

Welcome Back!



We are now two weeks into our 'full re-opening'. Everything is going fantastically well. The children settled very quickly, and they are super-keen to engage fully with all aspects of school. There is a calm and purposeful atmosphere around school, and at the same time there is a buzz of excitement that we are all once again able to take part in so many exciting learning activities – in a safe way of course. We'd like to thank the children for their hard work, fabulous behavior and for putting their heart and soul into school every day – well done! We'd also like to thank parents and carers for the incredible support that you have given to the children, both during the 'home learning' period and with the return to school – we really appreciate the support that we get from all GPS families. I know you will join me in saying thankyou to our amazing team of teachers and support staff – we are so lucky at GPS to have such talented and hard-working staff, all of whom work as a team and go the extra mile for each and every GPS child, every day! Well done everyone – let's keep it up! Mr McAnaney.

Look at what we offer at GPS:

<p>Breakfast Club. Every day – 7.45-8.50. Fantastic value at just £1.20 per day. Book places via the Office.</p>	
<p>Home from Home After school care – Mon to Fri 3.15 - 5.00pm. Amazing value - just £2.50 per session! Book places via Office.</p>	
<p>FREE PLACES FOR 2 YR OLDS! We have free places for 2 year olds, in our fabulous Little Butterflies Nursery. 15 hours a week –check eligibility with our school Office staff. Please pop in and enquire at our Office, or ring us on 0191 814 9820.</p>	

Places for September 2021

- We are currently taking applications for our 2 year old Nursery, our 3 year old Nursery, and for Reception, for September 2021.
- If you are looking for a school place for your child, and you'd like a school full of creativity, where the children are happy and well cared for by our team of amazing staff, please consider GPS!
- Please share this with friends, neighbours and relatives. Thankyou!

The Princess and the Peas!



Year 1 really enjoyed our two focus books 'The Princess and the Pea' and 'The Princess and the Peas'. We designed Princess and Prince outfits, changed the pea in the story for another vegetable and learnt all about famous Queens in History. To finish our topic off, we had a Medieval banquet and tasted foods from Medieval times that Princes and Princesses would eat! We had bread, cheese, meat and berry juice! Miss Tose and Miss Stell.

YEAR 3 – THE POWER OF THE FORCE!



In our topic, we have been finding out about forces. We investigated how forces can be contact and non-contact and how magnets work. We also learnt what compasses are and what they are used for. Ask us about the eight points of a compass and we will tell you all about it! When we were confident with compasses, we used them to create a treasure map and guide our friends to find our buried treasure. We also put our engineer caps on and made our own compasses out of just a paper clip, a piece of card and a plastic cup! Miss Charlton and Miss Cassidy.

Animal Madness in Little Butterflies!



This half-term we have been animal mad with our new topic 'Animal Madness'. We have been exploring lots of zoo and jungle animals. Our first core story we focused on was 'Polar bear, polar bear' the children are currently enjoying 'Dear Zoo'. We turned our classroom into an animal haven with lots of different animal themed activities and areas. Within our maths area the children have enjoyed playing our jungle matching game. The children also enjoyed getting messy in the creative area with the animal stamping activity. We also have some jungle animal masks which the children love to use to pretend to be a jungle animal. We also have a veterinary surgery set up in our role play area. The children have loved looking after and caring for our animals. Make sure to like our Facebook page 'Little Butterflies Nursery' for regular updates of what we get up too. Thanks for your continued support! Little Butterflies Team.

Jungle Animals' in Reception



This half-term in Reception we have focused on our new topic of 'Jungle Animals'. The children have had lots of fun exploring and learning about different animals. We have read a book called 'Walking in the Jungle' and the children have created actions and a story map for the story so they can retell it independently! They are becoming fantastic story tellers! The grown-ups are so impressed with how they've managed to retain the story and tell it back with lots of expression. Miss Barnett.

Year 2 Step into the Past



To end our Blast from the Past topic, Year 2 took part in a live Victorian lesson from Beamish. We had a fantastic lesson from a Victorian schoolmaster who was speaking to us directly from Beamish. We learned all about life as a Victorian schoolchild, from what they learned, to their punishments if they stepped out of line. We also took part in a Victorian lesson, learning about our three R's – reading, writing and arithmetic and we joined in on our own chalkboards too. We did decide that we preferred our fabulous school and lessons to the Victorian schoolroom. Mrs Mitchell.

Year 6 Dance to the Beat!



Year 6 are having a fantastic half-term, leaning all about the human body. They are learning about the circulatory system and why it is important that we keep our heart healthy. They have learnt the difference between the circulatory system of humans and animals. They have also been learning about anamorphic pictures, which are pictures that only look correct when viewed from a certain angle, or when using a prism or a mirror. They're very tricky to create but the children have done an absolutely fantastic job so far. In P.E the children are enjoying street dance lessons and some of the dances they have created have been absolutely incredible. Miss Hunter.

Snow Day in Nursery!

We were very lucky to enjoy some snow this year. Nursery had such a great time! We loved making snowballs and throwing them at each other and we attempted to make a very small snowman with the snow that we had left. This activity allowed the children to practise large and small scale movements as well as developing their language through their interactions with others. Mrs Hanlon, Miss Holyoak and Miss Davison.



The Viewer! A glimpse into the past!



The children in Year 5 have been reading a very interesting book called 'The Viewer' by Gary Crew and Shaun Tan. The book is all about a boy who finds a viewing device at a scrap yard and sees all kinds of images from History through it. The children have used the book to develop their knowledge of word classes like adverbs and clauses. They have thought of interesting adjectives to describe the pictures. While reading the actual story, they have inferred meaning from the text. They have used all of this work to write the opening an opening for the story and a diary entry as if they were the boy in the story. The children really enjoyed looking at the very detailed and interesting pictures and talking about them. Miss McLoughlin.

Planting Knowledge in Year 4!



This half term, the children have been reading our class book – 'Up in the Garden, Down in the Dirt'. They have had the opportunity to complete their own research about interesting plants and then designed their own that they had 'discovered'. They wrote letters to Sir David Attenborough to ask him for their help in looking after their discovery. In science, we have looked at the conditions that plants need to grow. We looked at parts of a plant and parts of a flower. We have also looked at why some plants grow well in a greenhouse. In ICT we have been exploring digital art and in our RE lessons, we have learnt all about the Easter Story. Mrs Millican and Miss Muldowney.

Places available for September 2021!

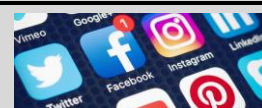
We have **FREE** places in our 2 year old Nursery, our 3 year old Nursery, and in Reception, for September 2021. Join the GPS Team! Please spread the word!

Making an E-Book in Year 4!



- Our E-book was full of lots of things we like e.g. favourite books – Maisy.
- We used Book Creator to write our own E-books – Hana.
- We added lots of photographs of our friends to our E-book – Ethan.
- I included information in my E-book about my friends, my favourite books and hobbies and I even added pictures to match this – Juliette.
- I enjoyed working on my E-book because I was able to write all about myself and share it with my friends – Dan.
- We added pictures and wrote about favourite foods and lessons – Josie.
- In our ICT lessons, I enjoyed writing all about my friends and hobbies in my E-book – Ellamay.
- I worked alongside a friend to write my E-book and I loved talking all about my favourite things – Misha.
- I loved creating my e-book because I learned how to add voice clips and audio. I added pictures and I wrote about my life, family and food – Amy.

GPS on Social Media



Our main social media is Facebook, but we also use Twitter from time to time, and we will soon be re-launching our Instagram. We have recently set up a brand new Facebook page, for our 2 year old Nursery – Little Butterflies.

Please check out our pages:

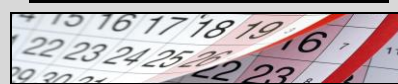
School Facebook: *Grangetownprimary*
 Little Butterflies Facebook: *LittleButterfliesGPS*
 Twitter: *Grangetown_PS*
 Instagram: *grangetown_ps*

GPS on the Web

Our website has recently had a refurb – what do you think?

www.grangetown.sunderland.sch.uk

Dates for your Diary



- Mon 22nd – 25th March:** Easter Egg Design Competition!
- Wed 24th - Thurs 25th March:** Let's Dance - years 2-6!
- Fri 26th March:** Break-up at 1.00pm for Easter Hols!
- Mon 29th March - Fri 9th April:** Easter Holiday.
- Mon 12th April:** School re-opens for Summer Term.