

ARGYLE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

We have reached the end of the Spring Term!

Today, following a staff Easter egg hunt, children celebrated Comic Relief. School Council made us laugh with a very funny assembly and the children then enjoyed their Eid parties all afternoon. Everyone was dressed in red for Comic Relief or in their finest party gear for Eid. It reminded us why we love Argyle and our community so much!

But it has been a tough term. We have been working very, very hard to ensure that all children make good progress - and this needs commitment from parents and children as well as from staff and our incredible team of volunteers.

We have been working hard in relation to attendance - we can't support children if they are not in school. Children cannot fully thrive if they regularly miss learning opportunities. We have also spent more time than we like addressing behaviour. Meanwhile, behind the scenes we have been busy trying to navigate the increasingly complex and challenging issue of trying to balance budgets. It is clear that going forwards we are going to be expected to achieve what we achieve with less money and fewer staff. Whilst we are up for the challenge, we are going to be calling upon you for your full support!

For now though, thank you for your support this term, have a great Easter holiday.

J. Wade

Head Teacher



In evaluating the quality of a school's curriculum and teaching Ofsted consider: Whether leaders design a high quality ambitious curriculum for all pupils, paying particular regard to disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND. They also look at how leaders and staff deliver the curriculum effectively across all subjects, year groups and key stages and the extent to which leaders make sure that pupils build strong foundations for accessing the curriculum and later success.-including academic achievement, good health and wellbeing. We are proud of our ambitious and exciting curriculum. We know that it is well sequenced and engaging and fosters a sense of belonging. However it is a very busy curriculum and can feel so rich that it is a struggle to teach everything well. We also know that in order to build strong foundations, many children would benefit from additional time on core skills -particularly in maths. Over the summer term we will be working together to refine our curriculum, removing some of the content so that we can really focus upon excellent delivery and mastery of the most critical skills.

Year 2 Curriculum Overview 2025-26				
	Autumn	Spring	Summer	
Continuous story	Argyle Code, Argyle Super Learning Powers, Stay on Green			
Humanities (History / Geography)	Great Fire of London	Heroes & Habitats	Woodlands, Forests and Rainforests	
Science/Tips	London walk and Monument Fire Brigade Workshop: Highgate Woods, Gunpowder	Florence Nightingale Museum Founding Museum Portico Gallery Highgate Woods.	Epping Forest Easter Festival	
Big Question	How did the Great Fire of London change our city? Introduce RRD through article 29 aims of education and 31 rest, play, culture, arts.	Who are our historical heroes and how have they made a difference to us today?	What is the difference between an English Forest and a Rainforest and why is it important that we protect them?	
Key texts	The Three Little Pigs and alternative versions Vlad and the great fire of London Toby and the great fire of London	The Great Fire of London by Fu Cobbett text Little Piggies, Big Dreams: Amelia Earhart Dreams The Jolly Postman Look Up by Nathan Bryon TAW: Guest Story Sam Wu	Sam Wu The last wolf	Big Billy Non-fiction texts linked to animals Old enough to save the planet.
Writing Outcomes:	TAW: Conquering the monster tale Recount of London walk trip. Diary entry. Samuel Pepys Poetry: Fire Calligrams Link to Materials	Postcards Letters Invitation to a party Retelling of the narrative	Create fact file of significant people TAW: 1 st person quest story Descriptive writing	TAW: 1 st person quest story Narrative: Finding story Explanation Text about woodlands/woodlands or rainforests Persuasive letters or posters.
				Fantastic Mr Fox Narrative: Journey Tale Persuasive Letter Demonstration of woodlands or rainforests

NURSERY

Last week we read *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson.



We explored fantasy and reality, and the children did a great job identifying the difference between real and imaginary people and animals for our topic poster.

We had lots of fun dressing up as princesses, pirates and wizards, and enjoyed playing "What's in the Box?" to talk about story characters and objects. We also learned that a potion is a mixture of ingredients, often magical in stories.

In maths, we practised measuring using different tools and even made our own potion—but sadly, it wasn't magical and the broomstick didn't fly!

B

In phonics, the children learned about the 'b' sound. They practised blending simple words that begin with b, including b-a-t, bus and b-ir-d.



This week we finished our fantasy topic with *Zog* by Julia Donaldson, learning about dragons and their skills.

We also explored Spring and Easter as a time of new life, enjoying an Easter egg hunt and learning about animals that lay eggs.

In maths, we played 1-6 bingo to recognise numbers quickly, and in phonics we learned the 'f' sound and practised writing it.

We ended the week by celebrating Red Nose Day and enjoying a fun Eid party.

Thank you for your support!



f

RECEPTION



Last week in Reception, we continued learning about space and astronauts. We explored the work of British astronaut Tim Peake, who lived on the International Space Station (ISS) for six months as it orbited Earth.

Did you know the ISS is about the size of a football field and travels around Earth every 90 minutes? We also visited the Science Museum, where the children saw real spacecraft and spacesuits and learned about famous astronauts, including Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake.

In RE, we talked about books that are special to us and recalled our World Book Day stories.

We then learned about special religious texts: the Bible for Christians, the Qur'an for Muslims, and the Torah for Jewish people.

We also discovered that the Torah is a handwritten scroll that must be treated with great care, including not being touched by hand.



In handwriting, the children have now learned how to write all the capital and lower case letters of the alphabet, what a fantastic achievement!

This week, we began our exciting new topic, **The Sea**. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring books and developing their reading skills through this theme. We shared the story *The Snail and the Whale*, which sparked lots of wonderful discussions about sea animals. Together, we created a story map, and the children then had a go at drawing some of the characters from the story, showing great creativity and attention to detail.

This week we started learning how to write digraphs (two letters that make one sound) and practised writing simple sentences with capital letters and full stops.

During our reading for pleasure time, the children demonstrated their fantastic reading skills as they explored their chosen books.

Ihram shared, "**The title of my book is *On the Moon, and it's about the moon.***" Lamar proudly said, "**I can spot tricky words!**" and Vlad excitedly told us, "**Jo, I can read this: 'Off we go!'**" It has been a brilliant start to our new topic, and we look forward to continuing our learning about the sea.



YEAR 1 - LAST WEEK

Teddy Bear Clinic

At Teddy Bear Clinic, we have been learning about how important sleep is for our growing bodies and minds. A good night's sleep helps us feel happy, focused, and full of energy for the day ahead!

What we learned:

Our bodies follow a sleep pattern, daytime is for being active and night time is for resting.
Children need regular, good quality sleep to stay healthy, and having a bedtime routine helps our bodies know when it is time to sleep.

Healthy bedtime tips:

Hafsa – Go to bed at the same time each night.

Gusay – Read a calm story before bed.

Esam – Have a warm bath to help you relax.

Maryam – Turn off screens at least one hour before bedtime.

Zakariya – Take your favourite teddy to bed, and **Muna** says it can help you feel safe.

Year 1 Jade's advice:

Keep practising your bedtime routines at home, and remember – sweet dreams start with good habits!



How do Jews belong and how do they celebrate Shabbat?

In RE, we have been learning about how Jewish people show that they belong to their faith and community. One important way they do this is by celebrating Shabbat, the Jewish day of rest. Shabbat takes place every week from Friday evening to Saturday evening.

How Shabbat is celebrated:

Izyaan – Lighting candles: On Friday evening, candles are lit to welcome Shabbat and bring peace into the home.

Kenza – Special meal: Families share a special meal with foods like Challah and grape juice.

Nuh – Blessings are said before eating.

Ibrahim – Prayers: Some people go to the Synagogue, while others stay at home to pray.

Osman – Family time: It's a time to rest, spend time together, and step away from work or school.

Arza – Rest and reflection: Activities are calm and meaningful.

Muna – People might read, talk, or go for a peaceful walk.

Shabbat helps Jewish people feel connected to their faith, their families, and their wider community. It is a weekly reminder of rest, togetherness, and belonging.

To help us understand this tradition, the children tasted some grape juice and shared challah (a special plaited bread).



YEAR 1 - THIS WEEK



Planting Seedlings

The children continued their gardening journey by planting in the KS1 playground. They transferred classroom-grown plants such as beans, cucumbers and squash, and planted new seeds including carrots, beetroot, radishes and sunflowers.

They are beginning to understand how plants grow from indoors to outdoors. Our tomato and lettuce seedlings are still inside, where the children are enjoying observing their progress.

We also discussed how some plants need support to grow, and will be adding a trellis for our climbing plants. I am very proud of the children's enthusiasm and look forward to seeing everything grow.

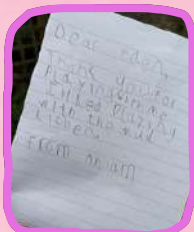


Teddy Bear Clinic

1 Jade are pleased to share highlights from our final Teddy Bear Clinic session. Throughout the programme, the children have been learning about health, wellbeing, and how to take care of themselves and others in a fun and engaging way. In our final session, we explored the idea of making safe and healthy choices. The children learned about using medicine correctly with the help of a trusted adult, and began to understand that some substances can be harmful to the body.

The session was delivered in a gentle, interactive way, helping the children feel comfortable and confident to ask questions. Our aim was to build early awareness and encourage positive, responsible habits.

The Year 1 team are incredibly proud of how engaged and thoughtful the children have been throughout the Teddy Bear Clinic programme.



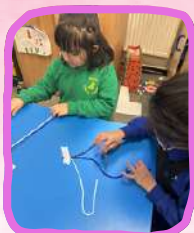
Garden Classroom

Year 1 Jade would like to share a special update from our recent session.

This was our final session with Eden, and we took time to thank her for her support and care.

The children enjoyed an Easter egg hunt, planting, and creative outdoor play. They ended the session by sharing their thanks and best wishes.

We are very proud of their enthusiasm and kindness, and look forward to continuing our Garden Classroom journey.



Raksha Bandhan

This week, the children learned about Raksha Bandhan, a Hindu festival celebrating the bond between brothers and sisters.

They explored themes of kindness, protection, and family, and enjoyed making their own bracelets inspired by traditional rakhi.

It was a great opportunity to learn about different cultures while promoting respect and understanding.



YEAR 2



Last Wednesday, Year 2 enjoyed their second visit to Highgate Wood to observe the changing seasons.

Although there were not many obvious differences since our previous trip, the children had a fantastic time exploring the woodland and taking part in a nature scavenger hunt, successfully ticking off items from their lists.

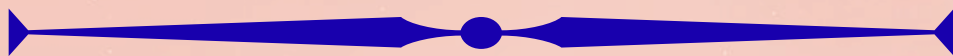
We loved hearing the children's observations throughout the day.

Noura excitedly shared, "**Look! This tree is bumpy,**" while Isa proudly ticked off the sun as something yellow from his list.

We were lucky to have beautiful sunshine, and the children made the most of it by playing games together on the grass.

Noah impressed us all by saying, "**I can throw the frisbee far,**" as he confidently demonstrated his skills!

It was a well earned treat after a term of hard work, and we are incredibly proud of how the children represented the school.



AMAZING HOME PROJECTS



Well done to Amaarah in Year 3 for creating an amazing novel, 100 Day Curse as a Dragon! The story includes an impressive 7 chapters, each with its own unique title. Ms Wade thoroughly enjoyed reading it. What a fantastic achievement!



Lea in 1 Jade has spent many hours creating his half term project. Please come and take a closer look, as it includes many wonderful features that cannot be fully captured in a photograph.



YEAR 4

AMIRA

“ Vikings wrote in a different language to us. ”

“ Archaeologists have such a cool job! ”

NOURAN

“ This coin is old cos it was deeper in the soil ”

ADWAAN

Year 4 had an exciting school trip to Fulham Palace this week. During a hands on Viking workshop, the children dressed up in Viking clothing, fully immersing themselves in the experience. They learned how archaeologists uncover and interpret historical evidence to determine which time period it comes from. The pupils also explored Viking runes, working together to decode a secret message, just like real historians!



YEAR 5

Year 5 Quartz had a fantastic time during their cooking session last Monday!

Before stepping into the role of chefs, the children explored how nutritional information helps us to maintain a balanced diet. They also learned about the importance of avoiding cross contamination in the kitchen to keep food safe and hygienic.

The excitement continued with a tasting session of different sauces, where pupils became food critics, discussing flavours, ingredients and cooking techniques with great enthusiasm.

Putting their new knowledge into action, the children then adapted and created their very own spaghetti Bolognese recipes.

The kitchen was filled with delicious smells, big smiles, and some very impressive cooking!



FAMILY 1ST AID

Congratulations to the parents who were awarded their certificates for completing their Family First Aid course this week. Each week, parents learnt about how to respond to different kinds of illnesses and accidents at home, from food poisoning to burns. Each parent gave a wonderful presentation at the end sharing what they'd learnt!



To sign up for future family learning opportunities, please speak to Sophia (Family Support Worker) on the gates or email sophia.robey@argyle.camden.sch.uk

ART CLUB

Children in Art Club have been getting creative colouring their own tote bags. The bags featured pre-designed Easter and Ramadan patterns, which the children carefully coloured using felt pens. They enjoyed choosing different colours and bringing the festive designs to life. It was lovely to see their creativity and concentration, and each tote bag turned out bright, colourful and unique.



BIG BOOK GIVEAWAY

Last Wednesday, we held Argyle's Big Book Giveaway, where every child had the opportunity to take home a free book to enjoy.

It was wonderful to see the excitement as pupils chose their stories and began exploring new adventures through reading.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Chapter One for generously donating the books for this special event.

Chapter One is a fantastic group of volunteers who dedicate their time to supporting our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils through online reading sessions, helping to build confidence and a love of reading.

We recognise that book poverty is a real issue, and at Argyle we are committed to tackling this by ensuring all children have access to books both in school and at home.



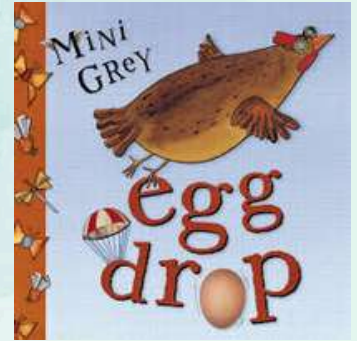
Reading for Pleasure


Teacher Book Recommendations



Jo


With British Science Week's theme of Curiosity in mind, Egg Drop by Mini Grey is a great read. This quirky twist on Humpty Dumpty follows an impatient egg who wants to fly and ignores advice to wait until he hatches. His leap from a tower leads to a messy but memorable ending. Younger readers will enjoy guessing what's inside the egg and exploring why some things can fly, while older readers can delve into the detailed, humorous pages. It's a slightly dark but funny story that sparks discussion about flight, animals, patience, and gravity.





Camden Family Learning

FREE Story Sacks for Children Aged 3 Years Plus



Easter Holidays

Story Telling Sessions On


Tuesday 31st March
 Swiss Cottage Library, NW3 3HA
 10:30am-12noon (Mrs Mole I'm Home)
 West Hampstead Library, NW6 1AU
 1:30pm-3:00pm (Mrs Mole I'm Home)

Thursday 2nd April
 Camden Town Library, NW1 1BD
 10:30am-12noon (A Best Friend for Bear)
 Queens Crescent Library, NW5 4HH
 1:30pm-3:00pm (Mrs Mole I'm Home)



Call Alison on 07876 651950 to book your place
 You must book to join in (due to health & safety rules)



A fun arts and crafts resource making session to bring the story to life.



Make a story prop to join in with the story adventure.




Every family will be gifted with a copy of the book



Attendance & Punctuality



Class	1J	2A	2O	3P	4E	4O	5A	5Q	6S	Total
Week 7	94%	91%	97%	96%	98%	98%	96%	96%	98%	97%
Week 8	97%	96%	96%	96%	97%	98%	97%	91%	95%	94%
Week 9	92%	94%	98%	91%	96%	95%	96%	91%	96%	94%
Week 10	95%	90%	81%	95%	92%	90%	96%	91%	98%	91%
Week 11	92%	89%	85%	97%	85%	91%	98%	88%	91%	88%

Well done to **3P & 5A** who achieved the target of 96% attendance this week.

THIS IS VERY SAD!



Reporting Absences

Parents should report any absences to the school office by calling 02078374590 before 9.30am.

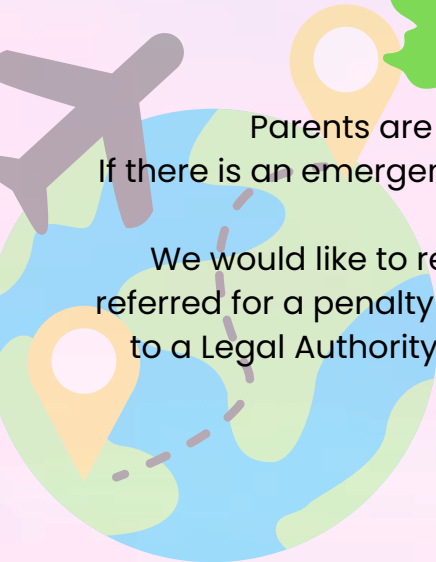
Please do not leave messages on the answering machine. A member of staff may call you again to discuss the absence. Please do not send emails to the admin inbox.

Exceptional Leave

Parents are reminded not to book holidays during school term time. If there is an emergency and you need exceptional leave, please complete a form from the school office before booking your tickets.

We would like to remind parents that taking holidays less than 5 days can still be referred for a penalty notice. You may not be issued a Penalty Notice but you will be invited to a Legal Authority Meeting with Camden's Attendance and Children Out of School Team in Camden offices.

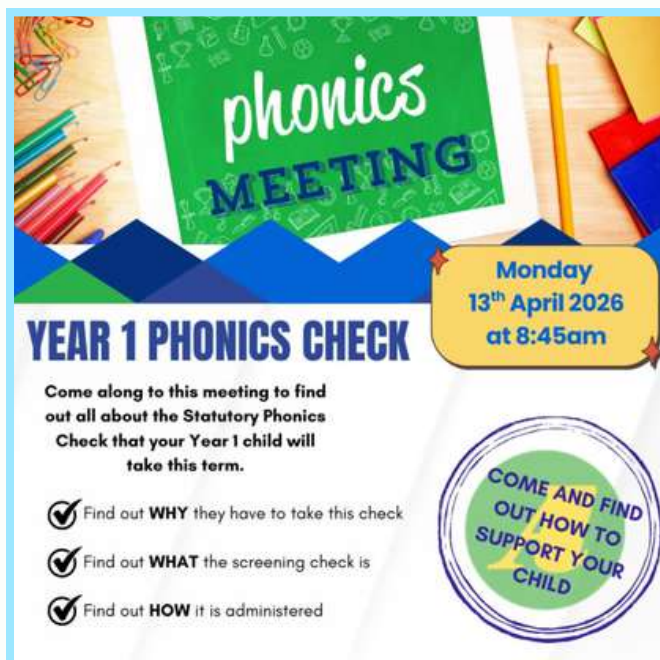
Every School Day Counts



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

MONDAY 13th	Year 1 Phonics Screen Check meeting for parents – 8.45am Year 5 to Ragged School Museum – 9am to 2.30pm ESOL class in FLC 9:30 to 11:30am Catch up Booster – selected children from years 1 to 4 – 3.15pm to 4.15pm (year 1 finish @ 4pm)
TUESDAY 14th	Year 4 Bonsall camping parents meeting – 3.15pm to 3.45pm Year 4 swimming – 11am to 12pm Year 5 Richard Reeves Tuition – 3.15pm to 4.30pm
WEDNESDAY 15th	ESOL class in FLC 9:30 to 11:30am Year 5 Action Tuition – 3.15pm to 4.30pm
THURSDAY 16th	Camden Choir Festival rehearsal @ St Mary & St Pancras – 1pm to 3pm Year 6 Richard Reeves Tuition – 3.15pm to 4.30pm Year 3 & 4 girls La Liga Football try outs – 3.15pm to 4.15pm



phonics MEETING

Monday
13th April 2026
at 8:45am

YEAR 1 PHONICS CHECK

Come along to this meeting to find out all about the Statutory Phonics Check that your Year 1 child will take this term.

- ✓ Find out **WHY** they have to take this check
- ✓ Find out **WHAT** the screening check is
- ✓ Find out **HOW** it is administered

COME AND FIND OUT HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD



Year 4's Argyle Adventure visit to Bonsall is coming up soon

To find out more about the trip to Bonsall, please come along to a meeting.

When?
On Tuesday
14th April 2026 at
3.15pm

Where?
In the Middle Hall

SCHOOL HOLIDAY & TERM DATES 2026 – 2027



Argyle
Primary
School

Autumn Term 2026

Autumn 1: Wednesday 2nd September 2026 – 23rd October 2026 (36 days)

Pupils return to school on **Friday 4th September 2026**

Half Term: Monday 26th October 2026 – Friday 30th October 2026

Autumn 2: Monday 2nd November 2026 – Friday 18th December 2026 (35 days)

Christmas Holidays: Monday 21st December 2026 – Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term 2027

Spring 1: Monday 4th January 2027 – Friday 12th February 2027 (29 days)

Pupils return to school on **Tuesday 5th January 2027**

Half Term: Monday 15th February 2027 – Friday 19th February 2027

Spring 2: Monday 22nd February 2027 – Thursday 25th March 2027 (23 days)

Easter Holidays: Friday 26th March 2027 – Friday 9th April 2027

Summer Term 2027

Monday 12th April 2027 – Friday 28th May 2027 (33 days)

Pupils return to school on **Monday 12th April 2027**

Half Term: Monday 31st May 2027 – Friday 4th May 2027

Monday 7th June 2027 – Thursday 22nd July 2027 (34 days)

190 DAYS
5 INSET DAYS

Inset Days

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Thursday 3rd September 2026

Monday 4th January 2027

Wednesday 10th March 2027

Monday 17th May 2027

Bank Holidays

Christmas Day Friday 25th December 2026

Boxing Day Saturday 26th December 2026

New Years Day Friday 1st January 2027

Good Friday Friday 26th March 2027

Easter Monday Monday 29th March 2027

May Day Monday 3rd May 2027

Spring Bank Holiday Monday 31st May 2027