



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

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Spring Term Week 7

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term – and it has really felt like Spring this week! There has been sunshine (Hooray!) and you will notice the daffodils and tulips coming up, and the crocuses already blooming. We have had such an amazing week with Arts Week (Year 1 children even hopped on an aeroplane to different countries in the Far East) and we hope you managed to make it to our exhibition at the end of the day on Friday. If not, don't worry – there are some photographs on page 3 and 4 of this week's newsletter.

Even though we have been busy with Arts Week, Nursery also began their Talk for Writing story, 'The Gingerbread Man,' and enjoyed making their own gingerbread men. Reception children found lots of turnips had appeared in their outside vegetable patch, just in time for their new Talk for Writing story, 'The Enormous Turnip'. Year 1 children investigated something that had crash-landed in the vegetable patch – it turned out to be a comet, which just so happens to be the title of their new book. They also began designing taxis to take tourists around the famous London landmarks they have been learning about. In Year 2, children have been enjoying their new book 'Rosie Revere, Engineer'.

Defibrillator

We are so pleased to have a defibrillator right outside of our school. It was provided free as part of the 'OurJay' project/charity. Thank you to Mrs Dhillon (one of our parents) who saw this opportunity and let me know about it – a great demonstration of school/parent partnership!

Building Work

On Monday, we start the build for our new 2 year old's Nursery building – there should be minimal impact for parents as you can still use the paths to the rear of the building to drop off your children at the usual place. I can assure you that the safety and safeguarding of our children has been at the forefront of all of the arrangements in our pre-start meetings and the company undertaking the build, TG Escapes, have worked on many different school/nursery projects in the past.

Road Safety Message

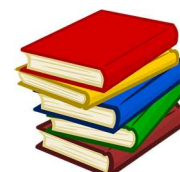
It has been good to see so many more children walking or riding to school now that the weather is improving! Warwickshire Road Safety Team have asked schools to put out the message and I have included this on page 3.

World Book Day – Next Thursday

5th March is World Book Day and we are inviting children to come to school dressed as a character from a book. We would also like them to bring in their favourite book, as Nursery and Year 1 / Reception and Year 2 children will be spending some time together during the day reading and sharing these in a 'Book Buddy' session.

At lunchtime there is a special World Book Day menu – this is coming out to you today on Dojo and is already set up on the School Food United App.

In the evening you are invited to come back to school (in your PJs with a pillow if wanted) with your children to join our Big Bedtime Story. This is for Nursery/Reception from 5.30-6pm and then for Year 1/Year 2 from 6-6.45pm. If you have children in both sessions please select one session to come to. Parents need to stay and, last year, a few siblings also came – it was a lovely family event! We will have hot chocolate and a biscuit for children as they listen to the stories. This year, it will take place in the Year 4 classroom.



'Happy, Kind and Confident'

Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Nursery – Azlan for being a fantastic artist and for his enthusiastic engagement during Arts Week.

Reception – Zeph for always trying his best and role model behaviour

Year 1 – Ezgi for her intricate, detailed Chinoiserie vase design, showing excellent attention to detail throughout.

Year 2 – Aarna for her amazing attitude towards her learning. She produced an amazing diary entry in the role of Albert the Great!

Presentation Awards

Reception – Henry for super effort with his writing and great care with his art.

Year 1 – Azylah for great care and effort in her artwork, never missing small details and confidently adapting her brushstrokes and sketching techniques.

Year 2 – Zara for her amazing clay boat that she produced during art week. She took her time to ensure she added intricate details when painting!

Mr. Martin's PE Award

Year 1 – Archie B for great passing skills

Year 2 – Niamh for great team work

House Points

Well done to everyone in Sapphire House for earning the most Dojo points this week, for the second week in a row.

Free Family Services in Rugby

A poster of Rugby Children and Family Centre's Spring Term Activities will be coming to you on Class Dojo alongside this newsletter. We hope it is helpful.

Parents' Information Evening

On Tuesday 10th March, Mrs Hine will be leading an information session – the focus of this will be Online Health & Safety for children at home – useful strategies and guidelines.

It will be at 6pm and will take place in the Year 6 classroom. We hope you are able to attend.



Forthcoming Dates for the Diary – 2026!

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 tbc

13/03 Comic Relief – Dress Down & Cake Sale

13/03 Silent Disco – further information to follow

13/03 Wonderful Women (Mothers and Others) Gift Trolley – further information to follow

16-20/03 The Big Walk and Wheel

17,18 & 19/03 Nursery Parents' Evenings

25/03 Marvelous Monarchs Workshop – Year 2

27/03 Easter Bonnet Parade – 2.30pm

30/03 – 13/04 EASTER HOLIDAY

13/04 Teacher Training Day

14/04 Summer Term Starts

08/05 Family Bingo Evening

12/06 Class Photos

19/06 Marvelous Men (Fathers and Others) Gift Trolley

11/07 Summer Fayre & Farmers' Market

News from the FROGS – Next Events

There are a lot of exciting events coming up –

13/03 Silent Disco

We are hosting a silent disco on Friday March 13th.

Nursery and Reception children are from 3.30-4.15pm and Year 1 and Year 2 children are from 4.30-5.30pm.

Tickets are £3.00.

13/03 Wonderful Women Gift Trolley – if your child would like to buy a gift for a wonderful woman in their life, e.g. mother, grandmother, aunt the FROGS they can choose one from the trolley – just in time for Mothers' Day! The cost is £3 for 1 gift or £5 for 2.

Payments for both of these events will be cash.

Please bring in an envelope with correct cash in, with your child's full name, year group and which event it is for on the front.

There are 2 postboxes by the office for you to put your payments in.

The deadline is 11th March at 6pm.



Stop, Think, Park Safely

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have been asked to share the following information from the Warwickshire Road Safety Education Team as a reminder to park legally, safely, and considerately to help keep the area outside our school safe for our pupils.

We are asking all parents and carers to park legally, safely, and responsibly, and to avoid parking in a way that causes unnecessary obstruction. Please:

- **Keep the School Keep Clear (zigzag) markings free during restricted times**, never stop, wait, or park on these markings, even briefly.
 - **Avoid parking on restricted areas**, such as double yellow lines.
 - **Do not obstruct dropped kerbs**, as this prevents safe crossing.
 - **Use designated parking areas** or park a short distance away and walk.
- **Be considerate of residents, pupils, and other road users**, and avoid blocking driveways.
- **Avoid parking on pavements**, as this can force children, wheelchair users and parents with prams into the road.
 - **Do not park within 10 metres of a junction**, to maintain safe visibility for all.
 - **Model safe and respectful behaviour** for children to follow.

We understand that school journeys can be challenging but taking a few extra minutes to park safely makes a big difference. By working together, we can create a safer and more respectful environment for every child at our school.

Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Police do enforce these restrictions to improve safety around schools. Enforcement helps protect your children, other road users, and encourages longer-term safe behaviours.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep our school community safe.

Art's Week and Exhibition

An enormous thank you to all involved with our 'Far East' themed Arts Week (3 days!). The children worked so hard and really impressed with their skill, creativity and also amazing behavior during Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It can be quite disconcerting for some children when we come off timetable and the routine changes, but they coped really well. A huge thank you to the staff for all of the preparation and planning behind the activities, their continuous enthusiasm and for helping the children to excel. Thank you to Mrs Klesca, Ms Bolsonova and Mrs Plumbley for giving up their time to lead some activities during our 'week' and also to Miss Wrigley and Mr Hine for helping to set up the exhibition – no mean feat in 2¼ hours. Thank you also, to 'Dance Days' for helping us start off Arts Week with some brilliant Chinese dancing workshops for each year group – the children absolutely loved it! We are so lucky to have staff and children with such a positive, 'can-do' approach towards everything and it certainly produced amazing results! Not only did the children learn new art skills, they also learn about a different culture, broadening their knowledge of our world and its people.

The exhibition, quite simply, blew my socks off! The quantity and quality of the work presented was unbelievable and it was wonderful to see so many of you enjoying it. What I particularly enjoyed seeing was the children not just looking for their own pieces, but enjoying looking at what everyone had been doing. To see the progression of skill from Nursery through to Year 2 was a real privilege. A selection of photos are on the following pages:

