

It's a Dog's Life!



Year 2 had a very special visitor last week. We have been reading about how to look after our world through a text by Oliver Jeffers called 'Here We Are'. The book talks about looking after the planet and all the things that live here, including animals. We thought this would be a great opportunity to learn how to care for animals and what it takes to keep an animal healthy. This is where Chester the Labradoodle came into it! He is a 6 month old puppy and the children found out how to keep him healthy on the inside and on the outside. The children produced a fantastic book on how to care for him and the pictures they drew of him were very impressive! Chester was on his best behaviour and did show off a little bit doing all his tricks! He has promised to visit again in the Summer term to show the children how big his has grown! Mrs Dolan (Proud Mother of Chester!).

Look at what we offer at GPS:

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| <p>Breakfast Club. Every day – 7.45-8.50. Fantastic value at £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 yr olds, in our fab 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> |  |
| <p>Places for September 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 with friends, neighbours & relatives. | |

Pips Puppets!



"I liked the Easter bunny." – Lilly Mae Gibson (Y1VS). / "I liked all of it." – Calila Connolly (Y1VS). / "My favourite one was the crocodile because it had yellow hair." – Robert Robins (Y1VS). / "I loved when the pig ate the cake." – Leah (Y1CT). / "I liked it when the pig ate the cake because it made me laugh." – Efe Aghahowa (Y2DM). / "I liked that the witch was only happy when she had cake." – Grace Armstrong (Y3EC). / "I liked the part when the sheep took the cake and ate it because his face was covered in crumbs." – Leni Hall (Y3HC). / "I thought the puppet show was really funny, especially at the start when the pig jumped out and gave me a fright." – Holly Walton (Y4LM). / "I liked it when the sheep the sheep was singing, 'if you see a crocodile' and the crocodile kept popping up. Everyone was screaming and laughing." – Henry Dickeson (Y4KM). / "The thing that I liked about the show was it was very humorous, it made me laugh! It was fun to watch. I liked the bit where we got puppets at the end and waved them!" – Alexis Tipling (Y5CB). / "I liked the bit when Lilly-Mae went up to give pizza to the witch because we got a fright." – Emily Lawton (Y5AM). / "The puppet show was really fun, everybody loved it and it was the best moment of the day." – Rose Seery (Y6SH).

Little Butterflies Easter extravaganza!



This week in Little Butterflies Nursery we have been celebrating Easter. Our Little Butterflies have enjoyed lots of fun-filled activities! We have been creating some Easter chicks in our play dough area with yellow play dough, googly eyes, orange beaks and yellow feathers. As you know our Little Butterflies are fantastic bakers so we even made some chocolate crispy egg nest cakes – the children enjoyed these for snack and they were delicious. Also our children have been busy little bees at home creating their Easter eggs for the egg decorating competition. We are very proud of all of the different creations, we have eggs that look like the hungry Caterpillar and even Peppa Pig - who knew you could make an egg look like Peppa Pig! Don't forget to like our Facebook page 'Little Butterflies Nursery' for regular updates. Thank you for your continued support! The Little Butterflies Team.

Just make your mark!



For the return to school, all of the children took part in a very special project. Each class from Little Butterflies up to Year 6 read a beautiful picture book called *The Dot* by Peter Reynolds. *The Dot* is a story of a little girl who feels like she isn't very good at drawing. She gets angry with herself for not being able to draw like the others in her class. After a little encouragement from her teacher, the young girl in the story realises that once she's made a start, she can do anything she wants. By the end of the story, Vashti goes on to inspire other children to make them believe in themselves. It's a wonderful story with an important message. Children took part in a range of different activities such as writing the prequel to the story, writing a diary entry of the little girl, creating pointillism art work, or writing poetry based on their art work. Every child in the school also decorated a dot, which we have now put together in a fantastic display. It was a wonderful week and the children really enjoyed the story. Miss Hunter.

Year 4 – Planting Knowledge - Science



This half term, the year 4 children have been learning all about the parts of a plant and flower in science. They had a fabulous lesson labelling each of the different components and learning all about their different functions. They then became scientists and dissected their own flowers, sorting and labelling the different sections. The children have now learned all about the life cycle of flowering plants where they drew and labelled wonderful diagrams. They then found out all about different ways that seeds are dispersed and made their own information posters. Mrs Millican.

World Book Day!



At GPS we did World Book Day a little differently this year - it was a huge success! The whole school looked amazing in our self-decorated t-shirts and it was a great way for us all to feel linked to each other now we are back in school and working hard as part of Team GPS! There were so many creative t-shirts – from Little Butterflies to Y6! Lots of children chose their favourite books and designed their t-shirts around them, using the front cover, favourite character, the best quotes or even the blurb to decorate their tops. Nursery did a fantastic job of tie-dyeing their t-shirts and Reception used the whole school book 'The Dot' to inspire their designs. The children all had an amazing day doing lots of reading and celebrating books, we even had a 'masked reader' video that had someone from every year reading their favourite book! Miss Barnett.

Animal Fun in Nursery!



We have had a fantastic half term, learning all about Jungle animals at Nursery. We have introduced *Dear Zoo* and *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* and the children have loved it! We used story stones and toy animals to talk about each character in the story and what they look like. Lots of the children have been creative, making lion masks and Brown Bears. We have also written some lovely letters to the Zoo, to tell them what our favourite animals are. We added stamps to the envelopes and posted them off. We also got our adoption pack in the post. We have adopted Nelly, a lovely elephant from the WWF. All of the children loved meeting her and learning about elephants. Many of the children have liked role playing as Vets, in the home corner, dressing up and looking after the pets. We have also received our class caterpillars: Mini, Timmy, Rosie, and Lilly. We have learnt all about the butterfly life cycle and can't wait to set them free once they have emerged from their cocoons. Well done boys and girls! Mrs Hanlon and Miss Holyoak.

Easter Week in Nursery!



This week we have really enjoyed doing lots of Easter activities. We started the week with an Easter egg hunt. The children had to find 10 hidden eggs and we completed the hidden challenges that were inside, followed by a little treat. We have also made chocolate Easter nests which were delicious. The classroom has

also been Easter themed with lots of crafts and activities for the children to do. Mrs Hanlon & Miss Holyoak.

Quel Temps Fait-il?



Y6 have been revisiting a topic they worked on in yr 4. They are using their knowledge about weather to help them to write and talk about what they wear depending on how hot or cold it is. They've been using French phonics to help them with pronunciation. A favourite activity has been Phonics Lotto. Madame Blackett has been so impressed with the progress they've made. The story 'Quel Temps Fait-il Berthe?' has helped to recap phrases they know as well as introduce new vocabulary. Let's hope that all of this talk about weather leads to a beautiful Spring ahead. Mrs Blackett.

Glorious Gardens with Year 1!



This half term we have enjoyed our topic 'glorious gardens'. It has been a science based topic and we have loved getting outside to explore our school grounds. We have learnt all about evergreen and deciduous trees and completed a checklist to see which types of trees we could see around school. We have also been growing our own cress and beans and have kept a bean diary to see how much it has grown each week. We have really enjoyed this topic! Miss Stell and Miss Kirkup.

The Hodgeheg!



This half term in Year 3, we have been reading The Hodgeheg. We have loved this story all about a little hedgehog that wants to cross the road and makes it his mission to successfully reach the park! We have been writing our very own five part stories with an introduction, problem, build up, resolution and ending. We created new characters and added lots of figurative language. We have been focusing on description, similes and personification. In Maths this term, we have been learning all about measuring and calculating length and perimeter. We used cm and m rulers to measure lengths and heights and even converted the units of measurement. We were able to compare different heights and order our classmates from tallest to shortest. We even measured the perimeter of biscuits and enjoyed them as a treat once we worked out the total! Miss Cassidy.

Digital art and artists around the world!



In art this half term year three have been learning about different artists around the world. We analysed and compared the techniques of Frida Kahlo, Edvard Munch, Pablo Picasso and Wassily Kandinsky and looked at how their style of portraits differ. We then chose our favourite style and mimicked it in our own self-portraits, which we signed so we could all feel like real artists! We also did some digital art in ICT. We followed a step by step video to learn how to draw lines and shapes, fill areas with colour and even reflect a whole picture. We then used these techniques to create a beautiful city skyline at night, before having fun with making our own creations! Miss Charlton.

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!

Our Year 6 Authors are writing a Novel!



Since their return to school, the children have settled back in beautifully and have been working extremely hard. So far, they have finished our wonderful novel *Rooftoppers* and they have been working on writing a very complex novel. They've children have learnt how to write a narrative from two different narrators' viewpoints, the main character Sophie and her long lost mother Vivienne. The children have been trying to use lots of different sentence types in their writing. In maths, the children have been recapping what they know about area and perimeter and have also found the area of triangles. I was really proud of their perseverance and now they've realised it isn't as tricky as they thought. In science, the children have produced some wonderful work about the circulatory system. The children learnt about the different parts of the heart and why the heart is important. The work they produced is absolutely wonderful. The children also had a fantastic day celebrating World Book Day. We spent the morning talking about our favourite books and characters. Then the children designed and made their own t-shirts. It was lovely to see the children's designs! Miss Hunter.

Here We Are!



We have loved reading and getting our teeth stuck into our author study in English this half term. We have focused upon books by Oliver Jeffers. When we welcomed all of Year 2 back we began to look at *Here We Are*, which led us to ask and answer many questions about us and where we live. We thought carefully about where we live and we created leaflets giving a tour of Planet Earth. We thought about how to look after each other and where we live and had lots of fun creating bird feeders. Our instructions were fabulous! Mrs Dolan and Mrs Mitchell.

From the Wolf's point of view!



Year 5 have been retelling a story from a different point of view. In order to help guide us in this, we looked again at our most favourite traditional tales from our younger years - in particular 'The Three Little Pigs.' We read both the original version and a version written from the Wolf's perspective and compared and contrasted the parts that stayed the same and what had changed. The children have then been working on writing their own narrative from the wolf's point of view. We have worked hard to ensure we include lots of speech, powerful verbs, adjectives and adverbs, non-finite clauses and fronted adverbials too! Once we completed these stories, the children were able to select a traditional tale of their own choosing and make an alternative version whilst still retaining key details of the original. The stories produced are wonderful! Mrs Buddle.

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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



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.
Mon 31st May - Fri 4th June: Half-term break.