



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

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Autumn Term Week 7

This week we had so many inspiring people in school on Tuesday, when our Year 2 children and staff came dressed as someone they find inspirational – these ranged from vets, nurses and doctors to footballers, cricketers and pop-stars. We also had Jesus and a red panda (as they are endangered) – such creative thinking everyone! We had a fabulous end of the week with our FROGS Harvest Disco! The music was bopping and the children were not only showing us their moves and chasing balloons, but enjoying each other's company! It looked like everyone was having a lot of fun. A massive thank you to the FROGS team for organising this great event.

We also had a wonderful Harvest Festival, led by our Year 2 pupils. They were so professional and shared such important messages for us all, about showing compassion and sharing with others. The other year groups performed superbly with their singing – Big Red Combine Harvester (Nursery), Cauliflowers Fluffy (Reception) and The Harvest Samba (Year 1). The entire assembly was a joy to behold. Thank you for joining us in this celebration and for your generous gifts for the Foodbank – see photo below.

As well as the above, children in Nursery have been busy learning about people who help us in the community and exploring woodland animals, as part of our Understanding the World topics. In maths, we have practiced comparing amounts by looking at more and less. Reception children have been practicing their counting and enjoying being in the outside learning environment with foam, sand and water. They have also learnt about Rugby in the past.

Year 1 children have been working very hard to prepare for their Harvest Festival performance. They've also been enjoying their new story *Naughty Bus*, giggling at his cheeky adventures, and have created their very own art gallery to admire and celebrate all the wonderful work they've been doing.

Year 2 also had a sugar swap workshop on Tuesday, learning about how much sugar some food items contain and discovering healthier alternatives. It was certainly food for thought! They have explored practical skills by making delicious Eton Mess, combining learning, creativity, and teamwork through fun, hands-on experiences.

Next week is the last week of this first half term – remember that we have a Teacher Training day on Friday, so school will finish for the children on Thursday.



Stay Connected

Every parent should now have an account on the following Apps – Class Dojo ; School Food United (SFU) ; ParentPay. Nursery and Reception parents should also have signed up to Tapestry. If you are not signed up yet, are not sure what to do, have lost the setting up details or just need help generally, please contact the school office as soon as possible, as these are essential apps for you as part of our school.

'Happy, Kind and Confident'

Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Nursery – Lydia for always being Happy, Kind and Confident and making great contributions in all areas.

Reception – Niyara for being so kind and caring towards others and always doing her best!

Year 1 – Azylah is this week's Star of the Week because of her beautiful positivity, fantastic attitude to learning, and kindness to everyone. Well done, Azylah!

Year 2 – Jude for being consistently helpful and kind towards his peers, always offering support, sharing resources, listening attentively, and showing genuine care and consideration, making the classroom a positive and welcoming environment for everyone.

Presentation Awards

Reception – Noah W for reducing the size of his writing and working on his letter formation.

Year 1 – Archie S for finally conquering finger spaces – and not just that... he has begun to join up his writing too!

Year 2 – Elizabeth for practicing her handwriting every day with dedication and focus, showing steady improvement, attention to detail, and pride in her work.



House Points

Well done to everyone in Emerald House for earning the most Dojo points this week and being the winning house.

Parents' Evening

We look forward to seeing you all next week for your first parents' evening of the year. Please arrive on time - we may start the next appointment if you are late as it only takes a few minutes of running behind with a few people to knock everyone's timings out. Teachers will also keep to 10 minutes per child for the same reasons – they are not being rude, just being fair to everyone. If you need to make an appointment to continue the discussion, we are more than happy to do that at a mutually convenient time.

Well Done and Thank You

We raised £65 on 'Hello Yellow' Day to send to MIND.

Dress Down Day – 23rd October

On Thursday 23rd the FROGS are holding a dress down day, in return for a gift for the Rainbow Raffle at the Christmas Fayre. This means that instead of wearing uniform, children can wear an outfit of their choice to school and, in exchange, should bring a gift which is the colour of their house – Ruby (Red), Sapphire (Blue), Topaz (Yellow), Emerald (Green). If you are not sure which house your child is in, I will ask teachers to put a list up by the classroom doors for you to check.

Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

Each week we publish the dates that are coming up in the next month, so that you don't forget.

21/10 – Health Monitoring- Reception class

21/10 – Parents' Evening

21/10 – Diwali events in school

22/10 – Parents' Evening (Nursery Only)

23/10 – Parents' Evening

23/10 – Flu Vaccinations (Reception, Year 1 and 2)

23/10 – FROGS Dress Down Day

24/10 –TEACHER TRAINING DAY – no children in school

27/10 – 31/10 – HALF TERM

05/11 – Trip to Rugby School (Year 2)

11/11 – Tours for Prospective Parents

9.30/10.15/11am

12/11 – Tours for Prospective Parents

1.15/2.00/2.45pm

14/11 – Children in Need – Wear Pyjamas or spots/Pudsey (link for donations to follow)

Advanced Notice

At The Griffin, we go above and beyond by informing you of events as early as we can – we publish term dates and training days before the summer holiday, send out dates for the whole year early this term, announce our enrichment for the whole year to help families plan their budget and send out timely reminders via Dojo. The dates are on the school website as well. However, despite our efforts, we still get parents saying that they didn't know about events or dates.

Please do make reference to these documents and add the dates to your calendars. There are occasions where you may have shorter notice but we still try to allow at least a week's notice.

