



Message from the Headteacher

Encouraging Collaboration in Learning

Collaboration is one of our key priorities this year, and one way we're embedding this is through changing learning partners every two to three weeks. Research, including the work of Shirley Clarke, highlights the benefits of working with a range of peers to develop communication skills, flexibility in thinking, and deeper understanding of different perspectives. Encouraging children to collaborate with various classmates helps build confidence and resilience - important skills for both learning and life. Alongside this, we are continuing to explore and improve other ways of fostering collaboration across the school. Next half term, there will be a particular focus on this, as our school value focus will be Teamwork. We look forward to seeing how our children develop and demonstrate this important skill in their learning and daily interactions.

This Week's Assemblies

This week, children took part in two important assemblies. Phase leaders led discussions about Safer Internet Day, teaching children how to stay safe online, what to look out for, and how to report concerns. Additionally, Mrs Thorlby delivered an assembly on Random Acts of Kindness, sharing the poem Say Something Nice by AF Harrold. Both messages encouraged children to be thoughtful in their actions - whether online or in person - and to look out for one another. I led our celebration assembly, where we recognised the fantastic achievements of our children. A highlight of the assembly was announcing the winners of this half term's house award - Originals! The children watched intently as the house balls were dropped in, eagerly anticipating the final result. Well done to all teams for their hard work and contributions this half term.

Thank You to the PTA and Our Amazing Bakers!

A huge thank you to our PTA for organising the recent bake sale, and to everyone who baked, bought, and enjoyed the treats! The event was incredibly popular, we just about had enough to go around! Your support makes a real difference, and we appreciate it.

Thank You for Attending Parents' Evening

It was great to see so many of you at parents' evening this week. These meetings are such an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements, and work together to support their next steps. We value our partnership with you, and your engagement makes a real difference to your child's learning.

A Well-Deserved Break

Our children have worked incredibly hard this half term, particularly in showing our focus values of Effort and Resilience. They now deserve a well-earned rest before we return for an exciting new term, where we will focus on teamwork - both in class and in my first assembly back. Thank you to our children, staff, and families for making our school such a fantastic place. Enjoy the break, stay safe, and we look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for another half term!

Key Dates

24th February	School re-opens to pupils
24th February	Swimming lessons begin for IR pupils
24th and 25th February	Y5 SEND Reviews
25th February	Y6 SATs Workshop 5:30pm
25th February	Y4 Aqua Fest
26th February	Orchestra visit - Chitty Chitty Bang Bang
26th February - 3rd March	Book Fair in School
27th/28th February	Y4 SEND Reviews
1st March	Cross Country Race 8 Graves Park
6th March	World Book Day
7th March	Y3 Halle Orchestra visit
11th March	Y3PW/Y3MC visit to Weston Park Museum
13th March	Y3/Y4 Cinema Club
13th March	Y3BB visit to Weston Park
15th March	Cross Country Relays
18th March	Iftar Meal
19th March	Class photographs
20th March	Panathlon Team Finals
21st March	Comic/Sports Relief Day
	Future dates are available on the school calendar

This Week's Awards



Y3BB	Otilie
Y3PW	Scarlett
Y4TH	Rory
Y4JH	Toby
Y5JE	Y5JE

House Points	
Steel	203
Cutlers	201
Originals	206
Peaks	220

House winners

The house winners this half term are **Originals** - a big well done to them!

Totals for this half term are:



Originals - 78
Peaks - 74
Steel - 69
Cutlers - 65



Special Mentions

Y3P/W - Charlotte	Y4NH - Isaac
Y3BB - Louis	Y5JE - Isaac
Y3M/C - Whole class	Y5KL - Jacob
Y4TH - Macca	Y6H/K - Francisco
Y4JH - Hana	Y6JC - Nate
IR - Ayaan	Y6OS - Harry

All Y3 children for their fantastic production!

Attendance

Please ensure that your child is on time for school. Children can be brought into the yard from 8:40 am. Learning in school starts at 8:50 am.

Our attendance this week was 96.6%



Lexia

Congratulations to Alyena and Noah in Y4 who have moved up a level and well done to Savanna in Y4 for making excellent weekly progress.



Attendance Winners

Congratulations to:

Y3P/W and Y6JC

Every week, we will highlight the class in each key phase with the highest attendance.

Community

School Council

This half term, school council have been reviewing the lunchtime menu. Two very proactive school councillors gathered information from a pupil voice questionnaire which asked the children to vote for a dish that will be included on the summer menu in school. School Council then collated the responses and have approached the school catering team who have agreed to include a vegetable and meatball sub sandwich onto the menu – well done school council!



The second project the school council have been working on is a suggestion box that will be situated in the hall. The children wanted to encourage the school community to put forward their ideas by recording them on paper and posted their suggestions into the box. During the school council meeting in Spring 2, the suggestions within the box will be discussed and any ideas that are acted upon will be shared with the school.



Music of the half term - TV music

Listening to music is fundamental to musical understanding. By learning to listen critically, our children will not only expand their musical horizons but also gain a deeper understanding of how music is constructed and the impact it can have on the listener. Listening to a broad range of music also helps develop other areas of musical activity, including composing and performing. Therefore, each half term we focus on a 'music of the half term' which is explored through assemblies and further listening opportunities.

This half term, we will be focussing on Film and Television music, particularly exploring the impact a movie soundtrack can have on the viewer and their response. We will be listening to key pieces written by composers John Williams and Hans Zimmer.



Language of the Half Term - Dutch

Each term we select a different language for the pupils to learn greetings and basic phrases. We choose languages which represent our school community. At Nether Green, we feel it is important to give bilingual children the chance to demonstrate their language skills as well as have opportunity to share details of their family's country and culture. Language of the half-term also allows monolingual English speakers to encounter and learn to speak a variety of languages.

All teachers embrace the selected language of the half-term and actively encourage the children to say good morning, good afternoon and respond to simple yes/no questions in the given language.

Dutch is an official language in the Netherlands, Belgium, Suriname and also in Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten. About 24 million people speak Dutch as a mother tongue. It is sometimes known as Hollands or Vlaams. It is a Germanic language, so English and German are sister languages. Afrikaans, which is spoken in South Africa and Namibia, is derived from Dutch after Dutch settlers arrived in the Cape in the 17th century. The longest word in the dictionary is apparently 38 letters long (meervoudigepersoonlijkheidsstoornissen or multiple personality disorders). Some English words that have been taken from Dutch are coleslaw (koolsla), boss (baas), Santa Claus (Sinterklaas, aka Saint Nicholas) and cookie (koekje).

Community

SEND & Inclusion

Autism and Sensory Processing Workshop – Friday 21st March at 9:05am

We are fortunate to have a visiting speaker in school on Friday 21st March – Laura Hammond, a Locality SENCO and SEND parent is running a short workshop on autism and sensory processing differences. Laura has a wealth of knowledge and will share hints and tips on how to support your child's sensory needs in the home.

We would like to invite all interested parents/ carers to this hour-long workshop – whether your child has a diagnosis of autism or you feel that you would like additional information on sensory processing and sensory differences.

So that we know how many parents to expect, please e-mail senco@nethergreen-jun.sheffield.sch.uk to confirm your attendance.

Update from Sheffield Children's Hospital regarding waiting times for Autism and ADHD Assessment

Sheffield Children's Hospital has recently published a statement on the current waiting times for Autism and ADHD assessments. The statement, along with some further information can be found here:

<https://www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/services/child-development-and-neurodisability/#waiting-times>

There is also a new information page for families and young people who have received or are waiting for an autism assessment. This can be found here:

<https://www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/services/child-development-and-neurodisability/autism-home/autism-support/>

Please be reassured that regardless of a diagnosis, we are committed to providing the right provision and support for all children in school and will continue to work with families through the SEND Assess-Plan-Do-Review process.

Safeguarding Top Tip

Safer Internet Day Tuesday 11th February 2025

The theme of this year's Safer Internet Day has been about being aware of online scams.

In their classes this week, children have learnt what a scam is (both online and offline) and how to spot one by applying the question: Does it look or seem too good to be true?

Our children have learnt the term 'phishing' and know that this is when scammers hook in somebody by pretending to be an organisation. They have been learning how to protect their online profiles by having secure passwords and by not sharing personal information.

Please talk to your children about how you keep safe online and how you can support them to do this.



Spotlight on the Curriculum - PE

Intent

At Nether Green Junior School, we aim to provide our children with a rich, diverse and quality Physical Education (PE) curriculum which best meets the requirements of the National Curriculum.

- Develop competence to excel in a broad range of physical activities
- Are physically active for sustained amounts of time
- Engage in competitive sports and events
- Lead healthy, active lives

Through our PE programme, we strive to ensure our pupils develop and progress the fundamental skills involving their head, heart and hands.

Head	Heart	Hands
		
1. Knowledge	1. Communication	1. Physical Ability
2. Understanding	2. Leadership	2. Fitness Levels
3. Analysis	3. Respect	3. Competitive
4. Feedback	4. Resilience	4. Technique
5. Responsibility	5. Effort	5. Tactics
6. Rules	6. Confidence	6. Problem Solving



To ensure this expectation is met, we first and foremost, aim to make our children's PE lessons as fun as possible. We believe that if children experience a real enjoyment of learning in PE, they are more likely to achieve physical literacy and become lifelong active citizens. Through our PE delivery, we endeavour to equip our children with the skills, knowledge and aptitudes they require to lead healthy active lives and to counter the long-lasting impact of the pandemic and other current lifestyle behaviours.

Implementation

Our PE curriculum is mapped out from Y3 to Y6 using the GetSet4PE scheme of work. This is in line with the National Curriculum and is used to support teaching staff in their subject knowledge and planning of PE. Teachers are able to adjust and adapt lessons to meet the needs of their classes or their own sporting specialisms, but the scheme provides clear and progressive expectations for each year group.

At NGJS, each child has access to two hours of high-quality PE every week taught by their class teacher. One of these lessons takes place in our fantastic sports hall and the other occurs outside on the playground. When we designed our PE curriculum, we wanted to ensure that we achieved the following outcomes:

- Clear, coherent and progressive
- Flexible and creative
- Focus on fundamental skill development (head, heart and hands)
- Emphasis on social and emotional wellbeing

Impact

Our children tell us through 'Pupil Voice' that they really enjoy their PE lessons at NGJS. With 10 being the best lesson of the week, our children on average scored the subject as 8.5 (Sample Size – 36). They commented that they enjoy PE for the following reasons:

- Being active
- Learning different skills and sports
- Socialising with different children in their class



Spotlight on the Curriculum - PE continued

- Participating in competitive games
- Feels like a 'brain break'
- Gives you a boost
- Having fun!

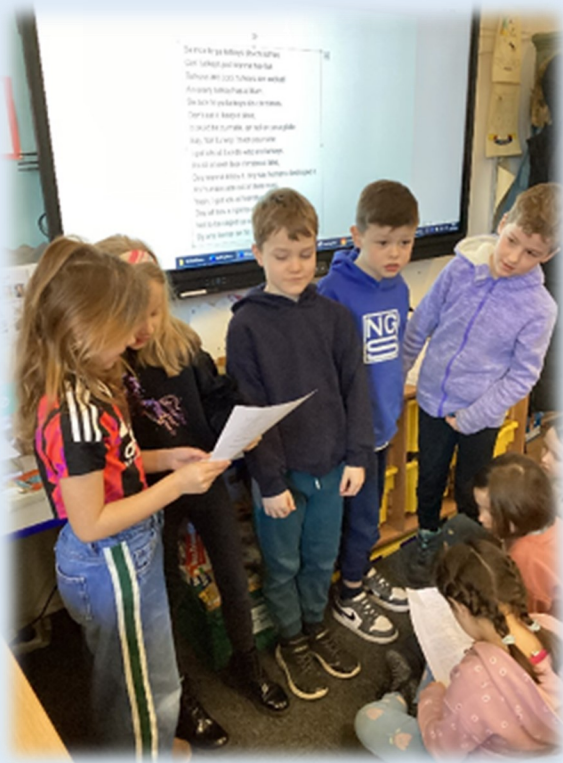
The children can clearly tell us what they have been learning about in their PE lessons and can recall key learning points using appropriate subject knowledge and language. In addition, the children showed an understanding of 'how' and 'why' they were learning specific skills in PE and the wider benefits such as teamwork, communication and confidence. Prior learning from previous years was also recalled and the children said they felt supported in PE by their teachers through demonstrations and use of video technology. Our children also have the confidence to voice their opinions on what sports and activities they like to learn about whether through PE lessons or clubs. At NGJS, our children really enjoy being active at playtimes and our clubs and competitions are always very well attended. As a result, our school has always been recognised both locally within Sheffield and nationally for aspects of our PE, School Sport and Physical Activity offer. Since 2022, we have been awarded the School Games Platinum Mark and at the Sheffield Schools Get Active Awards we won the 'Primary Targeted Project Award' in 2023 and were highly commended in the PE & Sport Inclusion Award in 2024. Our sports teams have also enjoyed local, city and national success over the years, with the highlight being our Y6 football team reaching the final of the EFL Kids Cup at Wembley Stadium in May 2022.



Learning in Action

Year 3

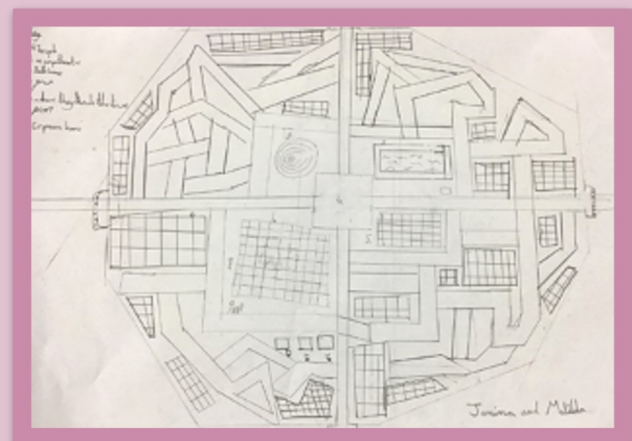
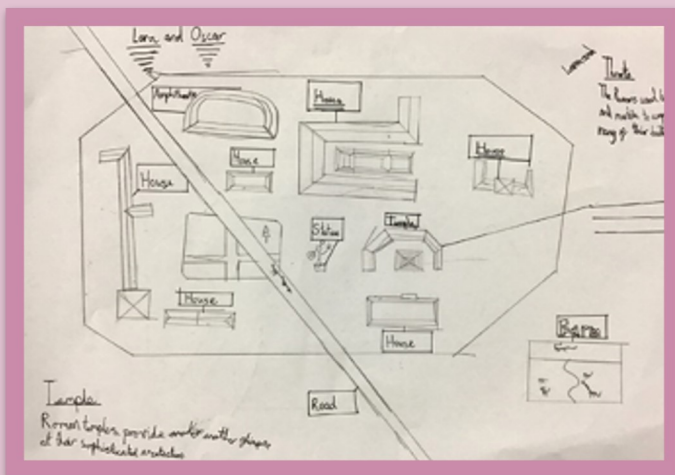
In Year 3, we have been studying length and measuring in Maths. We went outside to measure the length of the running track, benches and the tiniest leaf, among other items. We focussed on accurate measuring and choosing the correct measuring equipment to measure items.



We also studied the poem 'Talking Turkeys' by Benjamin Zephaniah in reading time and performed it to the class.

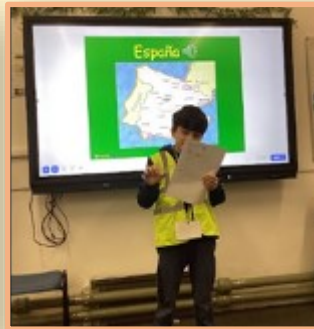
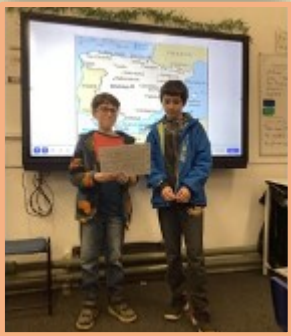
Year 4

To answer our history question of 'How did life in Britain change after the Invasion?' we discussed the many ways in which Britain changed after the Romans invaded. Then, we went around the classroom to gather information about what we could find in a Roman town such as an aqueduct or a theatre. After, we worked in pairs to design a typical Roman town including all of the information we gathered. We were amazed by the quality of their designs!



Year 5

This week, we wrote and presented weather forecasts in Spanish and everyone showed great teamwork and effort to create lovely presentations. Bien hecho!



In RE, we are learning about Muslim life in Britain and we used maps to discover how many mosques are in different parts of the UK and what this tells us about the Muslim population.



Fifteen girls from Years 5 and 6 also went to a gymnastics competition on Friday. The advanced team won their category and everybody listened well to their feedback, improved, and did NGJS proud. We also had lots of fun doing our own gymnastics moves in the meantime, especially our 10 person human pyramid!

Year 6

Zoolab visited Y6. They showed and talked to us about different rainforest animals and how they are adapted to the rainforest.



In our phase assembly, the children learnt about Chinese New Year. Some classes continued the celebrations in class.

We have been immersed in fables in English. This unit started with us listening to and acting out some well-known fables.



Year 6 continued

In science, Y6 have been finding out about evolution and how birds that adapt to their environment are more likely to survive. They carried out an investigation – The Battle of the Beaks – to develop their understanding of Darwin's theory: The Survival of the Fittest.



Integrated Resource

The IR children have been investigating an 'alien invasion' and all the chaos that they created when they visited Nether Green Junior School. Some of the children developed character descriptions and then made models out of play dough. Others made a newspaper report and a crime scene report for the head teacher.



Lunch Menu wb 24th February

Nether Green Juniors Autumn / Winter 2024/2025 - Week One

Dates: 9th Sep, 30th Sep, 21st Oct, 11th Nov, 2nd Dec, 23rd Dec, 13th Jan, 3rd Feb, 24th Feb, 17th Mar, 7th Apr



WEEK ONE	GREEN EARTH MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main Option	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Tomato Pasta Salad	Red Tractor Pork Sausage Roll with Skin on Baked Potato Wedges	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Roast Potatoes	Red Tractor Beef Pasta Bolognese & Garlic Bread	MSC Fish Fingers & Chips
Vegetarian Option	Butternut Squash, Chickpea & Lentil Dahl Served with Rice & Naan Bread Fingers	Cheese & Onion Pastry Roll with Skin on Baked Wedges	Quorn Grill with Gravy, Stuffing & Roast Potatoes	Cheese Flan with Skin on Baked Potato Wedges	Crispy Vegetable Fingers & Chips
Meat Free		Vegetarian Breakfast Wrap with skin on Wedges		Cheese & Tomato Melt with Salad	
Vegetables	Country Mixed Veg, Sweetcorn	Red Tractor British Peas, Baked Beans	Broccoli/Cauliflower & Carrots	Broccoli/Cauliflower & Sweetcorn	Baked Beans British Red Tractor Garden Peas
Baked Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise or Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise or Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise or Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise or Cheese or Beans	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise, Salmon Mayonnaise or Cheese or Beans
Homemade Dessert	Chocolate Mousse and Orange Smiles	Homemade Jam Buns & Custard	'Hidden Fruit' (Chocolate, (Beetroot & Pear) Brownie	New Homemade Vanilla & Cherry Cookie Cup & Custard	Strawberry Jelly and Mandarins

Portion(s) of fruit or veg Source of wholegrain Contains plant-based proteins 50% fruit Oily fish **Our desserts meet the health England's target for 'free sugar' intake for your child.** vegetable portion sizes are calculated using School Food Standards. On average our desserts do not exceed a third of a child's recommended 'free sugar' intake.

Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics Team

On Friday 7th February, 15 gymnasts from Year 5 and 6 travelled to Concord Sports Centre for the Arches SSP Gymnastics Competition. We had time for a warm up and a practice of our routines before competing individually in front of the judges. Once the teams had finished their routines, we also had time to try out gymnastics skills on the mats, and even make a 10-person pyramid! Before the results were announced, 5 of our team performed their showcase routine, mixing dance and gymnastics to a Disney soundtrack! All the gymnasts did fantastically and made Nether Green and themselves very proud, overcoming nerves to perform brilliant routines. An extra well done to the Year 5/6 advanced team who won their section!



Extra curricular clubs —Spring term 2

Here are the extra curricular clubs happening after the half term holiday (Spring term 2). For further information on booking your child a place at a club please see below.

SECOND HALF TERM – FEB/MARCH	LUNCH	Boys Football Y3 – 4	ORCHESTRA <i>(Instrumentalists only)</i>	Tennis Club (fully booked) AJW Coaching Y3 – 4	Handball Y5	Badminton Club <i>(fully booked)</i> AJW Coaching Y5 – 6
	AFTER SCHOOL	CHOIR	Dance Club Y3 – 6			Guitar Band
		Gymnastics Club Sheffield Gymnastics Club Y3 – 6 (3.45 – 4.35pm)	Flag Football (invite only) Y6 (3.40 – 4.30pm) Forest School Y5 – 6 Fit Kids (3.35 – 5.05pm)	Karate Club Elite Karate Y3 – 6 (3.45 – 4.45pm)	Knitting Club Y6 (3.40 – 4.30pm) Y3MC Classroom	Art Club Y5 – 6 (3.40 – 4.30pm) Y3MC Classroom
		Girls Football Y5 – 6 (3.40 – 4.30pm)	SoccerEds Y3 – 6 (3.45 – 4.45pm)		Netball Y3/4 (3.40 – 4.30pm)	
			French Club Y3 – 6 Le Club Français (3.45 – 4.45pm)	Forest School Fit Kids Y3 – 4 (3.35 – 5.05pm)		

The clubs highlighted in red are run by teaching staff free of charge. All other clubs are run by external providers for which there is a charge – details below.

Art Club Y5/6	This club is now LIVE for booking on ParentPay. (There is no charge for this club)
Badminton Club (AJW Coaching)	This club is now fully booked for this term.
Football (Y5 Girls)	This club is now LIVE for booking on ParentPay at 8.00pm. (There is no charge for this club)
Forest School (FitKids)	<i>Please contact Forest Skills for further details: fitkids@sheffield.gov.uk</i>
French Club (Le Club Français)	<i>Please contact Le Club Français for further details: vessex.lcf@gmail.com</i>
Gymnastics Club (Sheffield Gymnastics School)	<i>Please contact Sheffield Gymnastics School for further details: sheffqym@hotmail.co.uk</i>
Karate Club (Elite Karate)	<i>Please contact Elite Karate for further details: steve@elite-karate.co.uk</i>
Knitting Club Y6	This club is now LIVE for booking on ParentPay. (There is no charge for this club)
Netball Y3/4	This club is now LIVE for booking on ParentPay. (There is no charge for this club)
SoccerEds	<i>Please visit https://www.theevoway.co.uk/soccereds for further details</i>
Tennis (AJW Coaching)	This club is now fully booked for this term.

Lunchtime Clubs (run by teaching staff):

Further Information will be handed out in Assembly at the beginning of next half term (February 2025).