Our School Newsletter January 2025

Our School Vision -

"In all things, treat others as you would like to be treated."

Matthew (7:12)

Dear Parents,

Many thanks to everyone who managed to attend our Candlemas Community Worship this morning - apologies for the technical issues but I hope you enjoyed the service. The children enjoyed showing their work on Spring, Candlemas and the Rainforest!

I have attached a leaflet about tennis lessons from Essex Golf and Country Club - they are coming in on Tuesday to do taster sessions for children in Y2 - 6, and, if there is enough interest, we will explore setting up an after school club. The leaflet also gives details of a discount if you wanted to explore lessons outside of school.

A reminder please that children should be in school by 8.45 each morning - as well as children missing the start of a lesson when they are late, and teachers having to help them catch up, Mrs Dyer and Mrs Brummitt spend the first 20 minutes of each morning just opening the door repeatedly!

We hope the School Ping payment issues are now resolved but please do let us know if you are still having problems or if you are unable to access your account - this is our main communication tool so its important everyone can access it, thank you.

Best wishes for a less rainy February! Mrs Overton

Parking

I have been asked by a number of parents and neighbours to mention parking again - due to the number of children we have who live too far away to walk to school, this is an ongoing issue. Please remember -

- A one way system operates in the car park, going in to the left and driving round in a circle to find a parking space at the edge whenever possible, in the centre only when essential
- To keep your speed down to 5mph when entering and leaving the car park - we have lots of little ones moving around and they don't always move in a predictable way
- Never drive or park on the yellow hatching, which is a walkway
- Please look to the left when leaving the car park as neighbours may be exiting on to Chrismund Way.
- Please be considerate if parking near the school to ensure we don't block driveways
- Please park in a way that maximises the number of cars we can get in the carpark!

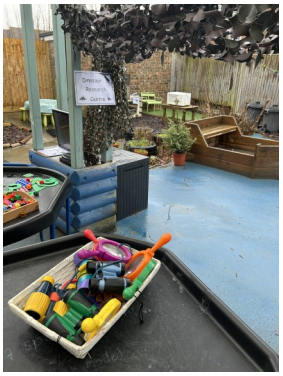
GREAT TEY Church of England PRIMARY SCHOOL

Email: admin@greattey.essex.sch.uk **Website:** www.greatteyprimary.org.uk

Tel: 01206 210415 **Headteacher:** Lucy Overton

January in Ducklings Class

Ducklings are find out all about Dinosaurs this term and are enjoying their Dinosaur Research Station outside! They have been using binoculars and magnifying glasses to find dinosaur clues and using their fine motor skills by drawing fabulous maps of Dinosaur Island. They have also enjoyed making obstacle courses using our new sensory tunnel and looking at snowdrops to paint. In Maths, Ducklings have been learning counting songs to help with their understanding of one more and one less.



January in Sparrows Class

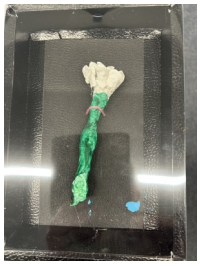
Through their Rio de Vida topic, Sparrows have been learning about Brazil and the Amazon Rainforest. They have been researching facts about Brazil and using atlases, maps and globes to find Brazil, its capital city, rivers and the seas around South America. In Computing, Sparrows Class have been using codes to move the Beebots around the classroom and have been creating codes on Scratch.

In maths, Sparrows in Y1 have been investigating place value and addition. They are using base 10 equipment to make numbers to 100 and are beginning to add larger numbers together. Y2 children have been exploring multiplication and division using counters, drawing and their knowledge of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

January in Robins Class

As part of their Flow topic, Robins have been investigating the Water Cycle. They have created their own mini-water cycles in ziplock bags and have hung them ion the classroom windows to explore the effect of evaporation and condensation. Robins have also been sampling soil to investigate the different types of soil in the local area. Their class book is Explorer by Katherine Rundell. As you may have seen during our Candlemas Worship, Robins have been working with clay to create lovely snowdrop pictures.

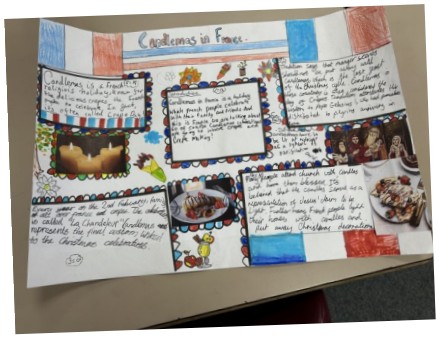
In maths, Y3 pupils are working on measurement and measuring objects in mm, cm and m. Y4 have been continuing to explore multiplication and division. Everyone in Robins Class is working hard to learn their times tables!

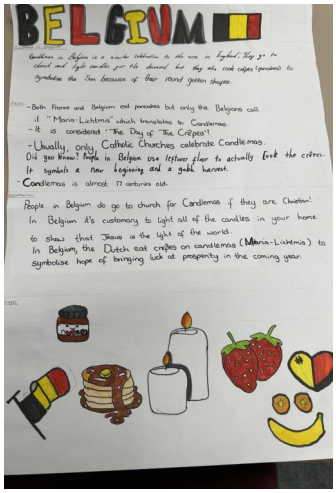


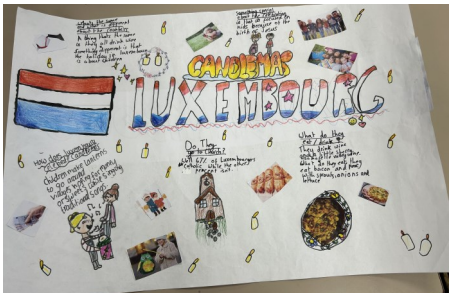
January in Woodpeckers Class

Woodpeckers are continuing to investigate Ancient Civilisations and, this month, have been concentrating on Ancient Greece. They are exploring myths and legends and, particularly, the mythical monsters of Ancient Greece. They have been reading myths and writing their own using the skills they have learned in grammar, punctuation and spelling lessons. Woodpeckers' Class book this term is Who Let The Gods Out? by Maz Evans.

In maths, Woodpeckers are focussing on multiplying fractions, which they are finding a bit easier than the long division they were grappling with earlier in the term! In Computing, Woodpeckers are focussing on using and creating databases using J2E. For our Candlemas Worship, Woodpeckers researched Candlemas Around The World.







Diary Dates for Spring Term

February

Tuesday 4th February - tennis sessions in school for Y2 - Y6 (see attached)

Fridays 7th, 14th and 28th - Pupil Mental Health Lead training sessions

Wednesday 12th February - Choir event at Stanway (letter coming home soon)

Monday 17th - Friday 21st February - half term week

Friday 14th February - FOGT Glo Disco 5.30 - 7pm

Monday 24th February - first day back (no longer a non-pupil day)

March

Fridays 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th - Pupil Mental Health Lead training sessions

April

Friday 4th April - Easter Community Worship in Church 10am (change of time)

Monday 7th - Monday 21st April - Easter Holidays

Diary Dates for Summer Term

April

Tuesday 22nd April - First day back

May

Mon 12th - Thurs 15th May - KS2 SATs week

Weds 14th May - Road Safety Talks for reception and Y5

June

Thurs 5th June - Mental Health Workshop for pupils

Fri 6th June - Pentecost

Tues 17th June - KS2 Consortium Sports Afternoon

Tues 24th - EYFS Multiskills morning

July

Weds 9th - Fri 11th July - Woodpeckers Residential Trip

Friday 18th July - End of Year Community Worship at Church, 10am

Proposed dates for KS2 Performance (subject to change!)

Thurs 4th July 2pm and Fri 5th July 6pm