

Let's Party!



This final week of term was packed with Christmas parties! First up was the Key Stage 2 party. The children showed us their greatest dance moves, including a revival of 'The 12 Days of Christmas' from the Musical Extravaganza. Everyone enjoyed the party food and presents! Next it was the turn of Early Years and KS1 – they all had so much fun. They enjoyed dancing, and played pass the parcel and musical statues. They were so lucky that Santa squeezed Grangetown into his very busy schedule and visited us twice – all of the children met him and received a gift too. Miss Hunter, Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Roberts.

Our Magical 'Christmas Extravaganza'!



This year we decided to do our Christmas show a little differently. There is so much talent at GPS so we thought it would be a fantastic opportunity to show it all off by having a full KS2 Christmas musical extravaganza. This involved everyone from Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6, over 140 children! We started practicing back in November and every class has worked so hard to bring the show together. As well as singing every song with actions and enthusiasm, each individual class had a special feature moment in the show. Y3 helped to create a magical dance and became Christmas stars. They were excellent at this and really shone during the two performances. Y3/4 learned the Ukuleles and took to the stage during 'Away in a manger' showing how they could play along and sing at the same time! Y4 & 5 were in the spotlight for the '12 days of Christmas' which had everyone thoroughly entertained! Our Y6 classes took on small acting roles and held the show together with a comedy re-telling of the first Christmas. The costumes all looked so Christmassy and everyone performed outstandingly. We even had our brilliant Violin and Cello's performing 3 festive pieces to open the show. It truly was a musical extravaganza! Everyone who took part should be immensely proud of themselves - thank you to all the staff for your hard work and thank you to everyone who came to see the show. Mrs Bryant-King.

Look at what we offer at GPS!...

Free Places for 2 year olds

15 hours a week – check eligibility with our school office staff.



Breakfast Club

Every day – 7.45-8.50. Fantastic value at just £1.20 per session.



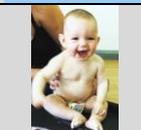
Home from Home

After school care – Mon to Fri 3.15 until 5.00pm. Amazing value at just £2.50 per session! Book places via the Office.



Free Messy Play sessions!

Tuesdays 1.30pm - 2.30pm, with Vicky. Great fun – & free of charge! Babies to 4 yr olds welcome. Starts again 14th Jan.



Be an Early Bird!

A reminder to all families that school starts every day at 8.50am. Please be on the yard at 8.45, ready for the doors to open at 8.50. Being on time every day makes an important contribution to your child's learning. Thankyou.

School Attendance Matters!

Being in school is vital - good attendance gives your child's learning a big boost. We award prizes for good attendance, including certificates, our weekly 'Treasure Chest', tickets for SAFC matches...plus a £50 prize every half-term for the best attending class!

Easy Cheesy Nativity



Flying Start, Nursery and Reception all performed amazingly for our Easy Cheesy Nativity. We had some children as young as 2 years old in the nativity they were brilliant as 'stars'! Nursery were fantastic as stable animals! Reception took on many roles, including lots of speaking parts - and they even wore the headset microphones. We were all so proud of the children and how well it all came together. Mrs Mitchell and the Flying Start and Early Years Team.

Sangeeta and Sushmita visit GPS!



On Wednesday 11th December we were visited by Sangeeta and Sushmita, two teachers from our partner school in Nepal. They had travelled for 15 hours to visit Grangetown Primary School – over 5000 miles! To start their visit, we welcomed them with a special assembly where the choir sang the Grangetown Anthem and we presented them with flowers. They both enjoyed having a look around school and visiting different classrooms. Y3VS were lucky enough to get a lesson delivered by them where they made Christmas cards using special Nepali paper. Our VIPs helped Sangeeta and Sushmita cook a spicy Nepali potato dish and Y6 got to taste it and listen to a presentation all about food in Nepal. Joshua from Y6 said “I enjoyed learning about what they eat in Nepal and tasting the potatoes. They were delicious and zingy.” We said our goodbyes to the pair on Friday and we look forward to their next visit to the UK in the future. From all of us at GPS, Namaste! Miss Beetham.

Hey Ewe!



Key Stage 1 performed the Nativity, called ‘Hey Ewe’. This story was all about a curious sheep that could see lots of strange people walking past her field on their way to complete a census. The children all performed magnificently and the singing was out of this world! All of the staff are very proud of the children, especially those who were extra nervous on the day. We would like to say a big thank you to our parents and carers for all the support you gave helping the children learn their lines and providing costumes. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. KS1 Team.

Year 2 at the Panto! – a recount by Isaac (Y2)



On the 4th of December the whole of Y2 went to see The Elves and the Shoemaker, at the Customs House. It was really funny. First I got on the bus and I sat next to my friend. I tried to put my seatbelt on but it was too hard so Mrs Roberts helped me. We got to the theatre and I brought Maltesers and juice. The chairs were foldy and I really enjoyed the show. Some children got to a photograph with the cast. After that we got to see Santa. He gave us all a Christmas book. Finally we got on the bus and went back to school and we ate our packed lunches. It was the best day ever! Isaac (y2).

EYFS on Tour – Asda!



As part of our ‘celebrations’ topic, EYFS walked to Asda to buy ingredients for making cakes. Before we left, we wrote a list of items we needed to buy. We knew when we had arrived because many of us could read the logo for Asda. We split up into groups and did our shopping. To pay for the items, we used the self-service checkout and got to have a go at using the scanners like a real shop assistant! We walked back to school and used the ingredients to make yummy cakes. The children were very sensible and received many positive comments from the shoppers in Asda. Well done! Miss Beetham.



Christmas Fayre!

We'd like to thank the Friends of Grangetown parents group for organising our recent Christmas Fayre. They raised the fabulous sum of £197. The Fayre was well attended - everyone enjoyed the games, stalls and treats! The Raffle again proved very popular - this was drawn in assembly on Monday this week - a list of prize winners is available in the school office. We would all like to thank our parents group for their hard work in organising and leading the Fayre, organising the raffle, and for their support for our other Christmas events. Well done the Friends of Grangetown – you're all stars! Mrs Russell.

See this in glorious colour at: www.grangetown.sunderland.sch.uk

Nursery 'Stick Man' parent workshop



Thank you to all who attended our Nursery parent workshop - we had lots of fun taking part in various activities linked to Stick Man. The children all listened so well whilst Mrs Mitchell read Stick Man, before we chose an activity to begin. We created our own snowmen with the snow dough, before making our own stick men. We made our own marshmallow snowmen biscuits and pine cone decorations to take home too. Mrs Mitchell and Miss Davison.

Reception Parent Workshop



For our first parent workshop, Reception invited their parents and carers to join them for Christmas crafts and phonics activities. We decorated biscuits, made cards, decorated salt dough for decorations and sorted the Christmas pictures into their initial sounds. Miss Beetham and Miss Cassidy.

Y3/4 Parent Workshop



For our first parent workshop, the year 3/4 children invited parents and carers into class to support them in making calendars for 2020. To link with our history topic Raider and Invaders, the children chose different Viking runes to make, gluing string onto pieces of card and then covering with tin foil so that they looked like metal. The runes chosen represented things like peace, kindness, health and love – all things that we would wish for everyone in the New Year. Thank you so much to all of the parents and carers who were able to join us! Mrs Millican.

Year 6AM Parent Workshop



The parents and carers of the children in Y6AM were invited into school for the autumn term workshop. As our topic for the half term was 'Our Natural World', we asked the children with help from their adults to make a bird feeder. The children were given lollipop sticks, glue, tape and pens to make their feeders. The children along with their adults were shown examples of feeders and then they had to make their own version. We had some fabulous bird feeders made: some had roofs, some were cylindrical in shape and some looked like little houses. All the feeders were colourful and the children loved working alongside their adults. After the feeders had set completely, they were varnished and string was attached. We hope that the birds enjoy feeding from them this winter. Miss McLoughlin.

We have places available for Nursery and Reception for September 2020 – call into school or ring our Office to secure your place!

Flying Start Christmas Workshop



Thank you to all who attended our Christmas themed parent workshop. We had lots of fun taking part in various craft activities. The children created reindeer dust to sprinkle on their lawn on Christmas Eve, and they decorated salt dough ornaments to put on their Christmas trees at home. We even made a delicious Christmas pudding biscuit. It defiantly got everyone into the Christmas spirit. Flying Start Staff.

Messy Play!



We have had so much fun this term at messy play. There have been so many special events to celebrate, including Halloween, Bonfire night and Christmas. The children have enjoyed exploring the different foods and textures - Angel Delight and beans are a huge favourite! Join us in the New Year on Tuesday 14th January for our first Messy Play session of 2020. Our sessions are **FREE** and run every Tuesday, 1:30-2:30pm. Our Messy Play session is suitable for babies and children aged 0-4 years old. See you in the New Year, wishing you all Merry Christmas! Thank you from Rachael and Vicki.



Y3VS had a fantastic turnout for their parent workshop. We learnt about Viking runes and how these were used. The children each selected four runes by studying their meaning and used string to make these into a calendar. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who came and, as always, thank you for your continued support. Miss Stell.

Year 3/4 are Coding Experts!



This half term, our Y3/4 class have had the fantastic opportunity to work with Miss Holly and learn all about coding. Using Scratch Junior, the children have learned how to add sprites (characters) and backgrounds. They altered their shape and size and were able to make them move. All of the children made interactive Christmas cards with at least four sprites. Children added sound, had colour changes, movement and music. They then presented their interactive Christmas cards to the rest of the class. Mrs Millican.

Year 4 Skipping Training Underway!



In preparation for a skipping festival competition early next year, Year 4 took part in an afternoon of skipping training to learn the correct techniques and skills needed to be successful in the competition. Some of the skills included double bouncing, speed bouncing, side swing, cross over, pretzel, face to face and butterfly. Year 4 were very determined and worked extremely well in a very tiring, but exciting afternoon. Skips will be available to purchase, in order for the Year 4s to practice as much as they can both in school and at home. We are looking forward to the outcome of the competition. Miss Muldowney and Mrs Millican.

Dates for your Diary



Fri 20th Dec: 12.15-1.00 Carol Service at St Aidan's Church – all welcome. Term ends 1.00pm – please collect your child(ren) from St Aidan's Church.

Mon 6th Jan: School reopens for Spring Term!

For a full set of dates, please see our website.

Merry Christmas to all GPS families. Thankyou for your fab support this term. Spring term starts 6th Jan 2020 – Happy New Year! See you in the 'Roaring Twenties'!