



Issue 2, February 2024

### Message from the Headteacher



We are again at the end of a very productive half term and I continue to be delighted by the hard work and determination shown by our pupils as they strive to make progress in all aspects of their learning. Thank you for all you do in supporting their learning at home, it really does make a huge difference.



There have been workshops, clay modelling, exploring our local environment, incredible artwork and even a trip to Hampton Court Palace this half term, along with so much other GREAT learning. We are delighted to share some photos of these activities later in our newsletter.



I hope you had the chance to meet with your child's teacher this week for our parents' evenings. If you were unable to attend but would like an appointment to discuss your child's progress, please get in touch with the school office or speak to the class teacher to arrange a mutually convenient day and time. Our team are always happy to discuss any concerns or questions you may have.

### Staffing Update

After half term, we will be loaning Mrs Ajewole to our sister school, Birch Hill Primary, where she will be supporting them until she returns to GHPS later in the year. Mrs Watson will be acting as UKS2 Phase Leader until her return.

Mrs Ivanescic will be joining our Year 5/6 TA team and supporting children in the classroom. She has been working as a lunchtime controller at GHPS for some time and we wish her all the best in her new role.

This has created a vacancy in our lunchtime team – if you would like to apply, please visit the vacancies page on our website for full details ([GHPS – Vacancies](#)).

Job  
Vacancy  
Join our Team!

### Artwork Competitions

As mentioned in the newsletters over the past couple of weeks, there are two competitions running at the moment, giving our children the chance to show their creative skills and maybe win themselves and their school a fantastic prize!

We have attached the templates for these competitions to this newsletter, and copies are available from the school office. The deadline for entries to be in school are:

- **Pride of Bracknell Forest (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle): 22<sup>nd</sup> February**
- **Royal Ascot (Celebration of Royal Ascot): 1<sup>st</sup> March**

We've already had some brilliant entries sent into school and we're looking forward to seeing many more before the closing dates.



### World Book Day 2024

World Book Day is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March and we will be celebrating with reading activities across the school on the day. Previously, we have had dress-up days to celebrate World Book Day and are keen to gain feedback from parents and carers to help us plan how to celebrate this event. Please take a moment to complete our survey here: <https://forms.office.com/e/Fwtsi04inq>

## House Points Competition Update

House points have been collected by children in Years 1-6 this half term and the race to this term's winner is very close. As we are at the half-way point in the term, the current totals are...

**Ruby:** 872

**Emerald:** 865

**Sapphire:** 860

**Amber:** 852

We'll continue collecting points after half term, and the winning house will earn a bonus non-uniform day before the Easter break!

Wishing you all a relaxing and safe half-term break.



**Richard Ferris**  
**Headteacher**

### Term Dates

Don't forget that we return to school on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February** and we do have a Trust-wide Inset Day for the MET Staff Conference on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**.

All our term dates can be found on our website for your convenience: [Term Dates and School Timings](#)

## Family Learning Workshops



We've had some really enjoyable workshops this half term, provided by the Bracknell Forest Family Learning Team and these will continue after the break. These will include:

- **Year 2 English – 20<sup>th</sup> March @9.00am-10.30am**
- **Year 1 English – 27<sup>th</sup> March @9.00am-10.30am**
- **Year 3 Maths – 1<sup>st</sup> May @9.00am-10.30am**

We will also be holding transition workshops for children in Year 6 moving on to Year 7, and for new starters to our Reception class later in the Summer Term.

## Before and After School Club

Don't forget to book your place at after school club for next term, this can be done by emailing [gbpsasc@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:gbpsasc@maidenerleghtrust.org). All sessions for after school and morning club should be paid for in advance on ParentPay and if you have a balance outstanding on your child's account this must now be settled in full.

## School Lunches

If your child has school lunches, please can you remember that these **must be ordered in advance** via SCOPay (<https://www.scopay.com/login>). If you do not have access to your SCOPay account, the school office will be able to help you so please get in touch.

## Sport4Kids Clubs After School

Next term Sport4Kids will be offering some different clubs to our pupils after school. All bookings, payments or questions about the clubs should be directed to Sport4Kids. For next term the clubs on offer will be:

Monday: KS1 Arts and Crafts

Tuesday: KS2 Gymnastics and Dance

Wednesday: KS2 Dodgeball

Thursday: KS2 Nerf Club

Friday: KS2 Football



All clubs will run from 3.20pm to 4.25pm and you can find the flyer to book your child's place later in this newsletter.

# Our Great Learning!



## Hampton Court Palace



## Anglo-Saxon and Viking Workshop

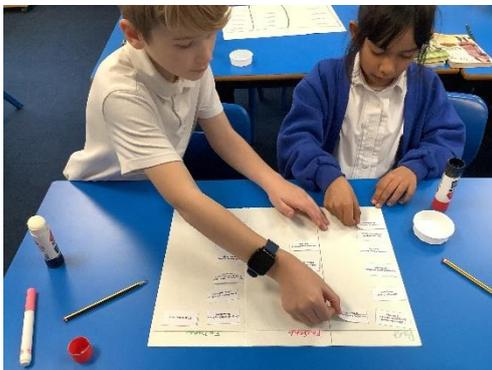
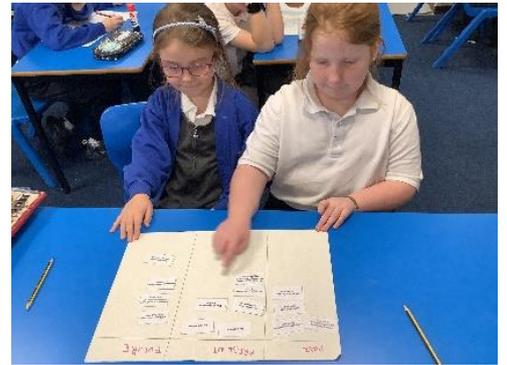




# Family Learning



# More GREAT Learning!





## Diary Dates

FEBRUARY 2024	
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Children return to school – school starts at 8.45am, doors open at 8.40am</b>
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Reception Screening Visit with the School Nursing Team
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	FROGS Year 5&6 Cake Sale
MARCH 2024	
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Family Learning Session – English 'Story Maps' – 9.00am-10.30am
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Family Learning Sessions – English 'Story Sandwich' – 9.00am-10.30am
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>End of Spring Term, school finishes at 2.15pm</b>
APRIL 2024	
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Start of Summer Term – school starts at 8.45am, doors open at 8.40am</b>
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Class Photographs and Individuals for Year 6 Leavers
MAY 2024	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 3 Family Learning Session – Maths 'Kaboom!' – 9.00am-10.30am
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>KS2 SATs WEEK</b>
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>



Bracknell Forest Family Hubs  
Making a difference everyday

## February half term 2024

- **Monday, 12 February**  
The Willows, Priestwood – 1pm to 2pm  
Family play with pancake day theme – all children welcome.
- **Tuesday, 13 February**  
The Oaks, Great Hollands – 1.30pm to 2.30pm  
Family play with valentine's day theme – all children welcome.
- **Wednesday, 14 February**  
The Alders, Sandhurst – 9.30am to 10.30am  
Valentine's arts and crafts – all children welcome.
- **Thursday, 15 February**  
The Rowans, Easthampstead – 9.30am to 10.30am  
Family play with Chinese new year theme – all children welcome.
- **Friday, 16 February**  
The Rowans, Easthampstead – 9.30am to 10.30am  
Active play (0-5s only).

**Email:** [early.help@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:early.help@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)  
**Call:** 01344 354382  
**Facebook:** Bracknell Forest Family Hubs



THE CROWN  
ESTATE

Berkshire  
Buckinghamshire  
& Oxfordshire  
Wildlife Trust

# Love Bugs Family Trail



Join us this half-term at Windsor Great Park for a lovely self-led trail around our wonderful woodland and marvellous meadow, learning all about the wonders of bugs and why you should love them!



Windsor Great Park Environmental Centre  
Windsor Great Park, SL4 2BY

Mon 12th, Tues 13th & Weds 14th February

10am–2pm (last entry 1pm)

Booking necessary!

Scan here to book or visit  
[www.bbwt.org.uk/events](http://www.bbwt.org.uk/events)

