



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

The Griffin Primary School

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Autumn Term Week 10

I have really enjoyed showing prospective parents around our wonderful school this week – the whole school was so productive and calm with great learning happening. I was also super proud of the children on Tuesday, when we held 2 minutes silence for Remembrance Day at 11am – the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. Everyone was so respectful and understood why we were remembering those who have served for, or who still serve, our country. Thursday was World Kindness Day – perfect for us at The Griffin, as we are always ‘Happy, Kind and Confident’. I challenged all children to show at least 2 acts of kindness during the afternoon or evening – I hope you noticed that your children were being even more kind and helpful than usual!

In Nursery this week, the children have had lots of fun exploring traditional tales! They enjoyed reading ‘Little Red Riding Hood’ and ‘Goldilocks and the Three Bears’, and playing ‘What’s the Time, Mr. Wolf?’ together.

They also practised listening for and saying the phoneme ‘a’, spotting it in words and stories throughout the week.

In Reception, children have been finding ‘more and fewer’ and thinking about how to use body percussion in music.

Year 1 children have been busy writing beautiful poems to capture the importance of the poppy and reflect on why we remember. Alongside this, they’ve been working hard on their writing skills, learning how to create multi-clause sentences, and exploring 3D shapes in maths.

Year 2 children have been subtracting two 2-digit numbers and they started their ‘Great Fire of London’ book. It has been a wild day today! We hope you all stay safe and snug over the weekend.

Student Teacher Placement Year 2

We are really excited to be in the position to use our staff’s expertise to train teachers. Mrs Clarke is going to be joining the team in Year 2 for the first half of the Spring Term. She will be leading some of the teaching, under the guidance and support of Miss Fitzpatrick. Here is a message from Mrs Clarke: *Hello everyone! I’m really excited to be joining you in January 2026 for 6 weeks to work alongside Miss Fitzpatrick. I’ll be in Year 2 from Monday to Thursday, whilst I work towards gaining my Qualified Teacher Status.*

I’ve worked in a local primary school for 12 years, starting as a volunteer before becoming a midday supervisor and then a teaching assistant in Key Stage 1. I love working in KS1, especially teaching phonics. I recently completed my Education Studies degree and now teach Reception, which I enjoy very much. As part of my professional development, I’m delighted to spend time in your school and learn even more. I’ve heard such wonderful things about your school. At home, I have three children and two dogs, Jensen and Bruno. I enjoy nature walks, reading and gardening. I can’t wait to meet you all soon.

Anti-Bullying Week

This week has been anti-bullying week and in assembly we thought about what bullying is and is not, how it would make someone feel and that it is when someone is unkind or hurts us not just once, but again, and again, and again. We know that it is different to someone being unkind once, or falling out with our friends. I have created a parent information leaflet to send to you all.

Parental Controls

As part of my regular Online Safety updates, please click this link for some advice about Cyber-bullying and [Parental Controls](#)

Parents have free access through our Digital Safeguarding subscription with WCC. There is a lot of useful information for parents, including information on setting parental controls, app and game reviews, and blog posts about the latest things to be aware of in the online world. If the link does not work, this is the webpage:

<https://warwickshire.onlinesafetyhub.uk/>

Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Nursery – River for being really engaged in her learning and enjoying the topic ‘Once Upon a Time’.

Reception – Lorenzo for settling in so well and making great progress.

Year 1 – Milan for his wonderful growth in confidence and self-belief. He is now believing that he *can* do it!

Year 2 – Kirpa for such a positive change in her attitude to learning and effort – fantastic!

Presentation Awards

Reception – Pola for her superbly detailed story map.

Year 1 – Arlo for outstanding effort – not only in writing, but also in his careful cutting, sticking, and drawing

Year 2 – Lera for her super effort with her handwriting, earning her a pen licence.

PE Award

Here are the children for last week and this week’s PE award:

Year 1

Last week – Moussa for super rhythm in dance.

This week – Charlotte for great determination

Year 2

Last week – Maahi for always doing her best

This week – Arthur for great leadership



House Points

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

Bikeability for Reception Children

On Monday and Wednesday next week, Reception children are having some sessions for Balance Bikes.

Parents have been sent a message about this.

Class Dojo

This is a great communication system, but it is becoming unmanageable, as some teachers are getting up to 20 messages a day. They quite simply do not have time to respond to all of these messages, as they are busy planning lessons, teaching, marking and keeping children safe and happy. Please be mindful of staff wellbeing and work/life balance when sending messages and try to communicate through the office. We will also start to ‘schedule send’ messages to avoid too many messages for you. We do not want you to miss any important information!

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.

17/11 & 19/11 – Bikeability (for Reception children)

19/11 – Eye Screening for Reception Class (Parental consent already given directly to Community Orthoptic Screening)

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 - 3.30pm choir ; doors open 3.45pm

Children in Need – Link for Donations

Please use the following link to make a donation, if you are able, to this great cause. **YOU CANNOT PAY THIS THROUGH OUR PARENTPAY.** It was such fun seeing children and staff wearing pyjamas, spots or Pudsey items today.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=18757>



News from the FROGS

Easy Fundraising App – free money!

For the whole month of November, if you install the Easy Fundraising app and register to support The Griffin Primary School, you will automatically raise £2 for our school, without it costing you a penny! Please ask all of your friends and family to sign up too and, of course, if you have 2 adults in the household, if you both sign up we get double the donation!

When you are doing your Christmas shopping, see if the stores you want to buy from are listed on the app and, if they are, buying through this app will get a % donation to our school – again at no additional cost to you but of MASSIVE benefit to the school and the opportunities for your children! What could be easier?!

Santa’s Little Helpers

If anyone is able to help run a stall for half an hour at the Christmas Fayre on 5th December 3.45-5.45pm it would be much appreciated. Please let either Mrs Hine or the ladies in the office know.