



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

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Autumn Term Week 3

How can it be the end of week 3 already?

We have had another super week and children had their first PE lesson with Mr Gregory from Lawrence Sheriff School's PE Department.

There has been some great learning this week and children have been loving the soil in the outside planting area and also the new 'hide and climb' frames in the Nursery outside area.

Nursery children have started their harvest festival preparations, discussed the full moon and been working on their handwriting, colours and shapes.

In Reception this week, children have had their first music lesson focusing on vocal sounds and the symbols to represent them and they have used smart maps to look around Rugby.

In Year 1 this week, the children have been working on using adjective 'es' and conjunctions in their writing, starting their handwriting lessons with 'Letterjoin' and comparing old and new toys in their history work.

Clubs

All of our extra-curricular clubs – cooking, recorder, singing and football - started this week. For safety reasons, the cooking club is for 4 children on a 3 weekly basis and parents have been contacted by the office about places for the first 2 groups. They will then inform other parents of whether their child is in the next group, nearer to the time. We do try to accommodate as many children as we can in our clubs but, for manageability do sometimes limit numbers and then allocate them on a first come first served basis, according to the requests made on the booking form.

Competition Time

Eden Park Allotment Association are holding 2 competitions - naming a bug hotel and designing a bug hotel. The competition ends on 17th October and all entries must have your child's first name, age and an email address for the committee to contact you on if you are the winner! Entries can be posted in the allotment postbox or we are happy to accept entries from our pupils/families here at school, which we can then pass on to a committee member. Good luck!

Deadline – Parent Trustee

Today is the deadline for nominations to be handed into the office, if you would like to join our Trust Board. We will announce whether we need elections next week.

Toy Workshop – Year 1

On 24th September, Year 1 children will be having a 'Victorian Toys and Games Workshop' led by a history expert from St John's Museum in Warwick. This is to support their learning in their topic 'Childhood'. We are asking for a donation of £7.10 per pupil to facilitate this enrichment activity, which can be made via Parent Pay. Thank you.

Tax Free Childcare – can you benefit?

Did you know that you could be eligible to receive money for each of your children to help with the costs of childcare.

Please use this link to find out more about it and to see if you are eligible to receive it.

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

The FROGS – our fabulous PTA

Next Thursday, we have the first FROGS meeting of the year, in school at 7pm. At this, we will be discussing our forthcoming events and other fundraising ideas. If you would like to join us to find out more please do come along.

Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Reception – Kiaan, for showing kindness to everyone all week, following instructions brilliantly and basically being a great role model! .

Year 1 – Aarna, for being super kind this week and working hard.

House Points

The winning house this week is  .
Well done to everyone in Sapphire House for earning the most Dojo points.

Phonics Information Evening – Next Week!

We are looking forward to welcoming our Reception Parents to the information evening on Tuesday 24th September – it will be in the hall at 6pm and children are welcome to attend. Miss Byrne will explain how Little Wandle Phonics works in school, how you can help your child at home and talk about pure sounds.

School Attendance Statutory Guidance

All of the schools in our consortium of schools met yesterday to discuss the new framework and are issuing parents with more details of what has changed within the Department for Education's 'Working Together to Improve School Attendance' guidance now that it is statutory. I will be sending a letter to you via Class Dojo with this information.

Young Minds – Mental Health Awareness

As I am sure you are aware, young people's mental health issues have been on the increase in recent years and, at The Griffin, we feel that children are never too young to start thinking about how to have positive mental health and support this in others. On 10th October, World Mental Health Day, we will be taking part in 'Hello Yellow', where children are invited to wear something yellow to school. It is also a fundraising day and so if you would like to donate £1 to this good cause we will ensure that it is sent off to the charity Young Minds. This is entirely optional.

Dates for the Diary

- 20/09 – Deadline for Parent Trustee Nominations**
- 24/09 – Year 1 Toys and Games workshop** (in school)
- 24/09 – Reception Parents Phonics Information Evening** (6pm – children welcome).
- 26/09 – FROGS meeting 7pm** (in school)
- 30/09 – Individual School Photos**
- 10/10 – Tours for Prospective 2025/26 entry**
- 10/10 – 'Hello Yellow' Day – World Mental Health Day**
- 11/10 – Harvest Festival** (9am – all parents welcome)
- 14/10 - Tours for Prospective 2025/26 entry**
- 15/10 – Parents' Evening (3.45-6.30pm)**
- 17/10 – Parents' Evening (3.45-6.30pm)**
- 25/10 – Teacher Training Day**
- 28/10 – 01/11 HALF TERM**
- 21/11 – Flu Vaccinations** (further information to follow)
- 21/11 – Maths Information Evening for Parents – 6pm** (Reception & Y1 - children welcome)
- 11/12 – Reception & Y1 Christmas Production – 2.30pm**
- 12/12 – Reception & Y1 Christmas Production – 9.30am**
- 13/12 – FROGS Christmas Fayre** (further information to follow)
- 18/12 – School Christmas Lunch**
- 19/12 – Nursery Christmas Celebration 11.15am & 3.00pm** (details to follow)
- 20/12 – End of Autumn Term**

