

Goresbrook Primary School



Newsletter—18th September 2026

Welcome Back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first edition of our school newsletter for this academic year. I am delighted to share this newsletter with both our established school community, families who have just joined Goresbrook and to our new reception cohort of 2026. Published two to three times each half term, this newsletter will celebrate the many exciting events, achievements and learning experiences taking place across our school community, whilst giving you a window into life at Goresbrook.

We are particularly excited about the year ahead and the launch of our new enrichment map, which has been carefully designed to broaden our pupils' experiences and bring learning to life. Throughout the year, children will take part in a wide range of memorable opportunities, from external visits and performances, including experiences with the Barbican Symphony Orchestra and Tate Modern, to exciting in-school events such as our immersive Maya workshop, pantomimes and Philosophy Week.

We are also delighted to share that some of our pupils will have the opportunity to perform at the O2 Arena as part of Young Voices this year. Alongside this, Rocksteady music lessons and concerts will continue, and for the first time in a number of years every class will perform for parents at least once during the academic year. These opportunities help develop confidence, creativity and a lifelong love of learning, and we cannot wait to see our pupils shine.

As we look forward to the year ahead, we also reflect with immense pride on the achievements of our outgoing Year 6 pupils. Their hard work, resilience and commitment to learning resulted in SATs outcomes that were significantly above national averages for the second consecutive year. We wish them every success as they begin the next stage of their educational journey and know they leave Goresbrook well prepared for the future.

We hope this newsletter provides a valuable insight into school life, keeping you informed about the experiences, successes and opportunities enjoyed by our pupils. Alongside our newsletters, parent workshops, curriculum meetings and in-school events will continue throughout the year to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to another successful and exciting year together.

Mr David Cunnelly
Head of Primary



This week, pupils in Years 2 to 6 were inspired by a special assembly from Leah Chowdhry MBE, the first



British Asian woman to successfully swim across the English Channel. During her engaging and motivational talk, Leah shared her journey of overcoming challenges, including dyslexia, setbacks and years of dedicated training to achieve her goal.

She encouraged pupils to believe in themselves, persevere when things are difficult, and never give up on their dreams. Leah also spoke about the importance of kindness and the positive "ripple effect" that even small acts can have on others.

Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed hearing her story and learning valuable lessons about resilience, determination and self-belief. We were also amazed to hear about just how many jellyfish there are in the English Channel!

Thank you to Leah for taking the time to visit us.



Welcome Reception Classes



We would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new parents, carers and children who joined the Goresbrook Community since the summer half term.

Over the last 2 weeks we have welcomed 54 new starters into Reception and look forward to sharing their wonderful learning with you over the year.



A huge thank you to all of our families for your continued support in helping the children settle so positively and in encouraging their independence at home too. Working together makes such a difference, and we are incredibly proud of how confidently the children are beginning their Early Years journey. We are looking forward to watching them continue to grow, learn and thrive!



Welcome Reception Classes

It has been a wonderful start to the new school year in Early Years! Our Pre-School, Nursery and Reception children are now all in school and have settled brilliantly into their new routines and environments. The children have been busy exploring their classrooms, meeting new friends and adults, and learning how to use and look after all of the exciting resources available to them.



A big focus across EYFS has also been on building the children's independence. We have been encouraging them to manage their own belongings, follow daily routines, make choices in their learning, tidy away resources and begin to do more for themselves. We are already seeing their confidence grow each day.



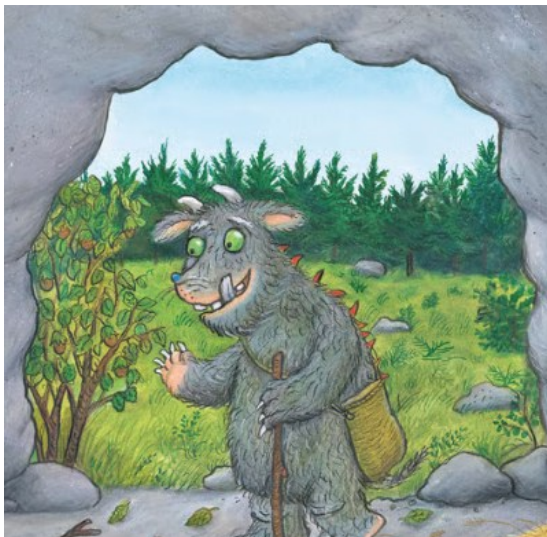
The Gruffalo Granny

On Friday 11th September, Reception to Year 3 celebrated the release of the new Julia Donaldson book 'The Gruffalo Granny'.

All classes read and enjoyed the new book, while Years 1-3 had the chance to attend a special virtual event led by the books authors: Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

During the event, Julia Donaldson put on her mouse costume and performed the Gruffalo with all of our favourite characters (Owl, Snake and Fox) before reading the new book to us all. After this, we watched Axel Scheffler teach us how to draw the Gruffalo ourselves!

All of the classes now have a copy of the new book to read in class and we are all looking forward to reading the book again and again!

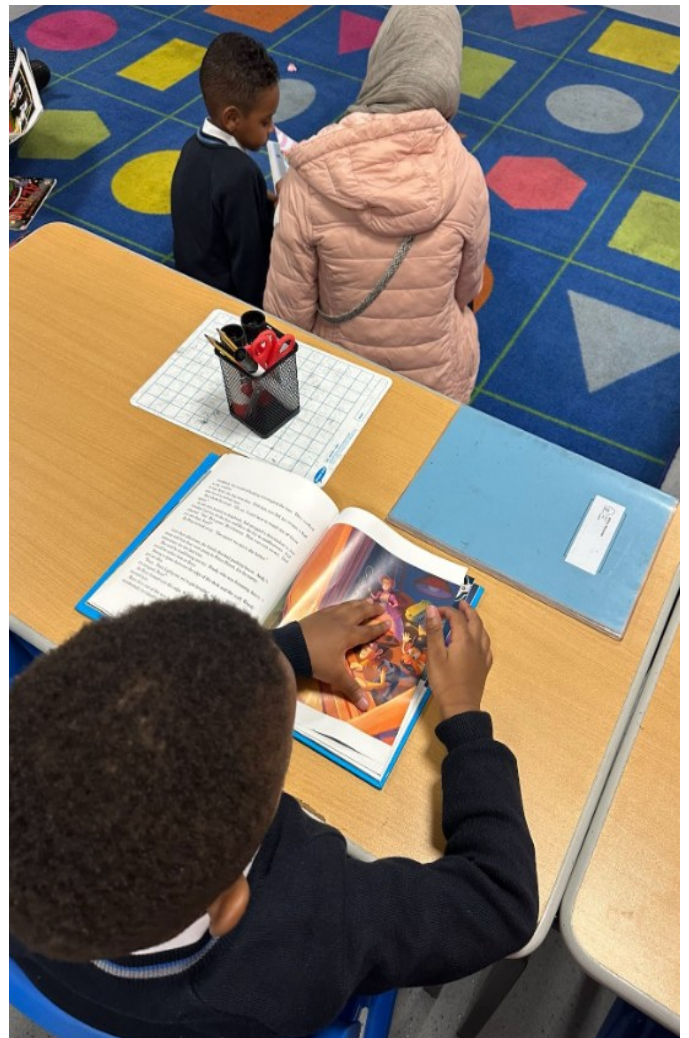


Year 1 Reading Morning



Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for our first Year 1 reading morning. It was fantastic to see so many of you join us and we look forward to seeing you again .

We are pleased to share that our reading mornings for Year 1 will now continue each Monday morning from 0840 to 0855.



Dagenham and Redbridge FC



As part of a new partnership with Dagenham and Redbridge FC we have 24 tickets available for their upcoming game v Hampton & Richmond Borough FC on Saturday 26 September. We are happy to allocate up to 4 tickets per family on a first come first served basis. Please complete the form [here](#) if you would be interested in attending the game.



The Daggers have also announced a special “Quids In” Open Day when they play Chesham FC in a league fixture on Saturday 24th October.

All tickets will be just £1! Tickets will be available [online](#) at the Club’s Online Ticket Office.



Attendance

Thank you to the whole community for ensuring that our children have been in school and ready to learn by 0850 over the last two weeks. **On Thursday we had 100% attendance across the school, which is a fantastic start to the year.**

Each week, the class with the highest attendance in school will receive a class trophy, with the winners this week being 4SS!



4SS have had an amazing attendance percentage of 99.7%, closely edging out 2ZJ with 99.6%. Well done to 4SS!

After School Clubs

Day	Club	Maximum Capacity	Club Teacher
Monday	Football KS1	20	Sports2inspire
Tuesday	Chess KS1 & KS2	20	Chess in Schools
Wednesday	Ninja Warrior: KS1	20	Sports2inspire
Thursday	Craft Club Reception – Year 6	20	Creation Station
Friday	Football KS2	20	Sports2inspire

After School Clubs began this week and can be booked through Arbor for the half term. Please let the office know if you have any questions for the clubs which will run from 330—430.

Curriculum Meetings

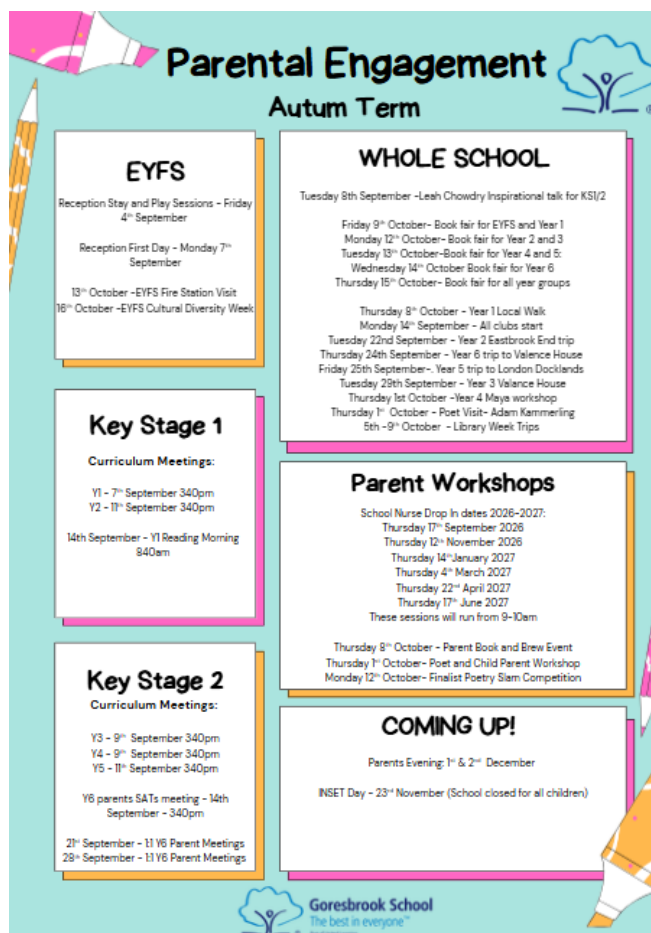
Thank you to all parents and carers who attended the curriculum meetings over the last few weeks. It was wonderful to see such a large turnout. If you were unable to attend the meeting but would like a copy of the content, please email the school office to be sent these.



School Calendar

Hopefully you have now seen the upcoming engagement calendar for the half term, linking to our newly launched [enrichment map](#).

We warmly welcome you to join any parent workshop and will share further dates at the start of October for next half term.



Upcoming Book Fair

Thursday 8th October	Parent Book and Brew Event—840am—9am.
Friday 9th October	Book fair for EYFS and Year 1— 320pm—340pm. Entrance through the school office.
Monday 12th October	Book fair for Year 2 and 3 . 320pm—340pm. Entrance through the school office.
Tuesday 13th October	Book fair for Year 4 and 5. 320pm—340pm. Entrance through the school office.
Wednesday 14th October	Book fair for Year 6. 320pm—340pm. Entrance through the school office.



**Goresbrook
School**

LEARN BELIEVE ACHIEVE

**We are looking for
new members of the**

'Friends of Goresbrook'
parent committee.

Get involved and play an active part in
supporting our school, bringing our community
together and helping to make a difference
for our children.



If you are interested, please email
the school office at:

primaryoffice@goresbrookschool.org.uk



Please get in touch by

Friday 2nd October.

GROWTH | TEAM | BELIEVE



United Learning
Best in Everyone

GORESBROOK SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS

WORLD CLASS
EDUCATION

Top 2% of schools in
the **UK**.

Location



Cook Road, Dagenham, RM9 6XW



0203 597 6666



www.goresbrookschool.org.uk



secondaryoffice@goresbrookschool.org.uk

- **Top results in the UK**
- **6th Form**
- **Outstanding Teaching**
- **Unique Opportunities**
- **Outstanding Pastoral Care**

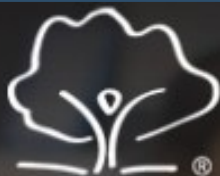
REGISTER NOW FOR SEPT. 2027

By scanning the QR code below or visiting our website

Open Evening: Tuesday 29th September
5.30–7.30pm

Open Morning: Tuesday 13th October
9.00–10.30am





Goresbrook School
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

”

Pupils flourish at this school. They are safe and appreciate the level of care that teachers show.

Ofsted 'Outstanding' in all categories

OPEN DAY TOURS

FOR RECEPTION 2027

Book Now!
Multiple dates available

Please scan the QR code to book your tour



Cook Road, Dagenham
RM9 6XW

www.goresbrookschool.org.uk



Saturday 'stay and play' events available, Book online using the QR code!