



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

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Autumn Term Week 8

Thank you to everyone for attending our Parents' Evenings this week – it was a pleasure to see you all and to see how engaged you are in your child's learning. As we always say and as evidence shows, children make the best progress when school and parents work together in partnership to support learning.

Another huge thank you needs to go to Mrs. Modeshia, who came in on Tuesday morning to run some Diwali workshops with crafts, a Diwali Disco and a Diwali story – the children and staff really enjoyed it and appreciate your generosity in giving up your time to plan and lead this. What a fabulous opportunity for our children to celebrate our rich and diverse community.

In class this week the learning has been equally impressive! In Nursery, children have been on a 'Pumpkin Hunt' around the school. In Maths the children have been focussing on 'same and different'. Reception children have been looking at different arrangements to make the numbers 3 and 4, they have learnt about why Jesus is special to Christians and thought about their responsibilities towards each other e.g. being kind, helping.

Year 1 children have worked incredibly hard on writing diary entries as the '*Naughty Bus*' and have enjoyed exploring different types of settlements across the UK. In Year 2, children have been writing and editing a story, learning about William Webb Ellis and subtracting 10, crossing a ten eg 27-10.

It was great fun seeing everyone in their spooky outfits, pajamas' or dress down clothes on Thursday, the last day of this half term. Thank you for the colourful gifts for our Rainbow raffle which will be at the Christmas Fayre. It has been a busy half term, but another successful one. Your children and the staff team deserve a really good rest this half term. Stay safe and healthy and we look forward to seeing you back on November 3rd.

Out of this World Reading

After half-term we will be starting our 'Out of this World' reading challenge and reward scheme. Further information will be sent on Class Dojo and is also available on the school website in the curriculum section www.thegriffinprimary.uk. This will be monitored via reading record books as, although we had hoped to use Boom Reader this year following a successful trial last summer, the subscription is more than we expected and so we will have to push it back to September 2026!

IEP meetings

If your child has an additional or special educational need (SEND), you will have been invited to a meeting on 7th November to discuss their individual education plan (IEP). Please remember to let the office team know whether you can attend this meeting.

Competition Time

The BBC's 500 Words is back! The UK's biggest story-writing competition for children aged 5 to 11 opens for entries from Tuesday, 23 September until Friday, 7 November at 9 pm.

Children are encouraged to write a story that is 500 words... or less! Children of all abilities can enter; spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked. It's all about the creativity. It's as simple as that!

Prizes

There are some brilliant prizes up for grabs! 50 brilliant finalists will be invited to a glittering grand final. Every 500 words story submitted into the competition will be entered into a random draw. The lucky entrant will receive a ticket to the final, as well as 500 books for their school library and Literacy Wall Art. To enter visit <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

GOOD LUCK!

Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Nursery – Zayden- for starting the year with great confidence and making friends.

Reception – Mia for sharing her wonderful smile with everyone, helping to keep the classroom tidy and being an amazing friend.

Year 1 – Casper for his hard work and can-do attitude towards all of his learning

Year 2 – Arvinder for great perseverance in maths – with great results!

Presentation Awards

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

Year 1 – Finley for such great effort on his handwriting – the results speak for themselves!

Year 2 – Summer for working hard to earn her pen licence.



House Points

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

My Clothing Discount Code

My clothing, where our school coat is from, are offering a 10% discount until December 31st. Please see below for the code.

Code: 10%myc2025 Expires: 31/12/25

Voluntary Contributions

As a school, we try to organise a reasonable amount of enrichment events, such as trips to support the curriculum and our whole school visit to the Pantomime every other year, and to provide as much notice as possible to you about these. We do not ask for contributions towards resources used in Art and Craft lessons or Design Technology lessons and fund this from within the school budget. However, budgets are tight, especially as a small school, growing year by year. Budgets can be impacted negatively due to the voluntary contribution requirement, and on some occasions, trips might be cancelled if we do not receive enough through contributions, as the budget cannot support them. We know that the cost of living has risen and so, if you need any advice or support regarding contributions, please do come and speak to us.

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.

27/10 – 31/10 – HALF TERM

05/11 – Trip to Rugby School (Year 2)

07/11 – IEP meetings for parents of children with special educational needs

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 now on Dojo)

17/11 & 18/11 – Bikeability Reception

24/11 – Pizza Making Workshop (AiP) – Year 1

25/11 – Maths Information Evening – come along and find out how we teach maths - all parents welcome 6pm.

28/11 – FROGS Break the Rules Day – tombola prize donation

05/12 FROGS Christmas Fayre - 3.45pm

Clubs for next Half Term

Monday- Netball / Board Games (Game On) / Cooking Club (Miss Byrne)

Tuesday- Junk Modelling / Dance (Game On)

Wednesday- Dodgeball / Disney Crafts (Game On)

Thursday- Arts and Crafts / Multi-Sports (Game On)

Eco Club (Mrs Hine)

Friday- Pokemon Club – crafts/cards; Athletics (Game On)

News from the FROGS



Easy Fundraising

Did you know that you could raise money for the school from your settee or armchair at home? Whenever you buy online from a wide variety of stores, e.g. Amazon, through the Easy Fundraising app there is no extra charge for you, but the school can earn money to spend on wonderful things for your children. **So, why not buy your Christmas presents using this and raise money for the school at the same time – at no additional cost to you?!**

I have a meeting with them on Friday 31st and so will share further information in the next newsletter.

