



South Grove Primary School

NEWSLETTER 22 2024-2025



3rd March 2025

Dear parents and carers

STARS OF THE WEEK W/C 3.3.25

N- AM	ROBIN	3B	HENOK
N - PM	AARUHI	3H	MAHDI
RR	EILISH	4P	RUBY
RS	KEHLANI	4SH	IYNA
1L	SADIE	5A	BIANCA
1W	RAY	5G	IBBY
2DM	IBRAHIM M	6F	FLYN
2F	POEMA	6M	LEYLA

PLM EZRA

SPORTS STARS - ROWAN Y2 + BIANCA Y5

MUSIC STARS - YACINE Y4 + IBBY Y5



ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY W/C 24.2.25

Best Attendance ☺ **2F 98.6%**

Best Punctuality ☺ **2F**

Class that needs to improve their attendance **PLM 78.7%**

Class that needs to improve their punctuality **RS**

Overall School Attendance this year = 94.2%

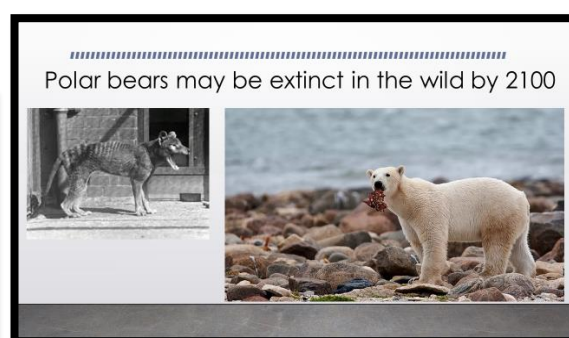
INTERNATIONAL POLAR BEAR DAY

On Friday we were treated to another fascinating assembly by Mr Combe. This time we learnt all about the Polar Bear as it was their special day.

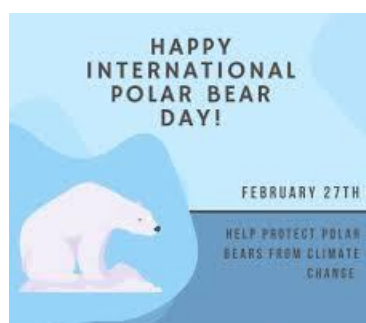
We learnt many facts, the first one being that they are not at all the cuddly things we would like to think they are. We learnt that they have black skin, are excellent swimmers, can overheat and they do not hibernate.



Unfortunately, polar bears are under threat due to climate change, with the ice melting giving them less opportunity to find food to eat and store fat.



Mr Combe invited the children to design posters at home.



NEW POLICIES

Ramadan Policy

A new Ramadan Policy has been created for staff, pupils, parents and Governors. It makes our policy and practice clear about how we support children during this important time for our Muslim community. Much of the emphasis for the school is on the welfare of the children, allowing them to stay within school while fasting, and giving them a space to reflect during lunchtime. We will ensure we work with families to support their children during this special time.

If you haven't done so already, parents who wish to give permission for their child to fast during Ramadan whilst at School, will need to complete the google form (see the link below) **this is for Years 5 & 6 only**. Younger children are not expected to fast but if you wish them to do so you must collect them at lunchtime and take them home for the whole hour.

<https://forms.gle/BQfqhdQG5rpBCuqV6>

Mobile Phone, Smart Watches and Trackers Policy

This policy has been developed to ensure the school community is clear about the school's policy on the use of mobile phones, Smart Watches and Trackers within our school. At the heart of the policy is to ensure that we keep children safe and follow all of our key policies to do this.

In summary:

- Mobile phones and Trackers will only be able to be used for children who walk to and from school.
- As our current practice they will need to be given in at the gate to staff and these are kept securely within the school office.
- The children then collect them from the office at the end of the school day and only use phones once off the school premises
- If children bring their phone to school without permission the school will confiscate them, parents notified and asked to come and pick the mobile phone up from school
- If there is any unpleasant or inappropriate activity with the use of the mobile phones and content on them, and the situation comes into school, parents will be asked to come in and discuss this with the Head Teacher.
- Guidelines have been made clear for the use of mobile phones on the school premises by parents, Governors, visitors and contractors.
- Trackers must not be used to track children whilst on a school educational visit. Please read the guidelines within the policy.

Parents who allow their children to bring their mobile phones to school or use a tracker to locate their children, will be required to complete a form as part of this policy and signed by both parents and children.

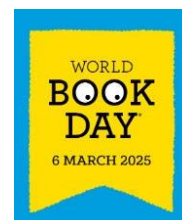
Please take time to read the policies. If there are any queries please do not hesitate to contact Miss Maltwood via the parent email address: parents@southgrove.waltham.sch.uk

Book Week & World Book Day

As this week is Book Week, the children will be taking part in many activities. Don't forget this Thursday is **'Dress as a Book Character Day'** with a prize for the best costume from each year group.

Remember that we do not expect you to buy a costume - click or copy and paste this link for many easy outfit ideas and many other things you can do as a family at home:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>



Come along to the World Book Day assembly on Thursday (not Friday this week) at 9:15am where there will be contributions from each year group.

Reading at Home

Knowing the fun that books and stories can give, please ensure that you read regularly with your child at home. We expect children to read every night and for you, the adult, to make a comment in the Home / School Book and sign it.

Remember – parents, grandparents, older brothers and sisters – the whole family has a role to play in supporting reading.





Kids read more when we Turn On The Subtitles.

We wanted to remind you know how this brilliantly simple, free, small change to children's existing TV viewing habits can drastically improve their reading skills. Here is a link to the website where we'll know celebrities will explain the benefits of turning on the subtitles in more detail.

<https://turnonthesubtitles.org/parents/>

Children often watch television between 4pm and 6pm.

Just a reminder that turning on the subtitles while children are watching TV can greatly improve their reading skills. A quick and simple way to make TV time, reading time. #TurnOnTheSubtitles

Based on an academic study of 2,350 children, 34% became good readers with schooling alone. But when exposed to 30 minutes a week of subtitled film songs, that proportion more than doubled to 70% - a copy of the study can be found [here](https://turnonthesubtitles.org). turnonthesubtitles.org

Dress as a book character

This Thursday 6th

March

Who will you choose
to be?

Favourite Book
Character Day



Spring Music Recital Assembly - Tuesday 1st April 9.15-10.15

We will celebrate the achievements of the children who have had woodwind, violin and piano lessons from the Waltham Forest Music Service.

Parents and carers welcome



MAKATON SIGN
OF THE WEEK:

HAPPY



March

A child's right ...
to a name
and nationality. (7)



Consideration

BOOK SALE!!

The Friends of South Grove are organising a book sale to celebrate World Book Day. The book sale will take place in the school dining hall from **3.15pm on Friday 7th March** (the day after the dress-up day). All books will **cost 50p (cash only)** and proceeds will go towards school fundraising, to improve the school's secret garden area and create a new science lab.

If you have any books at home which you could donate to the sale, that are age-appropriate and in good condition, please drop them to the school office by Thursday.

PLAYBILL



Year 6 - Romeo & Juliet -
Play in a Day

Friday 7th March 2025



All children to come to school wearing black

Parents are invited to watch the children's
brilliant performance at 2.30pm

If you haven't already done so, please can you pay on ParentPay
Thank you



4SH Music Trip to Bell Percussion Warehouse

On Wednesday, 26th February, Ms Forbes and the students of 4SH went on an exciting and immersive musical journey to the Bell Percussion Warehouse in Tottenham Hale. Bell Percussion work in partnership with the London Symphony Orchestra (LSO) in supplying world class percussion to the major orchestras and musicians of the world. The visit provided the children with a unique opportunity to explore the vast world of orchestral percussion, gain insight into music-related careers, and even try their hands at playing professional-grade instruments.

The experience was both eye-opening and educational, as students were introduced to the workings of an orchestra and the vital role percussion plays within it. We arrived in the rain and some were allowed to shelter in the LSO's tour truck that has sleeping quarters, a toilet and temperature-controlled compartments for the different instruments. The truck has travelled all over the world and housed some of the world's most precious instruments. Inside the warehouse we were then given an engaging discussion on orchestral structures run by the team at LSO and Bell Music, where students participated in identifying instrument families and learning about the broad range of percussion instruments (even bath tubs!) used in orchestral settings.

A particular highlight of the trip was meeting professional musicians who shared their experiences and insights into the world of music as a career. This segment broadened the children's perspectives on the many paths one can take in the music industry, from performing to music librarianship and being a technician. The students were captivated by personal stories, learning how these professionals followed their passion for music and turned it into a career.

One of the most exhilarating aspects of the visit was the hands-on experience. Students had the rare opportunity to play a diverse range of orchestral percussion instruments, including snare drums, marimbas, and the awe-inspiring Mahler hammer. They explored rhythm, dynamics, and coordination, culminating in a collaborative performance of a song they had been learning at school—now brought to life on grander, richer-sounding instruments. The sheer scale and quality of these professional-grade instruments added an extra layer of excitement and inspiration to their performance.

Throughout the visit, the students demonstrated curiosity and enthusiasm, asking questions and engaging in activities designed to deepen their understanding of music. The event not only enriched their knowledge of percussion instruments but also inspired them to consider the many possibilities within the world of music, whether as performers, composers, or behind-the-scenes contributors.

The trip to Bell Percussion Warehouse was an incredible success, leaving the children inspired and excited about music. It was a truly unforgettable experience that reinforced the power of music as both an art form and a career path. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Al Goode, Iryna Goode and the team at Bell Music and LSO who made this visit such a memorable and impactful event for the students of 4SH.

Here's what the children had to say:



Umar: I discovered one of the world's biggest drums

Eisa: I discovered lots of instruments that I'd never heard of

Oisin: I discovered lots of famous people have been to this warehouse

David: I learnt to play the drum

Leo: My favourite bit was when we played the instruments and I got to play Mahler's hammer!

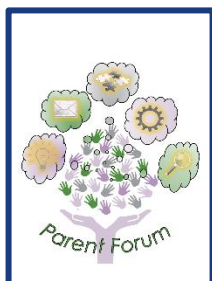
Emilia: My favourite bit was when we sang our Roman song as a group

Deniz: My favourite part was when I played an instrument

Sarah: My favourite bit is being in the drum

Emanuela: I'd like to play more instruments





Parent Forum

Thank you to those parents who attended Parent Forum. We had a very useful discussion around the mobile phone, smart watches and trackers policy shared in this newsletter.

We talked about future work and discussions. It was felt a good opportunity to discuss the Home School Agreement and Home Learning Policy with parents to gain thoughts on the school's practice.

Please come and have your input at our next meeting after the Easter Break. A date will follow shortly. It is an informal meeting, with a cup of coffee and discuss what we can do to improve our communication, engagement and practices in partnerships with parents.

SOUTH GROVE'S RIGHTS RAP IS FAMOUS!

South Grove's song 'Actions Speak Louder' featured in Unicef's Rights Respecting School Award newsletter which was distributed to the whole of the UK!



EXPLORING RIGHTS THROUGH MUSIC

Exploring the CRC and principles that underpin rights through music, especially through song, can be very powerful. Some schools even create and perform their own songs about rights.

Pupils and staff from Glade Primary School in Redbridge wrote and recorded this song and were even featured on a local radio station. [For Every Child song](#)

Pupils from South Grove Primary School composed and recorded this [Rights Rap](#) as part of their work towards their Gold Rights Respecting Schools Award.

St Mary's RC Primary School in Leith, Scotland, held a music day to celebrate being awarded their Gold Award, culminating in a concert for parents and carers. You can watch a film about the day here: [Rights Respecting Concert clips](#) and [Celebrating bring a gold Rights Respecting school through music](#)



Forward planning - please note:

There will be no choir on Tuesday 18th March



Unfortunately due to the pool mixing up our booking, Year 4 will not be swimming this week.

We hope that they will be able to let us know very soon when it can be rearranged for - we will keep you informed



No swimming

The Book Fair is coming!

We will have a book fair in school next week from 13th – 18th March in the Library. Click here or paste the link into your browser: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/travelling-books/parents> to get a taster of what is coming and to pre-order books or vouchers for the fair. The children will be able to use their World Book Day token as a discount on books over £2.99

Look out for more information which we will send out soon



TRAVELLING BOOKS

With my very best wishes

J. Maltwood
Julie Maltwood
Headteacher

Today is Secondary Offers Day – we hope you all got the school you wanted!

Secondary School Places Announced



SOUTH GROVE LEARNING GALLERY!

Nursery

Last week in Nursery we enjoyed exploring the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. We created our own pigs using paper plates and card. After painting the plates with pink paint we used glue to attach the pig's two ears, two eyes and the snout.



Reception

We have a new topic in Reception, it is TREASURE!

During the half-term holidays we chose an object that is special to us, and talked with our families about why it is special. Then we made a box to keep it in and brought it into school. The children were very excited to show their 'treasure' boxes and we have been learning how to care for them. We have been developing our Oracy skills by learning how to present and speak about our treasure to our friends and our class.

We looked at art work by famous artists who made still life paintings of their treasured objects and we made our own. We then used these experiences to talk about and describe our treasure and used these in our writing.



Year 1

Year 1 had a fantastic trip to the Science Museum before the half term holiday, where they got to explore all sorts of materials in the Garden and looked at patterns in the Pattern Pod. By spinning around in plastic tubing, the children explored what happened to their hair: it stuck up on end. This is due to static electricity caused by the friction between the hair and the plastic tubing. It was very fun to see the children's hair standing on end! They managed very well with the long journey although an early night was needed by all. Year 1 made sure they thanked the parents for helping support them on their trip.



Year 2

In Year 2 we have been looking at our new topic - 'Transportation'. We drew all the different forms of transport which we already know.



Year 3

In Year 3 we have started our new exciting topic 'Chocolate'. We have been discussing what we already know about chocolate and what we want to find out over the next few weeks.



Year 4

Year 4 had quite a bit of fun last week. Firstly, they began their journey into the history of Rome by acting out the story of Romulus and Remus. Some were a bit nervous about getting up in front of the class, but you know what they say, when in Rome... Secondly, they got their hands dirty in science... investigating cheese! Mr Perna needed to make a quick cheese toasty for lunch, but only had 5 minutes to make it. Luckily, Year 4 were on the case to identify the cheese that would melt the quickest, using their knowledge of materials, so he could be back to class on time. However, after all their hard work, Mr Perna elected to simply eat ALL of the cheeses. How dairy!



Year 5

In Science, Year 5 have learnt about Sputnik the Satellite that was sent into orbit in 1957 by the Soviet Union to try and win the Space Race. Sputnik was launched into the atmosphere and orbited the earth for a short time. We tried to recreate our own satellite entering the atmosphere. We had to throw our planes at the right speed to enter orbit or it either crashed back to earth or flew off into space to never be seen again. Many of us made it into orbit but sadly a few of us crashed back to earth.

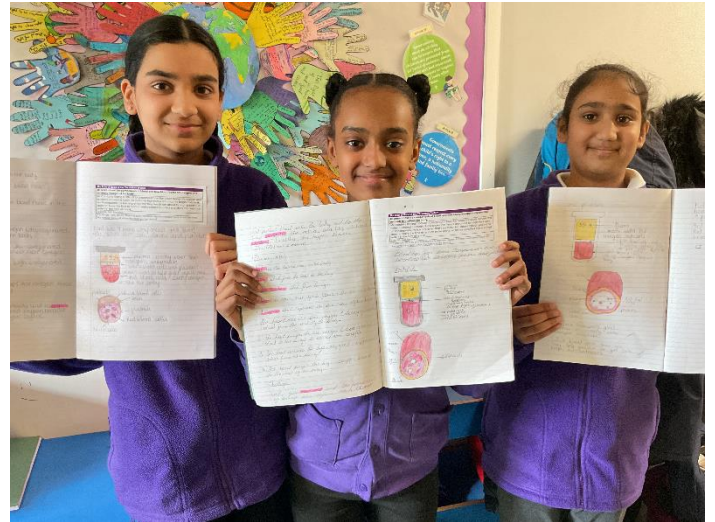


Year 6

Last week in science Year 6 continued their topic - the Human Body and the Circulatory System - by exploring the role of the blood and what it contains. We learnt about Platelets and how they help us heal our wounds with scabs (gross!), White Blood Cells and the way that they attack viruses to (try) and stop us becoming ill, Red Blood Cells and the way that they transport oxygen throughout the body and finally Plasma which transports our nutrients to keep us healthy!

We began by sketching diagrams visualising how much each component takes up in our blood, then we created a more detailed sketch of the inside of the veins. Finally, we wrote our own Haikus for each cell - an example of one includes:

Red cells glide through veins
Carrying oxygen's breath
Life flows in their wake.



PLM

PLM's Science lesson

The children are learning about wood, metal and plastic.



Look What Aaron from 4P has been up to!

Three modern cities turned into LEGO sets. They only took me 2 hours to build. These include London, Paris and New York City. When scaled down and turned into LEGO, it shows just how many things you can build with it.

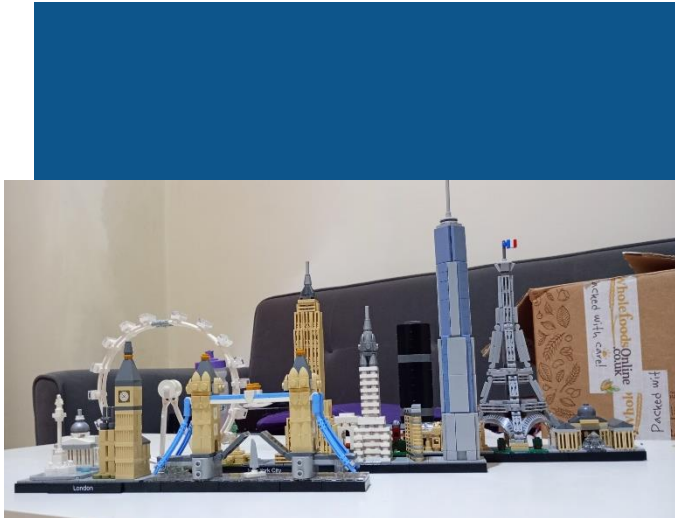


Here in London, we have: Nelson's Column, The National Gallery, Big Ben, The London Eye, and Tower Bridge.

In NYC, we have: The Statue of Liberty, The Empire State, The Chrysler and Flatiron Buildings, and The One World Trade Centre.

Finally, for Paris, there is: The Arc de Triomphe, le Champs Elysées, le Grand Palais, The Montparnasse Tower, The Eiffel Tower, and the Louvre.

by Aaron 4P





BOOK TODAY!
SCAN HERE

BRING YOUR KIDS TO ALLIANZ STADIUM TWICKENHAM

★ BE PITCH SIDE INSIDE THE STADIUM
★ PLAY RUGBY ON THE PITCH SIDE
★ ZIP LINE OVER THE PITCH
★ ABSEIL OFF THE STADIUM
★ ICE HOCKEY ★ CRAZY GOLF
★ CLIMBING WALLS ★ PARKOUR
★ SURF SIMULATORS

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