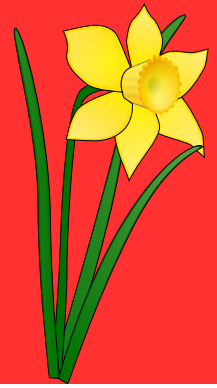




SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February 2026



Headteacher end of term update

As we reach the end of my first half-term at GHF, I can honestly say it has been an absolute pleasure to join this wonderful school community. A huge thank you for making me feel so welcome; I have greatly appreciated your smiles, kind words and warm introductions at the school gate each morning.

The children and staff have made such a tremendous effort to help me feel at home, and I am truly grateful. It has been a real joy getting to know your children – they are thoughtful, polite and brimming with curiosity and wonderful ideas. I feel very proud to be part of a school where kindness, enthusiasm and respect are so clearly evident.

I have also been incredibly impressed by the wide array of engaging activities the children have taken part in this half-term. From inspiring classroom learning and creative projects to enrichment opportunities beyond the curriculum, it has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm, resilience and teamwork on display. These experiences play such an important role in developing confident, well-rounded learners.

Over the coming months, I am looking forward to building on the many strengths of GHF and working closely with staff, pupils and families to ensure every child continues to thrive. Thank you for your ongoing support; strong partnerships between home and school make such a difference to children's success and wellbeing.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable break and look forward to seeing everyone next half-term.

Mrs Crossland
Headteacher

KEY DIARY DATES

- **Friday 13 February** - end of term
- **Monday 23 February** - start of term
- **Thursday 12 March** - Adventurers PH class assembly
- **Tuesday 24 March** - Wrates class photos
- **Wednesday 25 March** - Easter services - **KS2** St Sebastian's church from 9.30 - 10.30 am, **EYFS and KS1** school hall 11 - 11.30 am - parents welcome
- **Monday 30 March** - Year 6 residential
- **Thursday 2 April** - end of term
- **Tuesday 21 April** - start of term

Reception

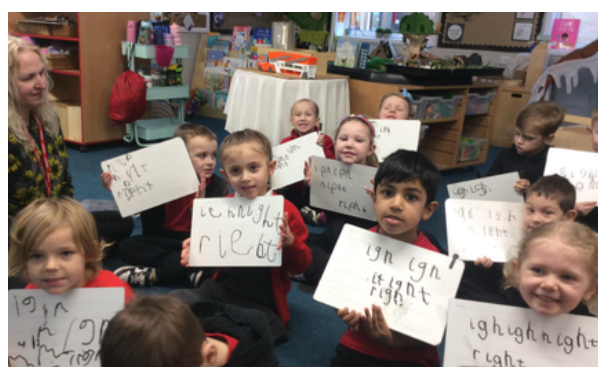


Explorers started the new term with snow! We are looking at all things winter as a topic, so this was great timing! The children had so much fun playing with the snow. The children also enjoyed sensory play with cotton wool 'snowballs' and making their own snowflakes with templates and playdough.

We have been singing about 5 speckled frogs, using number bonds to 5, and sentence stems to understand how we make 5 from different additions.

We have also learnt a trigraph! A trigraph is 3 letters that makes 1 sound, and we have been learning catchphrases to help us learn these. We have also been working on our handwriting - bottom back, feet flat!

Well done, Explorers!



Year 1



We have had a wonderful term!

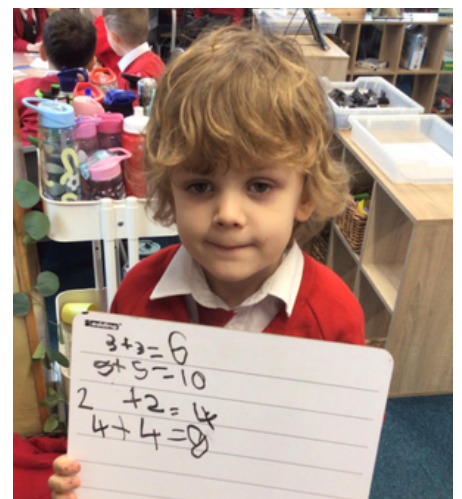
The children have been learning number bonds in maths, to help us learn larger numbers. We have used numicon and dominoes, adding up on our whiteboards.

The children have enjoyed yoga in PE – can they show you the poses they have learnt? It's very impressive!

Look at the photoframes we have made! There are some fantastic creations!

RE has shown us the five pillars of Islam – we did an action to help us remember them all.

In Geography, we began a new unit, 'Never Eat Shredded Wheat', looking at compass points and an atlas, before moving on to globes.



Year 2

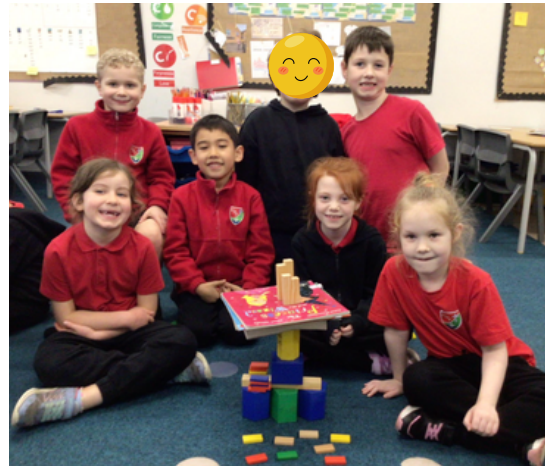
In maths, the children have been adding and taking away two digit numbers.

We have been learning about money, looking at different coins and notes and how much value they have. We have then used them to add up, using different coins to make the same value.

In RE, we have been learning about Islam and the five pillars.

In English we wrote a persuasive letter and we completed our Zero to Hero learning. The children created posters and a quiz to see what we had all remembered.

In Geography, we have started our new unit 'Never Eat Shredded Wheat' using a compass, maps and atlases.



Year 3 and 4



We have been discussing feelings from our new book 'When the crayons came home'. The classes made postcards to send to the Navigator's classes - great work!

The children have learned how to make a PowerPoint, and then they have used these skills to make a presentation about an African country.

We have been looking at Salvation in RE, sequencing events that happened in Holy Week.

Maths has seen us develop our multiplication using a dice.

Mr Dixon has been teaching circuit training in PE, finishing with a star jump game.

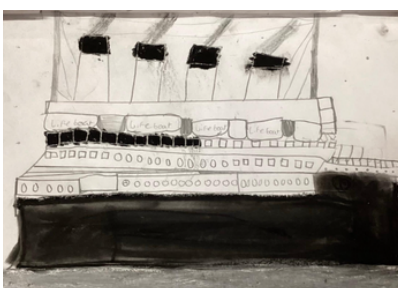
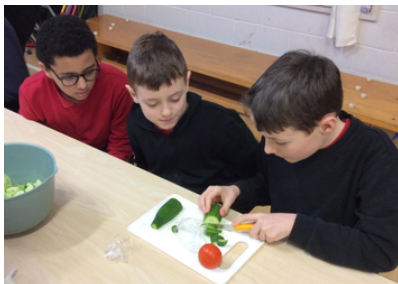
Art has seen us showcase our paper mache skills! We are making lion masks with lots of layers of paper to make a mane - they are looking grrrrrrreat!

Who's cookin'? Adventurers are! The children made flatbreads, using yoghurt and flour, baked with a lot of help from Maggie and Ewa in the school kitchen. The next day they made an African inspired salad, chopping and preparing all by themselves.

Well done, everyone!



Year 5 and 6



Navigators finished their topic, 'Come fly with me', where they learnt so much about America and its culture. We also studied its famous landmarks and structures, and, inspired by this, attempted to build a bridge, which was tricky but fun!

The classes have been working hard in English with their latest story, 'The Titanic Detective Agency'. The children have been writing diary entries from the perspective of a main character, and they are showing how much their writing style has progressed.

Our new unit is called 'The Rescuers' and is linked to The Titanic. In art, the children drew pictures of the ship and they did a wonderful job with their tone and form.

Navigators took part in a cookery session where they chopped, peeled and sliced ingredients for a chicken caesar salad. They all showcased great techniques and took care preparing it in groups. We then had a taste test!

The Hub



The children have had a wonderful term back after Christmas!

We finished our sewing, and we learnt about Allah by making some rangoli patterns.

Our PE coach, Mr Dixon, is taking PE lessons every Tuesday, and the children have been having a great time keeping fit with his activities.

We even had a visit from Mrs Crossland's therapy dog, Pablo! The children loved meeting him and giving him lots of fuss.



Happy retirement



Our wonderful Midday Supervisor, Mrs Parnham, has taken retirement. She has been an important part of the GHF family since September 2013, and she will be greatly missed by children and staff alike. She will be visiting the school as a volunteer reader, and we look forward to welcoming her back in her new role.

GHF Swimarathon



Twelve children from GHF proudly represented the school at Grantham's annual Swimarathon, held at The Meres. In just one hour, they collectively swam an impressive 232 lengths, raising a fantastic £300 so far for charities supporting the local Grantham community.

The children demonstrated outstanding resilience and perseverance throughout the event. Even as they began to tire, their determination never faded, with everyone pushing themselves to keep going right to the end.

This was a truly fantastic achievement and a real credit to our school. A sincere thank you to the parents and supporters who stayed to cheer the children on and help make the day such a success.

Meet Pablo!



Pablo has well and truly become part of the GHF family. He attends school on Friday with his school bag (and bed) in tow. In the morning, he rushes to the entrance ready to start his busy day.

He starts by spending time with individuals who need a little reassurance and then meets the winners of the 'Diamond' awards. Several children then read to him until lunchtime for his playground duty.

After that, he meets his first set of children for 'Pablo time' - these children have been chosen by their teacher for being exemplary role models. The children take him for a walk and get him to do little tricks. The tricks are rewarded with little treats so we've learnt to be a little sparing - we don't want him to get too chunky!

Pablo then moves to the Hub where the pupils always have lots of questions for him. (As well as cuddles!)

Following that we have our second set of children for 'Pablo time'. This week has been particularly exciting as Pablo has spent some time in the classroom of the children who won the 'You've been spotted' award. They really did work hard to have the most spots in school.

Well done to Navigators TR on the last Friday of term!

