



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

The Griffin Primary School
Lower Lodge Avenue
Rugby
Warwickshire
CV21 1NU

Headteacher: Mrs. Alison Hine
Telephone: 01788 249115
www.thegriffinprimary.co.uk



Autumn Term Week 1

Welcome back to the 2024/25 academic year and what a great start it has been! We were so excited to see everyone looking super smart and with big smiles (and a few nerves too) on Wednesday and the children have all settled so well into their new classes. Our fabulous team are getting to know each and every child's likes and dislikes but please do let us know if there is anything specific or if anything has changed since our home visits.

It is wonderful that so many of you are managing to walk, cycle or 'scoot' to school – I am pleased to say that the parking situation has seemed to be OK this week. Please do remember to ensure that you park within the parking bays, drive slowly on our grounds – no more than 5 mph - and that you can also park on the road down towards Rocherbie Heights, but must not park this side of the service road.

The past few days have been calm and purposeful in the building – the learning has already started and children have been busy exploring their inside and outside learning environments.

I would like to welcome our fabulous new staff – Mrs Cation, Mrs Wright and Miss Crossin in Year 1, Mrs Colbasiuc in Nursery and Mrs Harrison who is joining the office team from 8.30-10.30am every day to work in the Nursery. We hope you have a good weekend and we will see you for the first full week of term on Monday.

Grand Designs!

Mr Hine, our caretaker, has been super busy over the summer holiday designing and making big improvements to both the inside and outside learning environments. Nursery now have an amazing water wall in their outside area and also a beautiful mural in the book corner containing lots of characters from Julia Donaldson Stories. In the Reception/Year 1 outside area he has built a fantastic stage for the children and bug hotel, as well as creating a grass-covered small world play space, enhancing the sandpit space, building a large planter and a wicker hut. Huge thanks to him for his time, making everything look so spectacular.

Kindness in action!

We are so lucky to have such great support and kind people at The Griffin. Dave from Adroit Plumbing Services, Rugby kindly bought and donated lots of tubes, pipes, fastenings and connectors for the water wall and Bloors Builders from over the road, built a large sandpit for the Nursery children.

Bug Hotel

If you are out and about over this half term we need lots of pine cones to go into our bug hotel. Thank you.



'Happy, Kind and Confident'

Parent Trustee Required

Our Trustees are a group of volunteers who both support the school and hold it to account to ensure we fulfil all of our duties. They help us to grow and develop so that we are the best we can be, providing excellence for your children. It is enormously rewarding. Meeting 6 times a year, they also come into school occasionally to monitor how we perform on a day-to-day basis.

If you are interested in this position, or wish to discuss it further, please contact the school office and Mrs Tucker or Mrs Isaac's will be happy to explain the role and/or to give you a nomination form. You will need 2 referees and will be subject to DBS and safeguarding checks. If more than one person self-nominates, then we will have an election. The deadline for nomination forms is Friday 20th September at midday.

Wraparound Care and Clubs

If you require before or after school provision please do let the office staff know. Our recorder, singing, football and cooking clubs will be starting during the week beginning 16th September. You are not too late if you want to sign your child up to any of these sessions – ParentPay should now be working for everyone and the link below explains how to book a club on the app.

<https://parent-support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/15444655523985-ParentPay-Clubs-How-to-book-a-session> If you have any problems, please contact the office staff and they will be happy to help. Mr Martin, from Game On, has been super-organised and has already sent out a Dojo message about the wraparound offer for the second half term. We are aiming to increase our extra-curricular offer this year as part of our School Improvement Plan.

Spare Soil

As we come to the end of planting and growing season, if anyone has any spare compost or soil they would be happy to donate to the school, we would really appreciate it. We have large planters to fill in the outside learning area and we are soon going to have new planters at the front of the school and on the

And finally.....

We have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor. The hours are 11.40-1.10pm and the role includes supervising the children when they are eating, cleaning the tables/chairs, supervising and supporting the children in their play on the playground.

Star of the Week Assemblies

We will be starting our Friday Celebration Assembly next Friday 13th September, for children from Year 1 and Reception. 3 and 4 year old Nursery children (N2) will join the rest of the school for this after half term. Please do not worry if you have a 2 year old – the staff are always celebrating when your children do well and we acknowledge all of our children's successes in lots of different ways every week.

Phonics

We will be starting phonics in Reception and Year 1 next week. Books will come home on a Wednesday in a pack and will need to be returned to school on Tuesday, as other groups of children will then need the books. Please look after these books. Any damage or loss will result in a charge of £5 to enable us to buy a replacement.

Meet the Teacher Sessions – Tuesday

Next week, on Tuesday 10th September, we will be holding meet the teacher sessions in the Year 1 and Reception classrooms for parents of children in those year groups. They are between 3.30 and 4pm and then 5.00 and 5.30pm. Children are welcome. We will be telling you more information about what the year will look like, home-learning expectations, teacher/parent communication routes, the timetable and also about the enrichment activities we have planned for you. We hope you can come.

Holidays During Term Time

As you are all aware, the government have a big focus on improving school attendance rates. Good attendance at school is essential in giving your child the best chances in their education, even from a young age. We can only help your child to learn and make progress if they are here. It can also affect children's friendships. I will be sending out additional information about Leave of Absence during term time next week.