



# THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

## Keeping you up to date

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

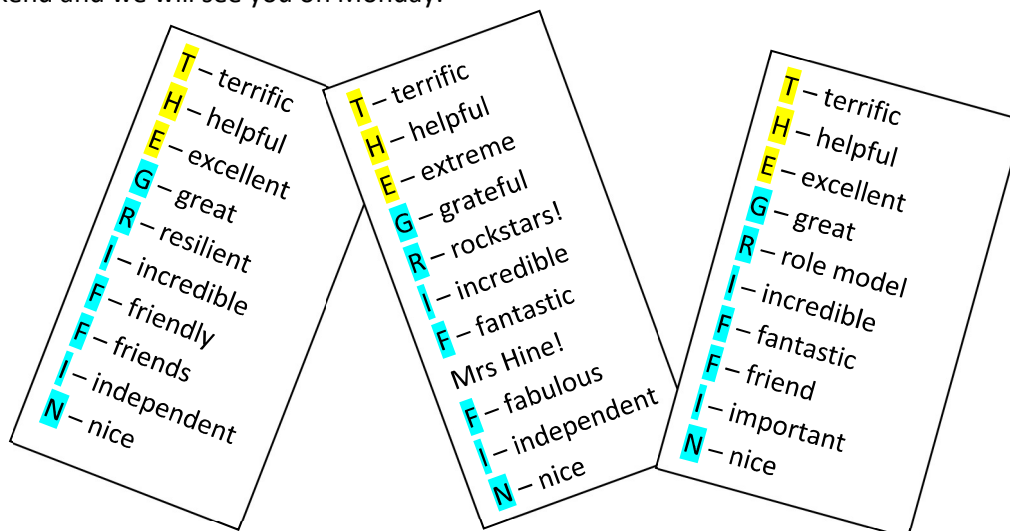
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### Autumn Term Week 1

It was so wonderful to see everyone arriving on Wednesday with big smiles on their faces, new haircuts, smart uniform and enthusiastic attitudes! This has been one of the best first weeks back I have ever had as a Headteacher and it makes me feel enormously proud of our children and staff! It has been so calm and the children have returned with a real 'can do' attitude. They are impressing the staff in the classroom and their behaviour around the school has been exemplary - even more impressive as we have also had the odd rumble of thunder to contend with!

We have certainly decided to start as we mean to go on and the children have already started accessing their learning. Year 2 children wrote some acrostic poems about The Griffin. See the top 3 below (thank you to whoever wrote the middle one!) I am so pleased that the children recognise the things we feel make our school special. Have a fabulous weekend and we will see you on Monday.



### Playground & Outside Developments

You may have noticed some fabulous paintings on the back playground and Reception outside area – if you haven't had the chance yet, please do pop round to have a look at the beginning or end of the day.

Mr Hine, our talented caretaker, has been incredibly busy over the holiday, using his creative skills to improve our outside space for the children to use at playtimes and also within lessons e.g. the snakes and ladders as a 100 square. It took many hours but is so worth the effort and the children love it! A HUGE thank you also to the FROGS (our PTA), as the fundraising through the year helped then to buy the paint for this project – it is a really good example of how your contributions at their fundraising events, go straight back into the school to make it a better place for your children. (Please see the photos at the end of the newsletter.)

### Extra-Curricular Clubs for Autumn 1

Clubs led by teachers will be starting on 15<sup>th</sup> September. For this term, these are for Year 1 and 2 children only. We will introduce Reception children to clubs as the year progresses.

Please see below:

Monday – Cooking (Miss Byrne) £4.95 (incl. ingredients, 3 weekly rota with 6 children in each group)

Tuesday – Football (Mr Pouton) £3.85 per session

Wednesday lunchtime - Recorders (free – bring your own recorder)

Thursday - Eco-Club £3.85 per session

These can be booked via ParentPay.

## Wraparound

Wraparound is for children who are 3 years old and above. You can now book sessions on ParentPay.

Charges per session are:

Breakfast 7.45-8.45am - £5.50 (includes breakfast)

Early Drop off 8.30-8.45am - £1.10

Late Pick up 3.20-3.35pm

Club 3.20-4.20pm - £3.85

Wraparound 4.20-5.45pm - £7.15 (includes snack)

Please bring and collect children from the doors at the end of the hall.

Collection for the wraparound session is from 5pm-5.45pm.

At each breakfast session there will be 2 adults; Mr Martin & Mrs Hine / at the Club session there will be 3 adults; Mr Martin, Mrs Day/Miss Powell and a coach from Game-On / at the wraparound slot there will be 2 adults – Mr Martin & Mrs Day/Miss Powell

### Club Activities are as follows:

	<b>Activity 1 (Game-On Coach)</b>	<b>Activity 2 (School Staff)</b>
<b>Monday</b>	Athletics	Movement
<b>Tuesday</b>	Multi-Sports	Arts & Crafts
<b>Wednesday</b>	Calm Club	Mini Rugby
<b>Thursday</b>	Dodgeball	Board Games / Puzzles
<b>Friday</b>	Arts & Crafts	Gymnastics

**If you have any questions about this, please speak to the Office Team.**

## ParentPay

All new parents should have received an activation letter for ParentPay. Please activate your account as soon as possible. If there are any issues, please let Mrs Isaac's know.

## PE Kits

Please make sure that your child has their PE kit (including pumps and trainers) in school for their PE lesson – it may be easier to send it in and leave it here for the week or even half-term, and we will send it home as required! PE is a statutory part of the curriculum for Y1 / Y2.

## Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

We have lots of exciting things planned for this academic year. Dates for the whole year will be coming out to you next week, so that you can plan ahead.

## Parent Trustee Vacancy

**Are you passionate about education and your child's school? Do you want to help shape the future of our academy?**

We are currently seeking a **Parent Trustee** to join the **Trust Board** of our School. This is a fantastic opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the strategic direction and governance of the school.

### What does a Parent Trustee do?

As a trustee, you will:

- Help set the vision and strategic priorities of the academy
- Support and challenge school leaders to ensure high standards
- Ensure financial oversight and accountability
- Represent the voice and perspective of parents in decision-making

### Who can apply?

We welcome applications from parents or carers of children currently attending the school or nursery. No prior experience in governance is required — just a commitment to improving outcomes for all pupils and a willingness to learn.

If you are interested in this role please speak to the office team and they will give you a self-nomination form. If we have more than one application, parents will have the opportunity to vote, as a Parent Trustee is elected by the parent body. If we only have one applicant, they will automatically be elected.

**Please note that this role is subject to a DBS check and section 148 check.**

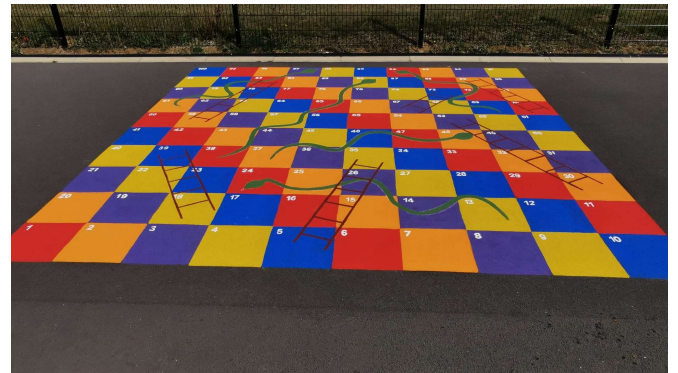
## Feeling Autumnal

Please remember to send a coat in with your child, as we do still go outside if it is drizzling at lunchtime and it is safe to do so. It is also becoming a bit cooler. Coats should be named (as should all uniform).

### Parking – New Arrangements

I have been outside of school every morning and afternoon to observe how the parking is going, now that the staff car park is no longer available to parents. Thank you to everyone, as your patience and care have meant that we have made an excellent start. I have noticed that some parents are parking on the zig-zags near to the crossing space and this is dangerous as it reduces visibility for anyone crossing. I do not know if there are any plans to put more signage for the crossing in the future, but for now we need to work with what we have and just be mindful and considerate. I really appreciate everyone’s efforts. It has also been helpful to have a member of Bloor’s staff supervising, so that we can be sure of everyone’s safety if there is construction traffic or delivery vehicles at these times. I will, of course, be continuing to monitor this new system as time progresses. It has also been wonderful to see so many families walking, cycling or scooting to school – what a great way to get some exercise and start the school day!

### Look at our New Playground and Reception Outside Area!



### Year 1 and 2 Drop-Off and Collection

One of the most important things for our staff is to ensure your child’s safety and this includes at arrival and departure times. As both classes have the same entrance/exit it is imperative that our new teachers, Miss Barrow and Miss Fitzpatrick, are able to see all parents and to get to know you all. This is why we have asked for you to queue to drop your child off and collect them at the end of the day. We appreciate your patience with this, but know you will understand our reasons for this change. With a new school, each new academic year will bring a few new systems, due to the fact that there will always be new situations arise as we grow – please rest assured that we will always endeavor to find good solutions for these.



### Baby Pouton

Congratulations to Mr Pouton and his partner on the birth of their son, Teddy, over the Summer Holiday. Mr Pouton will be taking paternity leave next week and the fabulous Mrs Day will be stepping in to lead the Nursery.

