



St John's CE Primary School Newsletter

07 March 2025

All different, all equal, all learning together in God's world.

School Prayer

Loving God, Help us to work together to share what we have, so that everyone has what they need. Help us to build a better world, where each of us can become the best person we can be. Help us to live differently during this season of Lent.

Amen

Message from Mrs Pullan

Dear parents and carers

This term, we have welcomed Mrs Smit to year 1, who will be with us until the end of this academic year covering for Mrs Prestage who has gone on maternity leave.

You may also be aware that Mr Gent left at the end of February as he has a new job closer to home. Mr Rumford will be joining us as the new site manager towards the end of March.

Over the last couple of weeks we have been reminding children about behaviour expectations in the classroom, playground, lunch hall and when walking around the school. We have been using the following four non-negotiable expectations in the classroom/playground:

- We respect each other
- We let everyone learn (or for the playground - We let everyone play)
- We look after things in school
- We always try our best

Please talk to your children about these and reinforce these expectations with them. We also asked the children to choose three words that would help them remember how to walkaround the school, they voted and decided on 'Calm, Considerate, Corridors' so this is something we are also working on/towards that you can also talk about with your children at home.

I am sure you will have heard about the new playground areas available at break and lunchtimes for the children, they are really enjoying being creative, building dens and dressing up. We are hoping to add to the resources we have on offer as we see how the children use the areas.

There are again lots of exciting trips and themed days coming up so make sure you read your parentmails to keep up to date with all the goings on!

We look forward to an exciting Term 4.

Mrs Pullan





Class activities



Year R and Year 2 visit to Sevenoaks Bookshop

This Tuesday, Year 2 were kindly invited to Sevenoaks Bookshop to celebrate World Book Day. The children were read a story about dragons, castles and some rather crazy knights then they were able to use their voucher to choose their very own £1 World Book Day book. Once back at school we read our new books whilst sunbathing on the meadow playground! What a fantastic morning we had!



Year 5 Ancient Greek Day

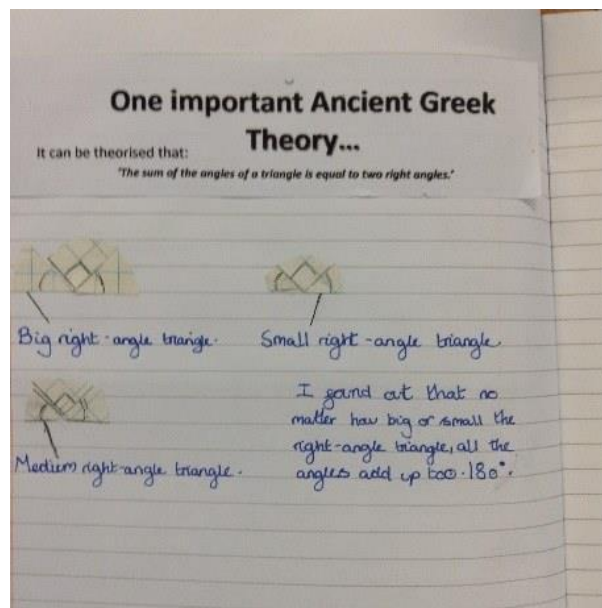
At the end of last term, Year 5 travelled back in time to learn more about the Ancient Greeks. We discovered that the Greek Alphabet is very different to ours and we investigated how many of our prefixes have a Greek origin. We used these to understand word meanings.

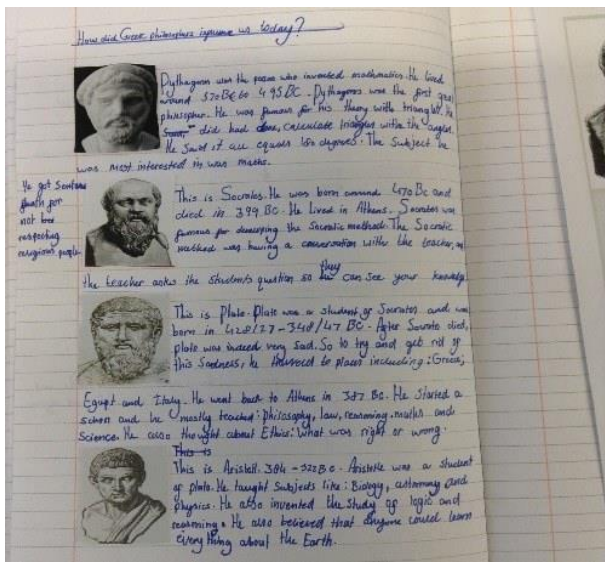
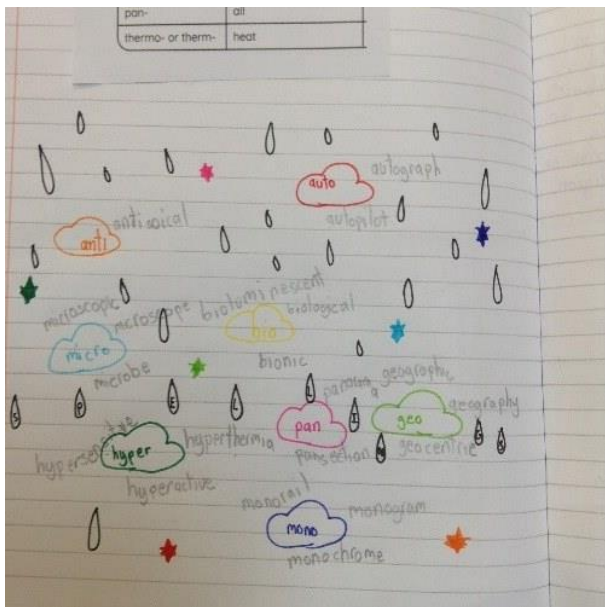
We learnt how some maths theories stem from great Greek Philosophers and we explored how angles of a triangle all add up to 180 degrees.

After break, we had a Greek – inspired snack: humus, olives, pita breads, tzatziki, feta , dates and salads we devoured by some ravenous (and incredibly polite) children. Many of us tried new foods too!

What is philosophy and what have Greek philosophers taught us? This was a question we explored next, followed by an afternoon of Art – Collography to be precise.

What a busy day, packed full of enriching learning opportunities!





Celebrating our children's success



Noah (Year 2) had the opportunity recently to play at both Man City festival and Charlton Athletic academy as part of Kent Elite football academy. They beat Charlton Athletic 8-4 and played some great competitive football. Great job Noah!

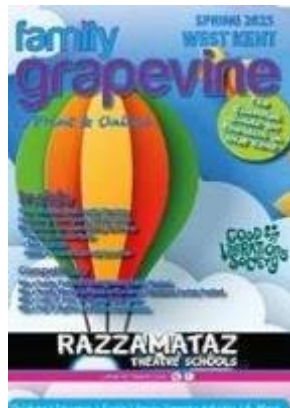


1 - Noah (Year 2)

Notices



Grapevine Magazine



Hi, we're very pleased to forward you a link to our Spring 2025 online hyperlinked edition of the West Kent Family Grapevine magazine. Our Spring edition is full of local listings for families in West Kent, some great competitions and our selection of upcoming local family events. We also have some great Spring activities and a refreshing fruit smoothie recipe from the wonderful Barefoot Books.

The Family Grapevine brand is passionate about providing free local information to local families and supporting local family orientated businesses. We'd be very grateful if you would consider forwarding the link below to parents, carers and families in your electronic newsletters and correspondence. We very much appreciate your support and if you'd like some print copies of the magazine as well or instead, please do let me know and I'd be very pleased to get some to you.

Our Summer 2025 edition is published at the beginning of July 2025 with a booking cut-off date of the 10th June. If featuring with us in our next editions is of interest and you'd like more information, don't hesitate to get in touch. We also offer all year round affordable and effective short term website banners and social media promotions if it's ever of interest.

Please also do make use of our [Free Events Listing](#) link for any family events or open days we can publicise for you on our website for free. Our website at www.thefamilygrapevine.co.uk/west-kent is regularly updated with listings, events and local information.

Wraparound Care



Breakfast and After School Clubs are now available to book for terms 5 and 6.

Bookings must be made at least 48 hours in advance online. The system will not accept bookings with less than 48 notice.

The system will also let you cancel sessions with up to 48 hours' notice and you will then receive a credit on your account. If you cancel a session with less than 24 hours' notice you will be charged for the session.

Breakfast club will be available Monday to Friday for pre-booked children only. Please arrive between 07:45 – 08:30 via the office door. The cost for this session will be £5.50 per day. Cereal, toast, bagels, fruit, yoghurt and juice will be provided.

After School Club will be available Monday to Friday (Fridays for short sessions only) for pre-booked children only.

Collection will be from the foyer outside the school office at either 16:30 or 18:00. Please note that it is essential that children are collected on time. A light tea will be provided.

Costs for these sessions are:

Breakfast Club £5.50 per Session

Afterschool Club £6.00 per Short Session

Afterschool Club £14.00 per Long Session

HOW DO I BOOK?

We have an online booking and payment system for our Breakfast Club and After School Care Club. Please [click here](#) to log in to the booking system.

Play equipment



Just a reminder that the play equipment on the main playground or meadow are **not to be used before school** for health and safety reasons. Thank you for your cooperation.

Head lice



We have had a few cases of head lice in school this week.

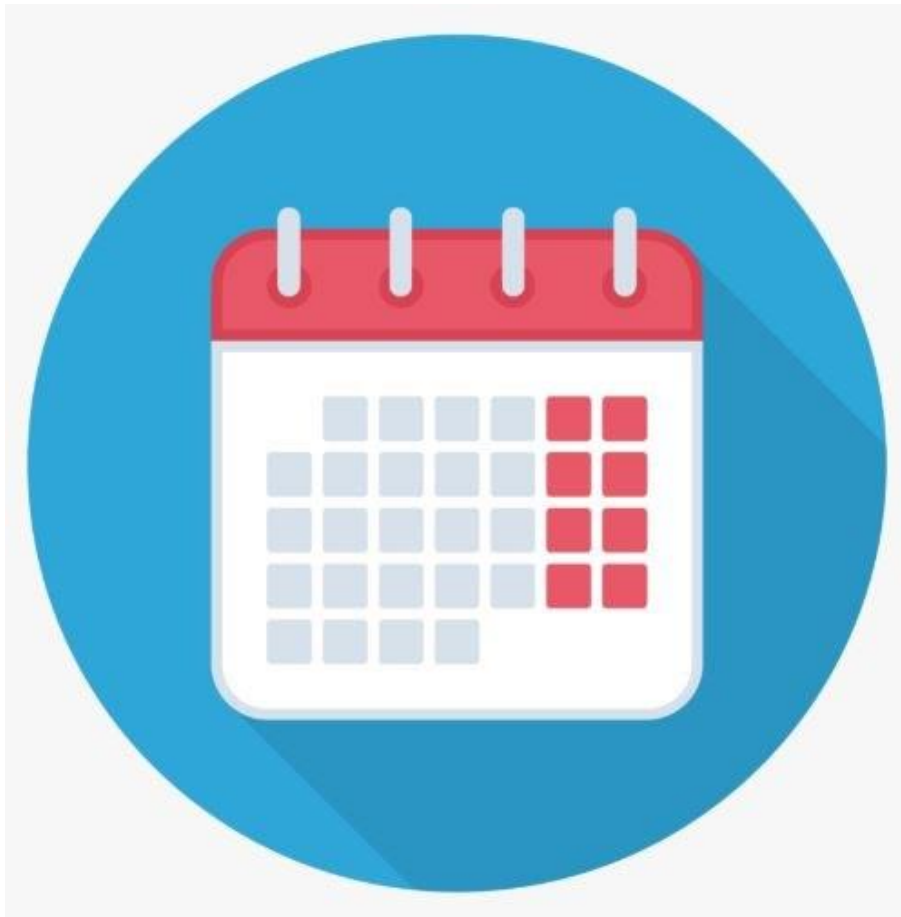
Please can we ask all parents to please check your children's hair and if you find any nits/headlice, please deal with them immediately.

Head lice are difficult to remove because of their size, re-infestation rate, life cycle and ability to develop immunity to insecticides.

There is no prevention for head lice infestation other than checking yours and your family's hair regularly using the detection method (wet combing).

If your child has long hair, tie it back as this helps to reduce the likelihood of contact between their hair and that of an infected child. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Calendar



Don't forget, you can find all of the information you need to know about any upcoming events, trips, parents evenings etc on the calendar on the [school website!](#)

Special Mentions

Reception

Noah, for trying so hard in phonics every day. reading, writing and being a digraph detective - amazing!

Austin, for being an enthusiastic helper to look for Cyril the squirrel. he made posters and a trap for Evil pea!

Year 1

Neriah, for settling in so well to Rabbit Class and being such a great addition to year 1!

Phoebe, for being a super role model, sitting so beautifully on the carpet and helping others!

Year 2

Rei, for excellent engagement and concentration in lessons - a great role model!

Max, for thoughtfully looking out for others without being prompted - thank you for your kindness.

Year 3

Olivia, for having a go at lots of sports at Sevenoaks School and coming back smiling to tell us all about it!

Willow, for working hard on her spelling and for always treating others with kindness.

Year 4

Etive, for creating a brilliant Viking quest story and using so many of the techniques we have been learning!

Maddie, for brilliant consistent reading at home and being a great role model in class!

Year 5

Megan, for insightful and reflective thinking in lesson and for being a 'light' to others

Sofia, Wow! Your English sentence stacking writing the Refugee Speech is amazing, powerful, impactful and emotive!

Year 6

Samuel, for doing so well at Dare to believe and participating in different sports!

Mila, for working hard in maths event when she finds it difficult. keep it up!

ROBERT DRAPER

Removals & Storage
Sevenoaks
robertdraper.co.uk

Wally Hall Netball tournament Monday 3rd February

On Monday 3rd February, two teams attended the Wally Hall Junior School Netball tournament. The A team were drawn against Ashford, Amherst, Kemsing and Hazelwood. The B team were drawn against Wally Hall C, Ashford B, Chiddingstone B and Granville B.

The A team played Hazelwood first winning a close game 2-1, followed by a convincing win against Ashford 8-0, then another close game beating Kemsing 1-0 and finally beating Amherst 3-2.

The B team played Granville first winning 2-0, then with some good shooting, winning 3-0 against Ashford, a tight game against Chiddingstone, winning 2-0 and finally a convincing win against Wally C 8-0.

This therefore meant that both teams made it into the A team and B team final. The A team came up against Chiddingstone A and a close game ended 3-1 to Chiddingstone. The B team played Amherst B and eventually lost 7-2.

Both teams should be very proud of themselves with some excellent shooting and game play.



Water Polo Wednesday 22nd January

On Wednesday 22nd January, a team of 6 pupils from Year 5 and 6 went to play in the Sevenoaks School Water Polo tournament. After a 10-1 thrashing to Chevening, we quickly worked out our tactics. As a team we decided that a 2-2-1 formation would work best for us, always leaving someone goal hanging! We then proceeded to beat Anthony Roper 6-0, Amherst 4-0, Ightham 3-0, St George's 7-3 and finally Kemsing 4-0! As the results were announced, it soon became clear that we were going to be in the top three! As it turns out the top three positions were only decided on goal difference and goals scored! This eventually meant that we came in third place due to us having a heavy defeat in our first game. The Water Polo team consisting of Harry, Rory, Ivan, Mats, Emily and Rachel should all be very proud of themselves.

Dare to Believe Thursday 6th February

On Thursday 6th February, a team of six pupils went to Sevenoaks School to learn about Para Sports. They were able to try seated volleyball, blind football, boccia, indoor bowling, indoor curling and table cricket. As a group, we were able to learn the rules and tactics of playing these sports. Everyone had great fun and now they would like to teach the rest of the school how to play these games!



Diary Dates



March

10.03.25— Year 4 STEAM week, Sevenoaks School

13.03.25— Science/Book Day (*see ParentMail for details*)

15.03.25— Netball and Football Tournament

21.03.25— 09.15 Year 4 Act of Worship

28.03.25— 14.30 Mother's Day Act of Worship

April

02.04.25— KS2 trip to Wicked the Musical

03.04.25— PTA Easter Egg Hunt

03.04.25— PTA Bunny Hop disco

04.04.25— Last day of term 4 (**13.30 finish**)

22.04.25— First day of Term 5

24.04.25— Year 1 Kent Life

25.04.25— Year 5 Fairy Cake Friday

26.04.25— TSC Mini Marathon

May

06.05.25— 09.15 Parent Support Group

08.05.25—Year 4 Lower Grange Farm

14.05.25—16.05.25 Year 5 PGL

16.05.25— 09.15 Year 2 Act of Worship

23.05.25—14.30 Sharing afternoon

23.05.25— Last day of Term 5

Advance notice

June

02.06.25— INSET Day

03.06.25—First day of Term 6

03.06.25—06.06.25 Year 6 Normandy Residential

10.06.25—Class photos

10.06.25—Father's Day Games (*more details to follow*)

14.06.25—Summer Fair (*more details to follow*)

26.06.25—Sport's Day

30.06.25— Reserve Sport's Day

