



[www.whgs-academy.org](http://www.whgs-academy.org)

February 2025

## Dear Parents and Carers

### Welcome Back!

I hope you had a wonderful half-term break and enjoyed some quality time with your children. As we step into the second half of the Spring Term, it's incredible to see how quickly the year is moving.

This half-term is packed with exciting events, so please take a moment to check the timetable on the right. You'll also find it displayed on the school noticeboard for easy reference.

A key date to note is **Parents' Evening on the 3rd and 5th of March**, with bookings available via the Arbor App.

I'd also like to remind you that our **school website** is a valuable resource, containing important information, including all our policies, such as safeguarding:

[Policies](#) | [About Us](#) | [William Hulme's Grammar School](#)

Looking forward to another fantastic half-term together!

**Miss Leigh Dalton**  
**Head of School (Primary Phase)**

## Attendance

Reception	90.4
Year 1	94
Year 2	94
Year 3	94.9
Year 4	95.3
Year 5	94.5
Year 6	94.5

## Coming up...

Thursday 27 February	Year 6 Milestone Meeting
Friday 28 February	Reception Trip to Alexandra Park
Friday 28 February	Book Swap Day/Own Clothes Day
Monday 3 March	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 4 March	Y3 RHS Garden Bridgewater
Tuesday 4 March	Come and Chat
Wednesday 5 March	Parents' Evening
Thursday 6 March	World Book Day (children wear one item in addition to their school uniform that represents a book)
Thursday 6 March	Nursery Milestone Meeting
Wednesday 12 March	1R Class Assembly
Thursday 13 March	EYFS Learn With Me
Wednesday 19 March	Year 2 Forest School at The Hive
Wednesday 19 March	1M Class Assembly
Friday 21 March	Year 5 Jodrell Bank Trip
Wednesday 26 March	3R Manchester Aerozone Trip
Tuesday 1 April	6H Manchester Museum
Tuesday 1 April – Thursday 3 April	Book Fair
Wednesday 2 April	6T Manchester Museum
Wednesday 2 April	3C Manchester Aerozone Trip
Wednesday 2 April	EYFS Easter Show
Friday 4 April	End of Term 2pm finish

# Nursery

We hope you had a wonderful half-term break! This half-term promises to be a busy and exciting one. Our topic is 'On the Farm', where we will explore the changing seasons and look for signs of spring. The children will learn the names of farm animals and their babies, as well as where our food comes from. We will also plant our own seeds and learn how to care for them in our Nursery garden. You can support this learning at home by looking out for signs of spring when out on walks, talking about different farm animals, or even planting seeds together and discussing what they need to grow. In addition, we are looking forward to visiting our local Hindu temple and celebrating the festival of Holi—why not explore some simple Holi crafts or read a story about the festival together? Our term will conclude with our much-loved Early Years Easter Show.

For literacy, we will be reading two Talk 4 Writing books: *The Odd Egg* by Emily Gravett and *Jasper's Beanstalk* by Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen. We are continuing to work on letter formation, listening for initial sounds in words, and blending simple three-letter words using 'Fred Talk'. You can help at home by encouraging your child to spot letters and sounds in their environment, such as on food packaging or road signs. Reading books together daily and playing simple phonics games, like 'I Spy' with initial sounds, will also reinforce their learning.

In Maths, we will focus on accurately counting amounts greater than five. We will also continue exploring 2D and 3D shapes, as well as concepts of length, weight, and capacity. At home, you can encourage counting by asking your child to count everyday objects, such as apples in a fruit bowl or steps on the stairs. Talking about shapes in the environment, comparing the size of different objects, and using measuring cups during cooking activities are great ways to make these concepts fun and practical. We look forward to an exciting and enriching half-term ahead!

**Miss Fletcher, Mrs Halsall, and Mrs Williams**

## Reminders:

### Early Years Fund

Please contribute to this on parent pay under additional items or watch out for Mrs Fletcher with her tin especially on a Friday.

### Uniform

Please ensure all jumpers are labelled especially as the weather gets warmer and the children take them off.

### Reading Books

Please remember books and 'Book in the box' is to be returned on a Tuesday. New books are sent home on a Friday.



## Upcoming Events:

Parents Evening - look out for details about how to book

Learn with Me – 13<sup>th</sup> March

We will be visiting the Hindu temple. More details to follow.

Little Lions Parent Club to continue. Parents will be approached.

Early Years Easter Show – 2<sup>nd</sup> April

## Homework

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access the Primary Phase home learning section on our website.



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## Our Curriculum

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access more information about what your child is learning in class.



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# Reception

Welcome back! This half term we will be reading 'The Enormous Turnip!' This will fit in nicely with the arrival of Spring as we will also be sharing information books and starting to grow plants and vegetables in our outdoor area. We will also learn about the importance of healthy eating and try some fruits and vegetables. The children will also learn about where food comes from. Hopefully, we will enjoy better weather outside, where we can investigate life cycles including frogs and butterflies.

In phonics we will be consolidating reading and writing simple words, and continuing to practise writing a simple sentence. Please continue accessing the weekly phonics homework to continue this learning at home.

In Maths we will begin learning comparing length, height and time including days of the week and months of the year. We will also be learning the different ways of making 9 and 10 and familiarising ourselves with the properties of 3D shapes. Can you use household items to make 9 and 10 at home?

The Reception children will learn about different celebrations such as Mother's day, Easter time and Ramadan we will also get ready for our Spring Show performance on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

PE will change to a **Friday** for both classes. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit, clearly labelled with their name to change into when they get to school. It is important that children get changed themselves to develop their independence.

**Mrs Arnold and Miss Rathore**

## Reminders:

### Early Year's Fund

Please remember to contribute towards our Early Years fund of £1 a week to help us pay for resources, this can be done via Parent Pay

### P.E Kits

Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school every Friday and a bag of spare clothes.

### Weekly email

Every week you receive an email update to share weekly learning along with a link for the children's phonics homework. Please ensure you read and follow the link.

## Upcoming Events:

- Trip to Alexander Park Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Easter bonnet performance –Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> April
- Living eggs arrive –Mon 24<sup>th</sup> March
- Book fair 1-3<sup>rd</sup> April
- Parent meeting –End of year expectations 27<sup>th</sup> March

## Homework

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## Our Curriculum

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# Year 1

Welcome back, we hope you have had a lovely break. Spring term was overloaded with lots of learning for us all. We are excited to see what Spring 2 has in stall for us!

Phonics will be a HUGE priority in the Spring term as Year 1 prepare for their phonics screening test at the beginning of June. Please continue to read daily at home and practise speed sounds with your child. We will be holding a phonics meeting for parents to give more information regarding how to support your child at home.

In our Writing lessons, Year 1 will be reading the 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and Dr Tamara Pizzoli's, 'The Ghanian Goldilocks'. We will be focusing on enhancing their writing skills by using conjunctions in their sentences.

In our Maths lessons, we will be consolidating our understanding of numbers to 50. Please help support your child at home by counting items you have around your home or on your way to and from school. If you would like to challenge your child, please encourage them to write their number as a word. The children will then move on to adding and subtracting numbers between 1-50.

In Science we will be continuing our learning about the four seasons. This half term we will be studying History. Our unit will be, 'How did people travel in the past?' In this unit, Year 1 will learn about the development of transport. In Art, we will be learning about the artist 'Charles McGee'. In this unit, they will be exploring and making sculptures.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher at the end of the day.

Miss Ridley and Miss Murdoch

## Timetable:

English	Goldilocks and the three bears—Story writing and explanations.
Maths	Place value to 50 and addition and subtraction.
Science	Seasonal changes
History	How did people travel in the past?
RE	How and Why do we celebrate special and sacred times?
PE	Dance—mini beasts Fundamental Movement Skills
Computing	Grouping data
Art	Paper Sculpture
Music	Round and round
PSHE	Safe relationships / respecting ourselves and others

## Reminders:

Phonics screening check date: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June

PE - Year 1 have PE every Thursday and Friday

### Reading Books

Please bring in both your bug club reading book and phonics book in on a Tuesday. Unfortunately, we may not be able to change books if they are brought in later in the week.

### Class assemblies

- 1R – 12<sup>TH</sup> March
- 1M – 19<sup>TH</sup> March

## Homework

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access the Primary Phase home learning section on our website.



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## Our Curriculum

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access more information about what your child is learning in class.



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## Year 2

Welcome back! We hope you have had a good rest and you are ready for another exciting half term in Year 2. This half term we are very excited to be learning about the Great Fire of London in History. This is a fantastic topic where the children will look at primary sources to learn about life in England in the 1660s. As part of this unit we hope to arrange a fire engine visit to school where the children will learn more about fire safety and how this links to our topic – we will be in touch with details when this is confirmed with the fire service.

In English, we will be reading the story 'Cendrillon' which is a Caribbean version of Cinderella and the children will be learning how to write an effective character description. Can you write a description of a character that you have read about at home? In Maths, we will be continuing our work on multiplication and division before moving on to fractions. It is important that the children start practising their 2, 5 and 10 times tables at home – can you count in different amounts and then start to recall each multiplication fact?

In Art, we will be learning how to use colour and tone in our pictures and we will be learning about the artist Pablo Picasso. We will be continuing to learn about Judaism in RE and thinking about how Judaism compares to other religions. Our Science lessons will focus on different habitats and the animals and plants that live in them. We will also be programming robots in our Computing lessons using Bee-bots! We will be learning how to respect different people in PSHE and we will be learning a Reggae song in Music. Finally in PE, we will be practising different target games and we will be improving our dance skills.

We hope you are looking forward to this half term as much as we are!

Miss Khan and Miss Yardley-Rees

### Timetable:

English	Cendrillon - writing a narrative introducing characters
Maths	Multiplication and Division
Science	Living Things and their Habitats
History	The Great Fire of London
RE	Who is a Jewish person and what do they believe?
PE	Target games and Dance – Fire of London
Computing	Robot Algorithms
Art	Colour and Tone
Music	Zootime!
PSHE	Safe Relationships/ Respecting Ourselves and Others

### Reminders:

#### PE

- We have PE every Monday and Friday. Please ensure that your child brings their P.E. kit into school on these days. If your child cannot yet get changed independently, please support us by practising this at home.

#### Reading Books

- Please bring in both your Bug Club reading book and phonics book in on a Wednesday. Unfortunately, we may not be able to change books if they are brought in later.

### Home Learning

Please use the QR code to access the Primary Phase home learning section on our website.



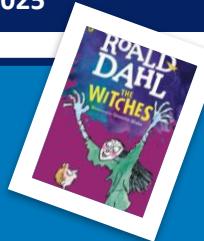
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### Our Curriculum

Please use the QR code to access more information about the curriculum and what your child is learning in class.



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# Year 3

Welcome back!

We hope you had a lovely break and are looking forward to the exciting learning opportunities we have in store for this half term.

We have already started reading Roald Dahl's 'The Witches' and in English, we will be using what we have learnt about Witches from Roald Dahl to create our own descriptions of a terrifying witch. Could your child write a description of their favourite film, book or game character?

In Maths, we are looking at fractions. This includes comparing and ordering non-unit fractions and equivalent fractions on a number line. It is important that children are confident with their times tables to support them with their work on this. Please ensure they are accessing TT Rockstars daily.

In Art, we will be exploring clay and working in groups to design and make our own clay tiles that together re-tell a fairy tale. In History, we will be exploring Ancient Egypt, including gaining an understanding of the role of the pharaoh and conquest in the Egyptian empire, we will even get the chance to dance like an Egyptian in our PE lessons. As we enter Spring, our science lessons will focus on the biology of plants, examining the features of flowering plants and what they need to survive, where we will be able to look back on our trip to RHS Bridgewater and all that we learnt there.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

**Ms Rathore and Mr Cragg**

## Timetable:

English	Narrative - character description.
Maths	Fractions, Mass and Capacity.
Science	Biology: plants
History	Ancient Egypt
RE	Christianity, Hinduism and Islam
PE	Leadership and Dance
Computing	Branching Databases
Art	Fairy Tale Crimes.
Music	Recorders
PSHE	Relationships

## Reminders:

- Books are changed every Monday.
- PE is on Monday and Tuesday.
- All children must bring a labelled water bottle into school with them .
- Year 3 Trips
  - RHS Bridgewater on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March
  - Careers visit at Manchester Airport – 3R: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 3C: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

## Homework

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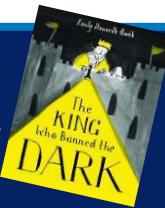
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## Our Curriculum

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access more information about what your child is learning in class.



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# Year 4

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break and are excited about the new learning opportunities ahead.

In English, developing our skills when writing and punctuating speech. We will be writing stories based upon 'The King Who Banned the Dark'. Can you write your own story at home about banning something? What would you ban and what effect would it have on the community? Try including some speech to practise this Year 4 objective. Perhaps you could use your family members as characters?

In Maths, we will be looking at fractions and decimals. It is important that the children have a solid understanding of their times tables up to  $12 \times 12$  as this will help them with their fractions work. Playing TT Rockstars is part of the homework we set and so we ask that TT Rockstars Soundcheck is being played daily. This will help familiarise your child with the format for the Multiplication Check in the Summer term and speed up their recall of times tables to prepare them for more advanced maths in the rest of this year and beyond.

After getting excited about our history topic in reading, we will be building upon our knowledge of the Early Islamic Civilisation. We will think about how it began and how they had a huge impact on how we live our lives today. Can you find out any facts about this time using books or the internet? A little later in the term, we will be consolidating our knowledge of this topic in English by writing a non-chronological report.

See the timetable below for all of the exciting units we will be learning about this half term. We are going to have a great time on the run up to Easter! As always, please contact us if you have any questions.

Mrs Hallett, Miss Hawkes and Miss Caldwell

## Timetable:

English	Narrative including speech, Non-chronological report
Maths	Fractions and decimals
Science	Sound
History	Early Islamic Civilisation
RE	Religious beliefs about right and wrong
PE	Hockey and Gymnastics
Computing	Data logging
Art	Watercolours
Music	Ukelele
PSHE	Respecting Differences

## Reminders:

### P.E:

P.E. for both classes will be on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**. Please only send your child to school in their P.E. kit on these days. If they are attending a sports club, they should bring P.E. kit to change into at the end of the school day.

**Reading:** Please ensure you are encouraging your child to read at home. We expect signed reading records in school by a Thursday at the latest so we can send new books home for the following week.

## Homework

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access the Primary Phase home learning section on our website.



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## Our Curriculum

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access more information about what your child is learning in class.



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# Year 5

Welcome back to the spring term. We hope you had a lovely break and are excited about the new learning opportunities ahead.

This half term, in Year 5 we will be developing our ability to build suspense in our writing. Using the novel, 'Crater Lake' (which follows the adventure of a group of children that has gone wrong) the children will be learning how to advance action using dialogue. Perhaps your child could try to write dialogue at home? Think carefully about the rules for punctuating speech – have you included everything you need?

In Maths, we will be building on our knowledge from Year 4 for our decimals and percentages unit. We will then progress on to the perimeter and area unit. Lastly, we will be looking at statistics, ensuring that children in year 5 can read and interpret line graphs. Can you create your own data tables based on information you have collected about your family and friends such as favourite colours or shoe sizes?

As historians, we will be building on our knowledge of the Romans. We will be exploring how Romans gained control of Britain. Can you use books or the internet to find out more about this period in time? In our weekly R.E lessons, we will be considering the question "What would Jesus do?" and "Can we live by the values of Jesus in the twenty-first century?" We will be exploring Jesus' parables of love and forgiveness. In science, we will be learning all about human development from being a baby to old age.

**Mr Bagshaw and Mr Rabey**



## Timetable:

English	Building suspense and dialogue
Maths	Decimals and percentages Perimeter and Area
Science	Human development
History	Roman empire in Britain
RE	What would Jesus do?
PE	Swimming and Hockey
Computing	Vector drawings
Art	Journeys
Music	The fresh prince of Bel-air
PSHE	Respecting ourselves and others

## Reminders:

### Equipment and uniform

- Please bring your Chromebook into school every day. You must make sure that it is fully charged.
- Coats are needed every day.

### P.E.

- Swimming kit is needed every Monday.
- PE kit is needed every Thursday

## Homework

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access the Primary Phase home learning section on our website.



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## Our Curriculum

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access more information about what your child is learning in class.



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# Year 6

How time flies! We are embarking on our final full half-term before your child will be taking their SATs. With this in mind, it is imperative that Year 6 continue to work as hard as they have been all year.

In English, Year 6 will begin the half-term by writing a suspense narrative. In this piece, children will be expected to use dialogue to convey character and advance action, as well as showcase their ability to precisely pick the appropriate vocabulary language and punctuation needed for the purpose of writing. At home, can you write your own dialogue, using the correct punctuation?

In History, we will be learning about the Viking age and exploring the key question, “Why do the Vikings have a violent reputation, and do they deserve it?” Then, towards the end of this half-term, this knowledge will be used to form the basis of a persuasive speech. What can you remember from previous learning about persuasive techniques?

During this half-term’s Maths lessons, pupils will be focusing on angles, calculating and measuring angles in numerous different shapes.

In R.E., we will be learning about what followers of different world religions believe happens after death. Will we explore concepts such as heaven, karma and the afterlife.

During indoor Physical Education lessons on a Wednesday, pupils will be developing their gymnastics ability. Throughout this unit, we will be looking for Year 6 to showcase their ability to be resilient and cooperative.

## Mr Hancock and Miss Thomas

### Timetable:

English	Persuasive Speech and Suspense Narrative
Maths	Angles and Shape
Science	Further Classification
History	Vikings
RE	What do religions say to us when life gets hard?
PE	Dodgeball and Gymnastics
Computing	Introduction to Spreadsheets
Art	Displacement
Music	You've Got a Friend
PSHE	Recognising and Managing Pressures

### Reminders:

#### Year 6 trip to Manchester Museum

We look forward to our visit in the final week of the half-term. This links with our Science learning.

#### Roaring Lions Parent Sessions

Mr Hancock will be hosting parent sessions every Friday morning for any parent who wants help with how to support their child with the upcoming SATs.

### Homework

Please use the QR code [or click here](#) to access the Primary Phase home learning section on our website.



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### Our Curriculum

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SCAN ME

# Celebrating Religious Festivals in March & April!

Our school community is wonderfully diverse, and we're thrilled to celebrate so many special festivals happening in March and April! 

Here's a snapshot of what's coming up:

-  **Ramadan & Eid** (Islam) – A holy month of fasting, prayer, and reflection.
-  **Holi** (Hinduism) – The Festival of Colours! A vibrant celebration of spring, love, and joy.
-  **Vaisakhi** (Sikhism) – A harvest festival and celebration of the Sikh community.
-  **Easter Sunday** (Christianity) – Celebrating hope and renewal with the resurrection of Jesus.
-  **Passover** (Judaism) – Honouring freedom and the story of Exodus.
-  **Hanuman Jayanti** (Hinduism) – Marking the birth of Lord Hanuman, a symbol of strength and devotion.

We wish all of our families celebrating a happy and meaningful time during these festivals. 

Happy Hanuman Jayanti!

Vaisakhi Di Lakh Lakh Vadhaiyan!

Happy Holi

Happy Easter!

Chag Pesach Sameach!

Ramadan Mubarak!

# Travel Survey

For the 2024-25 academic year, United Learning is asking all schools to take part in a travel survey for pupils. This initiative is a key part of our broader Carbon Neutral strategy, aimed at understanding and reducing our environmental impact. By gathering data on commuting habits, we can assess the level of travel-related emissions and identify any challenges or barriers that may prevent more sustainable and active travel choices.

The insights gained from this survey will help us develop practical solutions to promote greener, healthier, and more efficient modes of transportation for our school communities. Encouraging active travel, such as walking or cycling, not only contributes to a lower carbon footprint but also supports overall well-being and healthier lifestyles for pupils and staff alike. We kindly ask you to take a few moments to complete the Student Travel Survey with your child by following the link provided.

[WHGS Pupil School Travel survey 2025](#)

Thank you for your time and support in this important initiative!



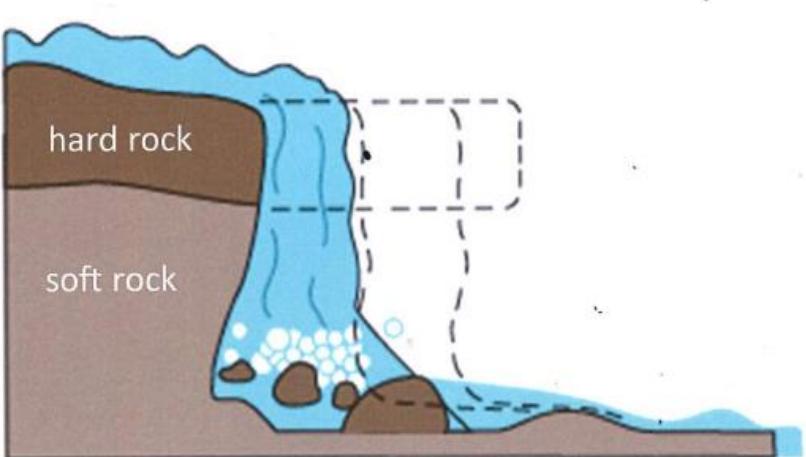
## Spotlight on Last Term's Learning

Each term, we will proudly showcase the incredible work of our talented pupils. Their creativity, effort, and achievements deserve to be seen! Take a look at these two brilliant examples—prepare to be amazed!

In Year 5, children have been learning about the features of a river. Saif (5R) has written an amazing explanation to showcase his knowledge!

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January

WALT explore the features of a river



Firstly, for a waterfall to form ~~it~~ needs hard rock on top of soft rock. Over time, the soft rock is eroded, consequently, the soft rock is worn away. Because of this, the hard rock is left over hanging. It falls and builds up in the plunge pool. Finally, the process is ~~reap~~ repeated and the soft rock keeps eroding so the waterfall moves further and further back.

## Spotlight on Last Term's Learning!

In Year 6, students have been studying migration and looked at a case study of Polish people voluntarily migrating to the U.K. Mominah (6F) put herself in their shoes to write an interview with a Polish person!



Thursday 28th January.

WALT: explore why people voluntarily migrate and their experiences.

Why did you voluntarily migrate from Poland?

Because in Poland, I had to work 2 jobs just to get the right amount of money to pay off my bills and to get good. In Poland, the monthly pay was £635 and the pay in the UK was £2,000 a month. These hard jobs had little pay and in the UK, the same job had even more pay. I had to leave my main family back in Poland. It was really hard to say goodbye for now but I had to. When I was still in Poland, a third of people were unemployed. I also voluntarily migrated because the UK had many jobs with better pay.

Why did you move to the UK?

As I said before, there were many jobs available and they had better pay. But, the other reason was because I knew a bit of English. I only knew it because I was a language teacher as well. Although it wasn't fluent, I could still understand what people were saying. When I came to the UK, I worked even harder at my English. So many people had to migrate as well for the money because they also didn't get paid a lot.

What was it like when you arrived?

When I arrived it was great. Applying for jobs were easy and they gave a great pay. I was a bit homesick at first but I went to Polish shops

which made me feel better. The Polish radio was also good because it made me feel better by listening to my own foreign language. The only thing bad was maybe the weather here!



## Contact Us

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