



“Learning Together”

Respect, Kindness, Tolerance, Responsibility, Co-operation

# Great Moor Junior School Newsletter

13th February 2026

## Who Are These Book Characters?!

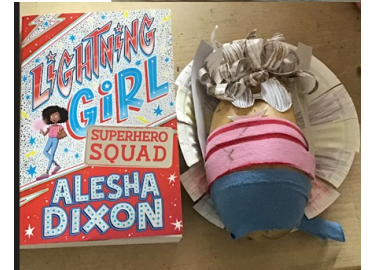
For World Book Day this year, we are holding a competition to make a potato into a character from a book. We are dressing up potatoes rather than ourselves!

Children need to dress up a normal potato as a book character. Although they can include clues about who their potato character is, they shouldn't write it on as the other children will try and guess.

There will be a prize for the best entry in each year group.

Children might want to make a start on their ideas over half-term but we ask that children only bring them in on the morning of Thursday 5th March (World Book Day) as we will be guessing the characters and don't want to ruin the surprise!

We can't wait to see the results!



## Young Voices

Our choir had an unforgettable time performing at Young Voices at the Co-op Live Arena in Manchester. Joining thousands of children from across the region, the pupils took part in a spectacular concert, singing a wide range of songs accompanied by a live band and professional performers. A highlight was watching and singing along to Oasis with Alex Spencer, an 18-year-old indie singer who sang at Young Voices himself as a child in 2016. The scale of the event and the atmosphere in the arena made it a truly exciting experience.

The pupils represented the school brilliantly, demonstrating all of our School Values throughout the day. Finally, a huge thank you to Miss Doogan and the staff who accompanied the children, putting in so much energy, dancing enthusiastically, and keeping up with the children throughout the event!



## Stockport Grammar Competition

As part of an exciting art opportunity, eight Year 5 pupils were selected to take part in a competition at Stockport Grammar School, where their work was displayed in a wonderful exhibition. The children showcased their amazing Tim Burton-inspired portraits with confidence and enthusiasm and were a real credit to our school. They also had the opportunity to take part in a printing workshop, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

We are extremely proud of all the children who participated in this fantastic experience.





## Valentine's Disco

The children enjoyed a fantastic Valentine's Disco on Wednesday. They were all very well behaved and displayed all our School Values. Many remembered to thank our fantastic staff who gave up their time to put this on which was very much appreciated.



## Valentines Cake Sale

On Wednesday the School Council organised a fantastic Valentines cake sale. Thank you all for your kind and delicious donations to allow this to happen. The children really enjoyed being able to purchase a treat at break time and we raised £286 for our school charity, Francis House. Thank you to everyone who bought a cake!



## Year 4 Movie Night

After the success of our movie nights so far, we are now going to host one for Year 4.

Year 4 movie night will be held on Monday 2nd March 4:30pm - 6:00pm. Tickets will cost £5 and this money goes towards the licence needed to show the film and into our charity fund for Francis House. The movie shown will be 'Migration' which has a PG rating. Please see 'Common Sense Media' for more information on the film if needed. School staff will be supervising all pupils.

If your child attends an after-school club on that day they can stay in school ready for the film. They will need a ticket to attend. Otherwise, pupils can come back to school at 4:30pm.

If your child will be booked in for Fun Club on that day, they will be able to attend the movie night at no extra charge. Please let the school office know if this is what you would like to do. A member of Fun Club staff will bring children to the hall at 4:30pm.

Year 4 pupils will be let in through the Year 4 door at 4:30pm and let out through this door at 6pm for collection. This includes children attending from Fun Club at home time.

Children can wear their own clothes and bring a blanket/ cushion and some snacks (no nuts) for themselves to enjoy during the film. If your child would like to join us for this movie night, please buy a ticket on Parent Pay (unless the child is at Fun Club - let the office know). There will be enough tickets for all of Year 4 to take part.

We hope to see you then!





## Mental Health Week

This week is Children's Mental Health Week and this year's theme is 'This is My Place'. The focus is on helping children and young people feel a strong sense of belonging - in their friendships, in school and in the wider community. Feeling that we belong is a basic human need and plays a vital role in our mental health and wellbeing. When we know our place and feel valued, we are empowered to grow, build resilience and make a positive difference!

This links closely with our School Values and our use of the Zones of Regulation, which help us to understand our emotions, recognise how we are feeling and support ourselves and others. We will work with our buddy class to create a whole school piece of artwork to show how we are all unique, connected and how we all belong together at Great Moor Junior School



## Northern Chamber Orchestra

Fifteen Year 6 pupils took part in a music workshop with two members of the Northern Chamber Orchestra. The pupils particularly enjoyed listening to Jamie and Matt, who played the double bass and cello, and learning more about their instruments. The pupils played ukulele and worked collaboratively to compose an original song inspired by Tchaikovsky's 'The Nutcracker'. Their



piece will be performed with the full orchestra at Stockport School in March, giving pupils an exciting opportunity to hear their music come to life.

## 5W Assembly

Thank you to the pupils in 5W for putting on a brilliant assembly all about the Zones of Regulation and how we can understand and manage our emotions. They have worked so hard to learn their lines and it really showed, with loud, confident voices and lots of enthusiasm on the day. They should be incredibly proud of themselves! A special thank you to Oliver Jones, who took it upon himself to create the PowerPoint and even produce some of the sound effects. Well done to the whole class for an amazing performance!



## Scholastic Book Fair

Thanks to everyone who supported the fair - we raised £612 worth of books in commission for the school which helps us stock up on quality books in our year group reading collections and our school library.



## Year 6 Hat Making

As part of our Design and Technology unit, Year 6 pupils have done an incredible job at hat making! Every child has produced creative designs and demonstrated impressive sewing skills to make a unique hat. We loved celebrating our final pieces on the cat walk in today's assembly!



## Times Tables Rock Stars

TTRS works best to help your times tables skills if you use it 'little and often' so using TTRS at home for 5 to 10 minutes each day will give you the biggest improvements.

This week 3A have been our champion class for using TTRS from home with almost the whole class joining in.

3T were our champions in school this week, achieving 92% usage and a fantastic 95% accuracy!

## Accelerated Reader

### **New millionaire**

Harry Monaghan in Year 6 is our new millionaire this week with over 1 million words this school year- well done Harry!

### **New multimillionaire**

Jacob Bryden in Year 6 is one of a select club who have become a multimillionaire in Accelerated Reader accumulating over 2 million words read this school year- brilliant Jacob!

Word count leaders in each Year are:

Year 3= Emmeline Barnett with 198,736 words!

Year 4= James Millar with 1,526,915 words!

Year 5= Dexter Lloyd-Wilson with 1,787,789 words!

Year 6= Nicholas Vaughan with 2,269,843 words!

## Active Mile

We had 5 classes completing 3 or more runs this week with 6G running the furthest with a collective 105 miles!

Year 6 collectively ran the furthest with 132 miles this week and as a whole school you collectively ran an amazing 422 miles!

Well done to the above and to everyone who has taken part!



### Make-Up and Nail Varnish

Just a reminder that make-up (including lip gloss) and nail varnish are not allowed in school.  
Thank you

### Red Nose Day - 20th March

We will be having a non-uniform day in return for donations on Red Nose Day (minimum donation £1).

### Spare PE Kit

If you have any spare shorts and t-shirts at home that would fit our children please can you send them in for spare kit. Thanks

### Discover New Books with AR BookFinder!

At Great Moor Junior School, we love seeing our pupils engage with reading through the Accelerated Reader program. To help you find the right books, we'd like to remind you about "AR BookFinder", a fantastic tool for parents and pupils!

What is AR BookFinder?

AR BookFinder allows you to search for books that are part of the Accelerated Reader program, checking their book level, points value, and quiz availability. Whether you're looking for a book at the right level or just something new to enjoy, AR BookFinder makes it easy!

How to Use It:

1. Visit <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/> or find the link on our school website.
2. Enter a book title, author, or topic in the search bar.
3. Check the book's Accelerated Reader level and quiz details.
4. Find books that match your reading range and interests!

Why Use AR BookFinder?

- Helps pupils choose books at the right challenge level.
- Encourages a love for reading with a wide selection of books.
- Supports parents in guiding their child's reading choices.
- Ensures books have available quizzes to help track progress.

By using AR BookFinder, pupils can make the most of Accelerated Reader, improving their reading skills while enjoying books they love. Happy reading!

Have a lovely half term break. School starts again on  
Monday 23rd February 8:40.







## Great Moor Junior School Spanish Club

Join us next half-term for our fun Spanish club which takes place Wednesdays after school. To enrol your child, please follow the link below. There are limited spaces left and these will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Learning a language at a young age helps children to grow in self-confidence and boosts their natural creativity. At Kidslingo, we are dedicated to teaching Spanish to children through fun. We use stories, games, songs, role play and drama to bring the language to life and inspire our learners.



### Class details:

- Wednesdays, 3.15-4.15
- £7.75 per session payable each half-term in advance\*
- We will issue vocabulary sheets, reward certificates and worksheets
- You will receive FREE access to the Kidslingo games website with over 250 games in Spanish and French

### What do parents say about our clubs?

*"Amazing how quickly he's started learning it which is a credit to the teacher. Can't recommend Kidslingo enough!" - Kinjal P*

*"He loves it and it's amazing what words he has picked up at such a young age. The additional links to games and worksheets are also lovely, allowing me to talk to him about what he has learnt during the sessions...Really pleased." - Emma B*

*"It's really inspired her and given her more confidence in herself and what she can achieve. I can't thank the teacher enough. Worth every penny and would thoroughly recommend" - Kelly A*

To register your child, please go to the following link

[www.kidslingo.co.uk/area/spanish-classes-east-stockport-ne-cheshire/](http://www.kidslingo.co.uk/area/spanish-classes-east-stockport-ne-cheshire/)

Please book early to avoid disappointment.

If you have any questions, please email [laura.holden@kidslingo.co.uk](mailto:laura.holden@kidslingo.co.uk).



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Tel: 07803 342731

\*2% handling fee applies. Payment is by direct debit only.





## Holiday support for children and young people with SEND

For comprehensive information and guidance on support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), visit the [SEND Stockport Local Offer](#) website and [directory](#) of services.

Find a wide range of support sessions and social events on our [SEND and ND events calendar](#) including play events, inclusive sports and social hangouts, for girls, boys, teens and families. You can also join Stockport's SEND community and get updates by following the [Stockport SEND Local Offer Facebook page](#).

### Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme

Stockport's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is running again this half term, making sure [eligible](#) children can enjoy fun, active days with a healthy meal included, from Kwik Cricket and science projects to den building and sensory play.

We don't use the central booking system during half term holidays. To book a space, browse the list of [HAF providers](#) and contact them directly. While these clubs are primarily available to those eligible for income based free school meals, we can offer some spaces to children that are classed as 'otherwise vulnerable', including some with SEND. [Autisk](#) and [Progressive Sports](#) run SEND specific clubs.

### Short breaks

Did you know Stockport offers a range of [short breaks](#) designed to support children and young people with SEND and give families a chance to rest and recharge? Some options are available without assessment, while others may require a Short Breaks or Child and Family Assessment. If you're a SEND parent or carer, take a look at our [short breaks web pages](#) to see what's available, how to access support and see what could work for your family. This includes:

[AutiSK](#) – Community support group for families who have children and young people with autism, anxiety and other disabilities or learning difficulties.

[Bee Cared 4 Holiday Activities](#) is a holiday activity club for high needs children who need one to one funded through short breaks.

[Kids Go Wild](#) runs an inclusive universal forest school holiday club every Stockport half term. Capacity is limited, particularly for one-to-one spaces.

[CADS school holiday programme](#) The Seashell Trust's school holidays programme is open to disabled and non-disabled young people aged 8-16 years. **Please note there is a 12-month waiting list.**

### Holiday programmes and Play schemes



[Life Leisure](#) offer regular SEND and inclusive play, fitness and swim sessions. Some families or carers and support workers may be eligible for the Stockport Active Card, which will provide discounted swimming and other activities across Life Leisure hubs. In addition, if you have a disability and are in receipt of disability benefit and require support to access the Hub, you can apply for a companion/carer card to access the gym and pool for free if you are accompanying an individual to a session.

[Practically Family](#) holiday clubs are SEND inclusive and offer a wide range of activities, designed to cater to everybody's interests. They do not take children who need one to one support.

[Funfest](#) is a mainstream holiday club with several sites which are inclusive. Some children get additional funding for one to one through short breaks.

[Progressive Sports](#) offer a range of services to encourage children to be physically active. They run holiday courses including SEND specific HAF clubs.

### Free online support for parents

[Family Hubs](#): Information to support you and your family from pregnancy through to young people aged up to 19, or up to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

[Family Hubs app](#): Your go-to library of videos, tips, and resources - from potty training to teenage behaviour. Register to get local updates and personalised support based on your child's age from your local Family Hubs team.

[Stockport SEND Local Offer](#): Support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), their families and carers.

[Parenting support](#): Quick links to trusted advice and guidance for every stage of your child's development.

[Essential Parent](#): A library of information, videos and resources to support parents of children of all ages.

[Togetherness](#): Free online courses to help you support your child's emotional wellbeing - and your own.

[Kooth](#) offers free, safe, and anonymous mental health support for young people including live text chats with counsellors, 365 days a year with no waiting lists or referrals.

[YoungMinds](#) offers practical advice, emotional support, and real stories from other parents to support you while you support your child.

### Discover local services and support groups in your community

[Children and families directory](#)

[SEND services directory](#)

[Live Well directory](#): find all directories including support for adults, health and wellbeing, communities and financial support

### Find family-friendly events and activities

[Children and family events calendar](#)

[SEND and ND events calendar](#)

### Updates and activities:

[One Stockport Family Hubs Facebook](#)

[Stockport SEND Local Offer Facebook](#)

Can't find what you're looking for? Try the [Family Hubs online enquiry form](#).

