



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

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Spring Term Week 2

This week Reception and Year 1 children were lucky enough to have a visit from Warwick, the Road Safety Bear and to have a session each about road safety from the team at Warwickshire. It was really helpful and taught the children where and how to cross a road safely.

Nursery children made their own binoculars this week to help them if they needed to go on another Bear Hunt! They also enjoyed being able to use their outdoor provision now that the weather is slightly warmer.

In Reception, children had a letter from Mummy Bear saying Baby Bear had got lost and asking us to look for him. This is linked to their Talk for Writing book 'Whatever Next!' He landed in the hall wearing his space boots, helmet and with his picnic he had packed for his journey to the moon! They have also investigated how numbers are made up of different numbers and the different ways we can split 4 and 5 and compared day and night

Year 1 children have been busy learning that some trees are deciduous and some are evergreen and they have also considered what it would be like to be a mermaid, linked to their text 'Julian is a mermaid' a book that celebrates identity, love, and individuality.

This week year 2 have been making different amounts of money and learning different ways to make the same amount. Miss Fitzpatrick would love it if parents could show their children real money and have a go at buying things themselves! This would be a great way to put their learning into real life. In English, with Mrs Clarke, they have been looking at advertisements and using persuasive language to try to sell the house featured in our new book. Miss Fitzpatrick is incredibly proud of them all for showing Mrs Clarke respect and producing some amazing work for her.

Scarlet Fever

Unfortunately, we have had a confirmed case of Scarlet fever in Year 1. Page 3 has further information for you about this.

School Car Park

We have had a lot of parents who have been coming into the car park over the last 2 weeks.

As requested at the beginning of this academic year, please do not use the school car park for dropping off at the early drop off slot (8.30am) or for the late pick up (3.35pm) or clubs session (4.20pm). **The only times that parents can use the car park is before 8am and after 5pm.**



Bags of Support

An enormous thank you to parents in Year 1 and Year 2 for your help and prompt action with the situation regarding overcrowding in the cloakroom. By changing to book bags only, it has made a big difference already and the cloakroom is much tidier, with less risk of trips and slips.

Fire Drill

We will be having an unannounced fire drill next week.

I am letting you know as we have some children in school who find this unnerving and so please let your children know that they do not need to worry about this, and it is so that we can learn how to keep safe.



Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Nursery – Sienna for her increased confidence and contributions in whole class lessons.

Reception – Harley for always demonstrating our school values and developing his confidence in explaining his knowledge during whole class carpet sessions

Year 1 – Kiaan for outstanding effort and pride in his work.

Year 2 – Oscar for his amazing attitude towards learning - he is always ready to start and has been working hard with his writing. He has impressed Mrs Clarke with his use of expanded noun phrases and handwriting! He is polite to everyone and has really shown a super attitude since the start of Year 2.

Presentation Awards

Reception – Nelly- for super effort with her letter formation and controlling her letter size.

Year 1 – Finley for really taking his time with letter formation.

Year 2 – Zac for amazing work in science this week! He used his cutting skills to design an amazing garden with varying microhabitats and his phonics to help him label it.

Mr Martin's PE Award

Here are the children for this week's PE award:

Year 1 Alfie for showing great respect during lessons.

Year 2 Jude for his enthusiasm and attitude towards PE lessons. He has been impressed with the way he tries new skills and always gives 100%.

House Points



Well done to everyone in Emerald House for earning the most Dojo points over the past week.

Uniform New Year Discount

I will be sending a poster via Dojo, with further information about how you can get 10% off at My Clothing where we sell our school coat as an optional item of uniform. This offer expires: 31st March 2026

Vacancies

We are advertising for a SEN Teaching Assistant to work 1:1 with one of our pupils. Please spread the word. Thank you.

Forthcoming Dates for the Diary – 2026!

06/02 Number Day – in aid of the NSPCC (see below)

10/02 Safer Internet Day

10/02 Parents' Evenings – Not Nursery (see below)

11/02 Parents' Evenings

16/02 – 20/02 HALF TERM

Mr Pouton is back!

25-27/02 Arts Week – Far East Focus – All year groups

25/02 Chinese Dance Workshops – All year groups

04/03 Historical Monarch Workshop – Year 2

05/03 World Book Day – Dress up as a Book Character

05/03 Big Bedtime Read – join us in your PJs for a bedtime story (more information to follow)

10/03 Parents' Information Evening – Topic tba

13/03 Comic Relief – Dress Down & Cake Sale

17,18 & 19/03 Nursery Parents' Evening – (see below)

27/03 Easter Bonnet Parade – 2.30pm

30/03 – 13/04 EASTER HOLIDAY

13/04 Teacher Training Day

14/04 Summer Term Starts

Parents' Evenings

Have you booked your time slot for the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Parents' Evenings?

If not, the links to book these are live and on the Calendar in Class Dojo under 'Events'.



NSPCC Number Day

On Friday 6th February we are inviting children to take part in the NSPCC's Number Day. They may choose to dress up as a robot, numberblock or represent a number via clothing eg wearing a football top or other top with a number on it, making their own number top using fabric pens or using paper dots stitched onto a top to make a number array, make a dice out of a box and wear it, become a calculate or using cardboard etc. There are so many different possibilities and lots of images on the internet. We ask for a donation of £1 per child for the fun of dressing up, which will go to the NSPCC.

Scarlet Fever

Although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, it should be treated with antibiotics to minimise the risk of complications and reduce the spread to others.

Scarlet fever is spread via the mucus and saliva of infected people. It can also be caught from any drinking glasses, plates or utensils they have used.

To protect yourself from getting the illness you should:

- wash your hands often
- not share eating utensils with an infected person
- wash, or dispose of, handkerchiefs and tissues contaminated by an infected person
- be aware that you can catch scarlet fever by inhaling contaminated airborne droplets, if someone with the illness coughs or sneezes in the air near you

The symptoms of scarlet fever include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. This is followed by a fine rash which typically first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body.

On white skin the rash looks pink or red. On brown and black skin it might be harder to see a change in colour, but you can still feel the sandpaper-like texture of the rash and see the raised bumps. The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth.

If you think you, or your child, have scarlet fever:

- see your GP or contact NHS 111 as soon as possible
- make sure that you or your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor
- stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection

The infection causing scarlet fever (group A streptococcal infection) also causes sore throats (strep throat), mild fever and minor skin infections (for example, impetigo).

If someone in your family has any of these symptoms in the next 30 days we advise that you take them (along with this letter) to see their GP. Their GP can arrange for them to be tested if necessary and then treated with antibiotics if the GP thinks they have a group A streptococcal infection.

If the GP thinks that the person has a group A streptococcal infection, they will need to remain off work, school or nursery for 24 hours following the start of the antibiotics.

Complications

Children who have had chickenpox recently are more likely to develop more serious infection should they catch scarlet fever and so parents should remain vigilant for symptoms such as a persistent high temperature, skin infection and joint pain and swelling. If you are concerned for any reason please seek medical assistance immediately.

If your child has an underlying condition which affects their immune system, you should contact your GP or hospital doctor to discuss whether any additional measures are needed.

You can find more information in on scarlet fever symptoms, diagnosis and treatment at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/scarlet-fever-symptoms-diagnosis-treatment>. Further advice can also be obtained from your local health protection team on 0344 225 3560 option 2 during office hours.