

NEWSLETTER

Maths at Guildford Grove

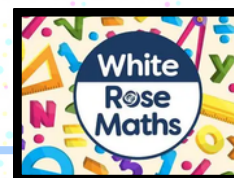
In previous newsletters, we shared how we teach phonics/reading and writing. In this edition, we're outlining our approach to teaching maths across the school.

We follow the White Rose Maths curriculum. White Rose is a step-by-step approach that helps children build a deep, secure understanding of mathematical concepts. Rather than rushing through topics, pupils learn in small stages, practise in different ways, and use practical equipment, visuals, and reasoning to explain their thinking. The aim is for every child to become confident and fluent in maths—not just to memorise methods.

Every maths lesson across all year groups begins with a “Flashback Four.” This quick starter helps pupils revisit and secure prior learning. Questions typically draw on content from the previous lesson, last week, and earlier terms, ensuring key ideas are regularly revisited throughout the year.

You'll also notice we start the school day with a daily arithmetic session (you may spot the blue slides on the interactive board first thing in the morning). This programme was developed by our very own Mrs Schollar and gives pupils consistent practice in core arithmetic skills, including times tables.

The best way you can support your child at home is by helping them secure rapid recall of their times tables. We use Times Tables Rock Stars to make this practice engaging and effective.



Dates for your diary

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| Friday 22 nd May | - Non-uniform day (bring in sweets, cakes, chocolate)
Sweet Treat sale outside the front of the school (3.15 - 3.45) |
| Mon 25th - Fri 29th May | - Half term holiday |
| Monday 1 st - 12 th June | - Year 4 multiplication check window |
| Monday 8 th - 12 th June | - Year 1 Phonics Screening check window |
| Tuesday 16 th June (am) | - EYFS and KS1 Sports Day (Reception, Year 1 and 2) |
| Wednesday 17 th June(am) | - KS2 Sports Day |
| Thursday 18 th June | - Year 2 trip |
| Friday 19 th June | - Male Superhero Day (linked to Father's Day) |
| Monday 29th June | - INSET day - school closed |
| Friday 17th July | - End of term (1pm finish) |



Strings Programme in Year 3

We are delighted that all our Year 3 pupils are taking part in our new Strings Programme run by the Royal Grammar School in Guildford.

Every child in Year 3 now has a string instrument that they keep at home and bring into school every week to take part in their weekly string lessons.

It has been a real pleasure seeing our Year 3 pupils on a Monday, walk to and from school carrying their violins or cellos.

Amazon Wishlist Play equipment

Don't forget we have an **amazon wishlist** with some items parents/carers can purchase to help provide more play equipment for our lunchtimes.

So far we have been able to add some chalk and skipping ropes to our lunchtimes thanks to parent/carers generous donations!

<https://amzn.eu/OiKTQu2e>



Attendance matters

At Guildford Grove, we promote good attendance for our pupils.

Good attendance is a skill for life and attendance has an impact on a child's whole school experience.

We aim for all pupils to have an attendance that is 96% or better.

Your child's attendance will be reported in their end of year reports which you will receive in July.

For further information please refer to our [school website](#).

REMINDERS

Please can parent/carers be reminded that dogs are not permitted on the school site.

Please can parents/carers also ensure that children dismount off bikes and scooters when entering the school site and push them to the bike storage area. This is to ensure we avoid accidents on our busy pathways.



Please visit our website

[guildfordgrove.surrey.sch.uk](https://www.guildfordgrove.surrey.sch.uk)

Lunchtimes Update

This year, we have continued to work incredibly hard to improve lunchtimes across the school and create a positive, enjoyable experience for all of our pupils.

As part of our lunchtime organisation, we continue to use a zoned playground system, where the playground is divided into three different areas. Year groups move around each zone throughout the week, allowing all children to experience a variety of activities and spaces. Our Midday Play Leaders remain with the same year groups as they move around the zones each day, helping to build positive relationships with the children and providing consistency, support and encouragement throughout lunchtime.

One of the biggest successes this year has been the fantastic contribution from our Year 6 Playleaders. These pupils give up their own lunchtime to support the younger children by helping them to join in games, make friendships and enjoy a range of activities. They also help to run our Quiet Courtyard, providing a calm space for children who prefer a quieter lunchtime experience. In addition, our Playleaders organise and run our popular playground discos, which have become a real highlight for many pupils!

Our dedicated Midday Play Leaders have also continued to play a huge part in improving lunchtimes. Every day, they carefully set up a variety of exciting activities for children to enjoy. Pupils can race on space hoppers, take part in ball games, play with bubbles and enjoy many other fun activities. Their enthusiasm and commitment help to ensure that children remain active, engaged and happy throughout lunchtime.

We are also fortunate to have sports coaches leading some of our lunchtime football sessions. These sessions have been extremely popular and give children the opportunity to develop their teamwork, skills and confidence while enjoying being active with their friends.

We understand that lunchtime can sometimes feel loud or busy for some pupils, so we also continue to offer an Indoor Lunchtime Club. This provides a calm and welcoming environment where children can play board games, complete jigsaws, colour and enjoy quieter activities with their friends.

Overall, we are delighted with the improvements we have made to lunchtimes this year. It has been wonderful to see so many children smiling, playing together and enjoying their time outside.



Please visit our website

guildfordgrove.surrey.sch.uk