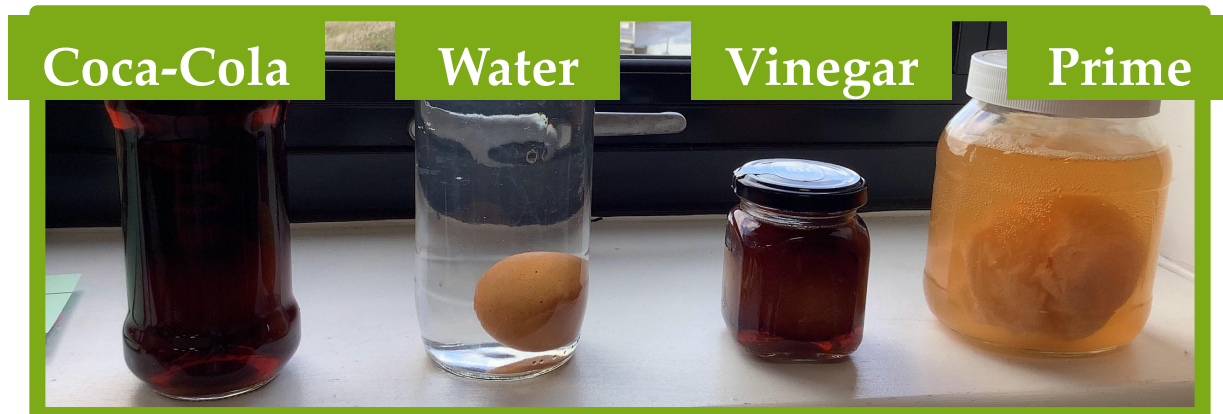
Miss Walsh and the Year 3 team

YEAR 4

[Back to Main Page](#)

We hope you had a wonderful half term break. We were over the moon to see how excited the pupils were to return to school. They came back showing fantastic learning behaviours and have really hit the ground running.

Science has been very exciting already. We are learning about the digestive system starting with our teeth that slice, tear and grind down the food. The children have started an investigation to see how popular drinks/liquids might affect the health of their teeth by placing an egg into the liquid and observing over time. The children have been amazed to see the effects.



In History, we've started learning about Queen Elizabeth I and discovered that she visited Tilbury during the battle with the Spanish Armada. Here is a photo of the pupils creating a timeline of key events that happened during her lifetime.



It has also been a real joy for us to see the children acting upon feedback given during our recent parents' evening. Many pupils have been seeking out resources that they need to support their learning such as wordbanks, letter formation sheets and dictionaries.

Thank you for your continued support as we look forward to a fun-filled festive half term!

YEAR 5

[Back to Main Page](#)

What a great start we have had to this half term!

In Science, we have started our topic of Space. We began by looking at the different planets in our solar system and learnt a rhyme to help us remember the order. We have also looked at why we get day and night.

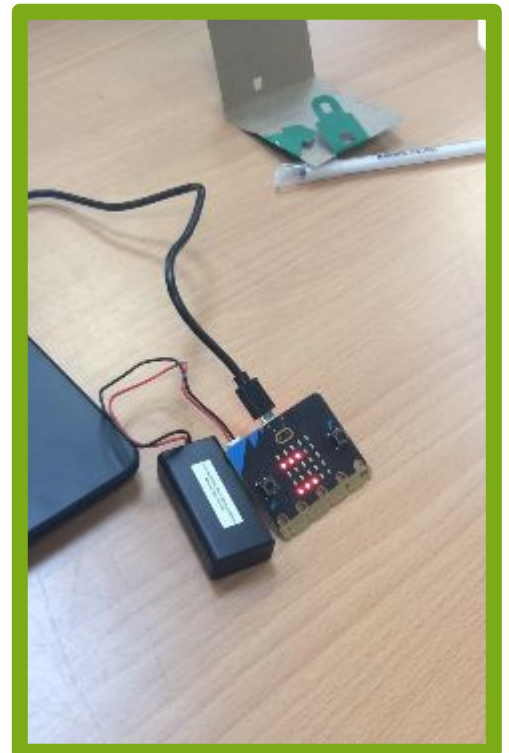
Much to the children's excitement, we have begun our topic of Microbits in Computing. The children have been very lucky to have specialist computer parts that they need to programme to light up in a variety of colours. The children were incredibly excited to make their microbit light up in certain orders and were able to debug their programme to ensure it worked successfully.

In our Music and Spanish lessons, we have started work on our Christmas songs, ready for our performance at 9am on the 20th of December. We are even learning some songs in Spanish and are looking forward to showing you them next month.

Finally, I would like to remind parents that homework is set on a Friday and due on a Wednesday. Homework includes: maths, reading and grammar on Google Classroom and spelling Edshed. Please support us to ensure your child completes their homework on time.

Thank you all for your continued support,

Miss McAuliffe and the Year 5 team



YEAR 6

[Back to Main Page](#)

Since the return to school in November, the Year 6 students have demonstrated an exceptional level of enthusiasm and engagement, setting a remarkable tone for the remainder of the academic year. Their eagerness to learn and participate in various activities has been truly commendable, creating a positive and vibrant learning environment within the classroom.

One standout moment that left both teachers and students buzzing with excitement was the captivating "WOW Start" lesson centered around the study of the Victorians. The integration of innovative educational tools played a key role in making this lesson truly memorable. In particular, the use of a cutting-edge tool called Now Press Play transformed the classroom into an immersive experience.

The students, equipped with individual headsets, embarked on a journey through time, guided by the interactive audio narratives provided by Now Press Play. This unique approach not only captured their attention but also allowed them to step into the shoes of historical figures, bringing the Victorian era to life in a way that traditional teaching methods couldn't achieve. The students were visibly engaged, their faces lighting up as they experienced the sights and sounds of the past.



As a general reminder, could we please stress that homework is due every Wednesday and that guidance around this was recently posted on Class Dojo. Our P.E. day remains as a Thursday unless otherwise stated.

The Burrow/ The Den

[Back to Main Page](#)

We have had a very busy start to the half term in The Burrow.

In English, we have been reading *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. We have sequenced the story and then written our own versions. We have also been building bridges, testing their strength and then learning about ways of strengthening them.

In maths, we have been further developing our place value knowledge, as well as comparing and ordering numbers. We have also begun to learn about related number facts.

We have also been very busy in The Den.

In English, we have been reading *'The Tunnel'* by Anthony Browne. We have been developing our understanding of the different characters emotions at different points in the story and writing our own versions of the story.

In maths we have been learning about multiplication and division. We have used lots of practical resources to help us develop our understanding, as well as carrying out work in our books.

