



GLADSTONE PARK NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1 WEEK 2

Dear families,

Welcome to 2026! It has been a fantastic start to the term. We have launched our new oracy curriculum and we have been practising how to be great listeners, how to speak clearly and loudly, and how to challenge each other. Each of our classes has an oracy charter, and we're excited to see how this will help us become bold and confident orators of the future.

We've also reviewed our academic data from autumn term and have adapted our lessons to ensure that your children are receiving lessons that are exactly what your children need to make exceptional progress.

We've launched our Rock Steady Music School - please see the email on MCAS for more information, and we've held workshops whereby our parents were taught how we teach maths, and our Year 6 parents were invited to watch live lessons in action - keep your eyes peeled for more dates and workshops to come!

Have a lovely weekend.

Ms Green



Don't forget to check out our tuition club, key dates and lots more here!

instagram:  gladstoneparkprimary - here's where you'll find snippets of school life & information you need!

YEAR UPDATES



RECEPTION

Happy New Year to everyone! We are already into our second week back at school, and it has been wonderful to see the children settling back into their school routines so well.

In Reception, we have started Phase 3 phonics, where children are learning sounds made from two or three letters. They have shown great enthusiasm and confidence during these sessions.

Our focus book has been *Super Milly* by Stephanie Clarkson and Gwen Millward, which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. Inspired by the story, they produced some fantastic writing while pretending to be superheroes.

We would like to remind parents to please send wellington boots to school for your child, as we use our outdoor areas in all weathers.

Parents' Evening appointments can be booked through MCAS. We are looking forward to meeting you and discussing your child's progress.

Thank you for your continued support.

NURSERY



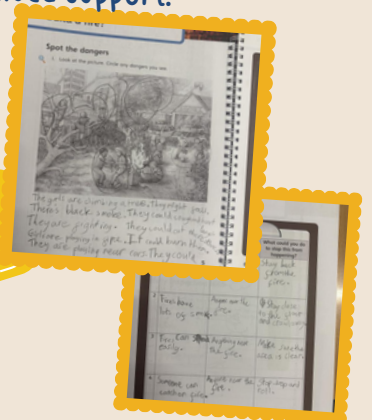
This week in nursery, the children have been busy exploring a "Winter Wonderland" through a variety of seasonal sensory activities and hands-on crafts across the classroom. In our mathematics sessions, we have been learning to subitise to three—which is the ability to look at a small group of objects and instantly recognize the total number without needing to count them one by one. Our literacy focus centred on the classic story *Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?*, where the children were encouraged to join in with the rhythmic text and repeat the animal sounds to build their confidence and language skills.

YEAR 1



In Science this week, the children have been busy planting seeds and beginning their very own growing journey! They carefully took turns to plant the seeds and have been regularly watering them, watching closely as they start to grow. The children have loved checking on their plants each day and talking about the changes they notice. It's been a lovely hands-on way to learn about how plants grow and how to care for living things.

YEAR 2

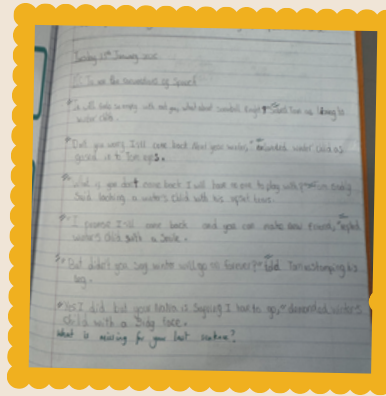


It has been a brilliant start to the new term for year 2! The children have learnt lots about coins and notes in their new maths unit 'Money' and can count money altogether and identify pounds and pence. In history, the children have started their learning on 'The Great Fire of London', starting by understanding hazards and fire safety. They are enjoying using their new activity book, showing pride in their learning by writing neatly and presenting their work properly.

YEAR UPDATES

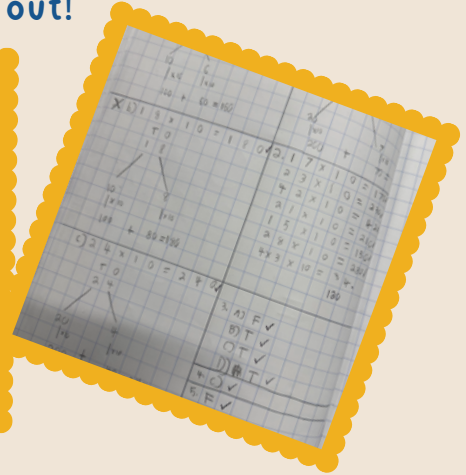
YEAR 4

Year 4 have started the year with some visual literacy. They have been watching a short silent film called 'Lily and the snowman', which tells the story of a girl who forgets about her friend after winter as ended. They have been learning how to punctuate speech correctly, so that they can add their own dialogue to the film.



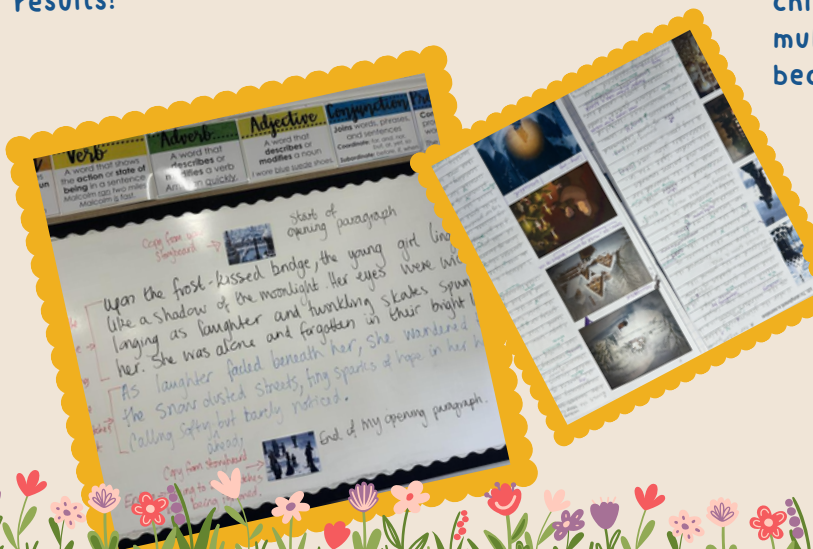
YEAR 3

Children in Year 3 are currently learning how to multiply 2 digit numbers by 10. They have learnt a new, useful strategy to partition the number into tens and ones and then multiply them both by 10. Have a look at some of their working out!



YEAR 6

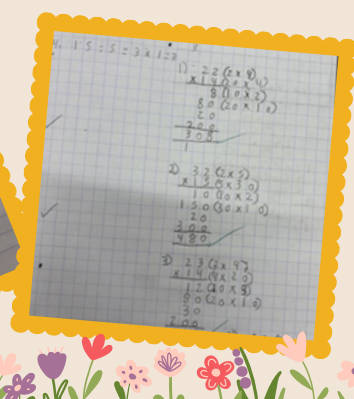
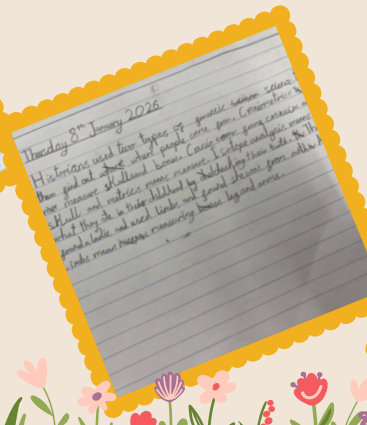
Year 6 have had a fantastic week settling back into routines and producing some excellent figurative writing. We have also started reading Varjak Paw, an exciting adventure story, and are so lucky to have a copy each to enjoy during our reading and understanding sessions. Attendance has been very strong, and the children are working hard as we prepare for another set of mock SATs in two weeks, aiming for brilliant results!



YEAR 5

This term we have started reading Black and British by David Olusoga and have already gained a wealth of knowledge about black people who played a significant role in British history. The children have enjoyed learning about how the skeletons, teeth and things that black British people as far back as the Roman and Tudor times were buried with can tell you so much about their status in society and their ancestry!

In maths, we have begun multiplying 2-, 3- and 4-digit numbers by another 2-digit number. The children have broken down this tricky concept into multiple, clear steps in order to be successful and are becoming multiplication superstars!



ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at school is essential for students to make good progress and ensure they are equipped with life skills to help them succeed.

Research shows that missing just 10% of school (around one day every two weeks) can have a significant impact on achievement, with pupils falling behind their peers and finding it harder to keep up with learning.

Each day in school builds important knowledge, routines, confidence and social skills, all of which support long-term success.

Please remember that term-time holidays are not authorised except in very exceptional circumstances. Taking your child out of school during term time may result in an unauthorised absence and puts parents at risk of receiving an Education Penalty Notice (EPN). We ask all families to plan holidays during school breaks wherever possible and support their child to attend school every day the school is open.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our pupils get the best from their education.

Reception

98%

Year 1

91%

Year 2

96%

Year 3

93%

Year 4

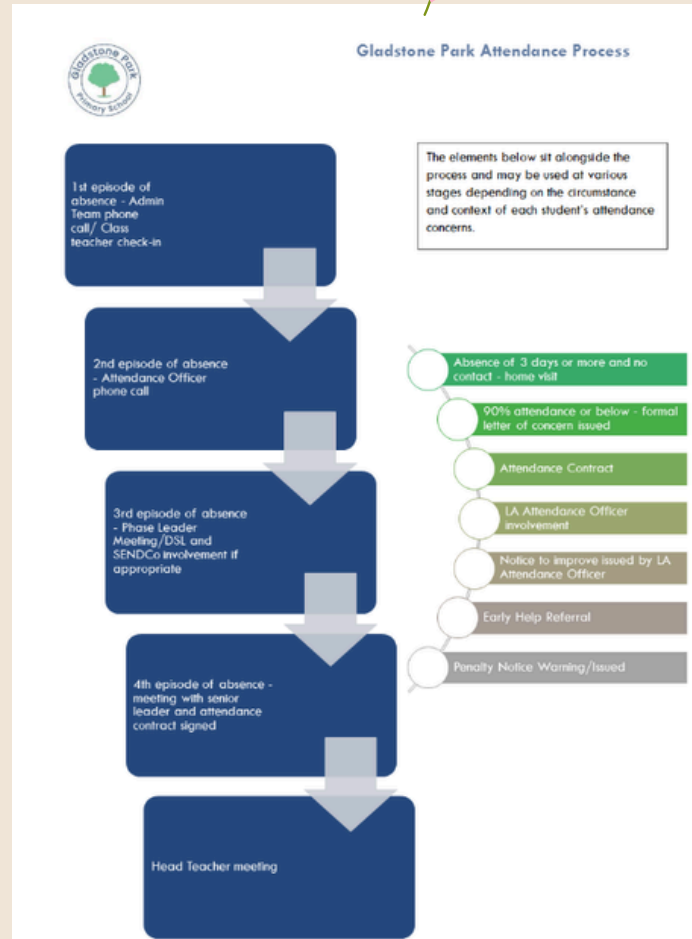
95%

Year 5

91%

Year 6

96%



THE GLADSTONE PARK PLEDGE

A reminder of our Gladstone Pledge! As part of our promise, this academic year, we are prioritising by arranging some of our external visits for the Spring and Summer terms. Each year group will have a visit to a place of worship and another exciting external trip booked for the Summer term. Keep looking at our pledge below to see how many experiences we arrange for this school year!

EYFS				
Visit a farm	Visit the duck pond	Travel on the tube	Visit the library	Go on a treasure hunt around the school
Blow bubbles	Make a healthy snack	Zip up my coat	Pack my school bag	Grow a plant
Learn Makaton	Pack a picnic	Meet a police officer	Learn a song from another culture	Dance in the rain
Perform in a show	Meet the fire brigade	Water the plants	Make a leaf rubbing	Jump in muddy puddles
Write a card to my friend	Listen to seashells	Walk on frosty grass	Listen to a bedtime story	Identify a local bird
	Meet a reindeer		Watch a pantomime	

KS1					
Visit the seaside	Visit the zoo	Visit a place of worship	Borrow a book from the library	Visit the transport museum	Visit Pudding Lane
Bake cupcakes	Get ready for school	Log in to a computer	Learn to count to 10 in a different language	Answer a telephone call	Play a team sport
Tie shoelaces	Plait hair	Make a paper aeroplane	Splash in the sea	Skim a stone	Listen to an author
Try a new food	Paint a portrait	Watch a campfire	Post a letter	Complete an act of kindness	Make a den
Learn how to look after a pet	Chat to an elderly person in the community	Take part in a charity event	Grow an edible plant		

Lower KS2					
Visit a museum	Visit Wembley stadium	Visit a place of worship	Visit a restaurant	Visit Gunnersbury Park Museum	Visit the local library
Make a meal at a restaurant	Spend money in a shop	Self-publish a book	Make a daisy chain	Send an email	Make the bed
Create and exhibit a piece of art	Learn to recycle	Learn to lay the table	Learn to tell the time	Learn how to play chess	Play in a sports team
Watch a theatre show	Learn and understand my rights	Make an online advert	Tie-dye a t shirt	Litter picking	Learn to play an inclusive sport
	Participate in an election				

Upper KS2				
Visit an art gallery	Visit a sports venue	Visit the Houses of Parliament	Visit a place of worship	Go on a residential trip
Visit a bank	Visit a care home	Self-publish a book	Visit RAF Hendon	
Cook a basic meal	Learn to ride a bike	Swim 25m	Learn to tell the time	Learn to speak publicly
Program a robot	Ask challenging questions	Learn to read and follow a map	Follow DIY instructions	Learn to wrap a present
Learn to travel independently	Learn Origami	Learn first aid	Compete in a team sport	Perform in a show
Grow something to eat	Organise an event	Cook outdoors	Watch a live sports event	Watch the sunrise
	Make a vlog	Participate in an election		

NOTICES



Follow us on Instagram:
gladstoneparkprimary

Are you Rock Band ready?

We're thrilled to announce that we're partnering with Rock Steady Music School next term to offer a programme of weekly music sessions for our children in Year 1 - Year 6 which will culminate in termly rock band performances! Please see MCAS for the letter sent out earlier this week!



Tutoring Club!

We're working with First Class Learning Tuition to host a maths tutoring club at Gladstone Park for just £7.50 a session! If you'd be interested in signing your children up, please complete the form [here](#).



**FIRST
CLASS
LEARNING**

Willesden
maths and English
tuition

Give your child's learning a First Class boost!



Chinese New Year

We'll be celebrating the Chinese New Year on Friday 13th February. We are encouraging our community to dress up for the occasion, in their most celebratory, new-year outfits! Add the date to your diary. More information to follow.



NOTICES

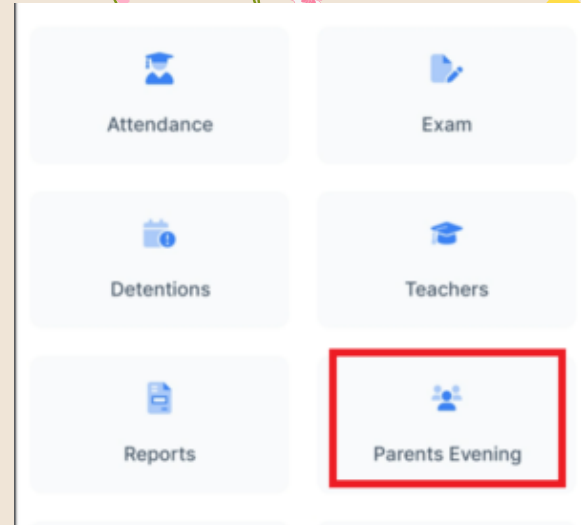


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Parents Evenings 11th and 12th February

Our parents evenings bookings now live on MCAS app. Please book your slot with your children's teacher as soon as possible. They are 2 days available 11th February from 3.30pm to 7pm or 12th February from 3.30pm to 6pm. Deadline to book your slot is 6th February.



If you have any issues logging onto the MCAS app or booking your slot please come to the office and our team will be happy to help!

CLUBS UPDATE



After school Clubs

We still have spaces in the following clubs

- Sewing
- Dance Club
- Basketball
- Archery
- Multi-sports
- Badminton Club.

Please send us an email on admin@gladpark.anthemtrust.uk if you'd like to sign your child up!





ORATORS OF GP

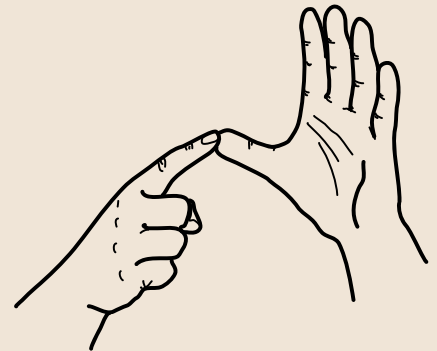
We're excited to share that this term we have officially launched our oracy curriculum across the school using the Voice 21 framework.

As part of this work, every class has created an Oracy Charter, setting out clear expectations for how pupils speak, listen and learn together with respect and confidence.

This shared approach is already helping children to articulate their thinking, build vocabulary and engage meaningfully in learning — ensuring every voice is valued and heard.



MAKATON SIGNS OF THE WEEK



We have been learning the Makaton Signs of the Week as part of our commitment to supporting every child's communication.

Each week, we introduce a new sign and model this to our students.

This has been particularly helpful for our children with speech, language and communication needs to understand key vocabulary and express themselves.

The sign of the week this week is cold. See the Makaton video using the link here:

https://makaton.org/TMC/News_Stories/SOTW/SOTW_Cold.aspx



SPRING 1 PARENT EVENTS



All at 09:00

Our feedback from coffee mornings was that our families want to find more ways to engage more in school life and learn about how we teach.

This term, we're inviting our Year 6 parents in to see a live reading lesson in action, and our workshops are aimed at teaching you what we teach our students in maths and reading!

**Tuesday 6th
January**

Introduction to Maths at Gladstone Park

**Tuesday 13th
January**

Year 6 & how to prepare for SATs

**Tuesday 20th
January**

Maths: how we teach calculation strategies

**Tuesday 27th
January**

Introduction to our behaviour approach - Thrive

**Tuesday 3rd
February**

Phonics & how to prepare your child for the screening check

**Tuesday 10th
February**

Reading: how we teach Year 2-Year 6



First day of Spring 1: Tuesday 6th January

Last day of Spring 1: Friday 13th February

