



# THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

## Keeping you up to date

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### Autumn Term Week 13

What a wonderful time we had during our Christmas Decoration Workshop this afternoon – we had a really fabulous turn out of parents and were so glad you could join us. It may have been fast and furious (as well as exhausting!) but it was great fun. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. The countdown to the Christmas Tree lights switch on at the end – performed by Patryk (Year 1) and Noah W (Nursery N2) – was the perfect way to announce that Christmas has arrived at The Griffin! Now to put up all of the amazing paper chains you made and add the odd bit of glitter and sparkle over the next 3 weeks.

The Reception and Year 1 production is really coming along well and they are now practicing on the stage – adding the final touches before the performances next week

On the 10<sup>th</sup> our caterers are running a competition to ‘taste the cake’ and identify the hidden vegetable within. Allergies will be catered for, so that all children can take part. Please refer to the Christmas Countdown Chart you have been given, as there is something happening virtually every day between now and the end of term.

### Allsorts Magazine

Here is the link to the Nov/Jan (Christmas) digital version of Allsorts magazine [https://bit.ly/ALLSORTS\\_NOVJAN24](https://bit.ly/ALLSORTS_NOVJAN24) - you can **tap** straight to advertisers’ websites too when viewing the mag on your phone (please mention allsorts). There are lots of attraction to visit, services and articles to help your family. You can view this issue at [www.allsortsmag.com](http://www.allsortsmag.com) too or on the Allsorts Facebook page soon.

### Break the Rules Day

Thank you to everyone who took part in this event – the children looked wonderful and the gifts for the tombola were plentiful! We hope the children enjoyed the day.

### Parent Workshops for ASD

Are you a parent of a child with Autism? If so, CASS (Community Autism Support Service) run workshops to support you and help create networks for you.

<https://casspartnership.org.uk/> To book a workshop visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-drop-in-for-parentscarers-and-professionals-cass-tickets-1061904728629>

### Gates

Please remember to close all gates after you when collecting from wraparound club in order to keep our children safe. Thank you.

### November’s Attendance

November’s attendance was 94.7% - almost at our minimum target of 95%.

### Children in Need

We raised £115 for this fabulous charity – thanks to everyone who donated and a massive well done!

### It’s Panto Time – Oh yes it is!

Next Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, Splats Panto will be coming to school to perform ‘Puss in Boots on Treasure Island’ – if you have not yet made your voluntary contribution towards this and still would like to, please do so via ParentPay.

### A Festive Thank You

You may have noticed a festive addition outside the front of the school as you left school today. Thank you to Mr Hine for his hard work and super creativity to give us our own everlasting outside Christmas Tree.

‘Happy, Kind and Confident’

## Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

**Nursery** – Ivy for showing super resilience having returned to Nursery so positively after a period of time off.

**Reception** – Henry for coming in with a smile on his face every day and doing his best.

**Year 1** – Lera for her superb (and amusing!) story based on 'Stanley's Stick'.

## House Points

The winning house this week is .

Well done to everyone in Topaz House for earning the most Dojo points.

## Flu & Norovirus Advice

As we head into the Winter months, families across the county are being reminded of steps they can take to reduce the spread of stomach bugs and other winter illnesses in our schools and nurseries. Over the past couple of weeks there has been a rise in norovirus for children. Flu is also steadily increasing. We can all play our part in reducing the spread of these illnesses by taking note of these tips:

- Please carry on with good hygiene in the home, this includes handwashing for 20 seconds and using a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes.
  - **It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.** But if they have a high temperature keep them off until it goes. If you haven't already had the flu jab, please speak to your GP or your preferred pharmacy. For children, please note that: School age children are eligible for flu nasal spray vaccine OR the injectable (gelatine free) vaccine via the School Age Immunisations Service (SAIS) ; If you returned a consent form but your child did not have the vaccine on the day, you will receive an email informing you why the vaccine was not given with a link to book a clinic appointment. Clinic appointments can also be booked if you did not return a form, or you have changed your mind via [swiftqueue](#)
- 2. Stomach bugs** spread rapidly around schools and nurseries. If you or your child have diarrhoea and vomiting – please carry on with handwashing as above, along with the following: Use bleach-based products to clean surfaces ; Don't prepare food for others if you have symptoms or for 48 hours after symptoms stop ; Please avoid visiting people in hospitals or care homes ; Please don't return to work, school or nursery **until 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped.**

## Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

Please also see the Christmas Countdown Chart you were given.

**04/12** – It's Panto Time! – in school. Contributions via ParentPay.

**11/12** – Christmas Performance – Reception and Y1 2.30pm. Parents & family welcome.

**12/12** – Christmas Performance – Reception and Y1 9.30am. Parents & family welcome.

**13/12** – Christmas Jumper Day for 'Save the Children' – suggested donation of £1.

**13/12** – Our first 'FROGS' Christmas Fayre – 3.30-6pm

**18/12** - Christmas Lunch

**19/12** - Nursery Christmas Celebration 11.15am and 3pm

**20/12** - End of Term

## News from The FROGS



## Christmas Fayre – not to be missed!

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, from 3.30-6pm, we are holding our first ever Christmas Fayre. There will be lots of events and stalls for you to enjoy, including Where in the World is Santa?, Name the Penguin, Hook a Santa, Wine or Water, The Snowball Game, Tombola, Lucky Dip Book Stall, Crafts, Refreshments – including warm Samosas! – and a Raffle with lots of impressive prizes!

Of course, we also have 2 very special guests visiting from the North Pole – Santa Claus and Mrs Claus cannot wait to see children in their grotto. It promises to be a really fabulous event – we hope you can come along and support it.

**Cash and Card accepted.**

