



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

The Griffin Primary School
Lower Lodge Avenue

Rugby
Warwickshire
CV21 1NU

Headteacher: Mrs. Alison Hine

Telephone: 01788 249115

www.thegriffinprimary.co.uk



Summer Term Week 2

I have had the opportunity to show a few visitors around school this week and it has been such a pleasure – the children have been consistently working hard and showing great learning attitudes, displaying superb manners and been proud of what they are doing.

On Wednesday in assembly, the children were told about St George's Day and William Shakespeare's birthday happening on Thursday 23rd April – did you know that William Shakespeare also died on 23rd April? We are all lifelong learners!

In Nursery, the children have been learning about 2D shapes, recognising and exploring them through a variety of fun activities. We were also excited to welcome our caterpillars and have begun learning about the life cycle of a butterfly.

Reception children have learnt about being grateful for what they have through a story called 'The Gold-Giving Serpent'.

They have drawn story maps and been learning about habitats and where animals live.

This week in Year 1, we wrote fact files about creatures that live in icy habitats, explored the history of our school and the land it is built on, and sang about superheroes using different pitches. In Year 2, the children have been learning about texture in art, and creating maps with a key.

On Thursday, the Eco-Club went up to the school allotment and planted potatoes, watered the strawberries and picked rhubarb! It has been a glorious week and we hope you enjoy the sunshine this weekend – it really does lift the spirits!

Invite an Adult to Lunch – 7th May

Nursery and Reception children are welcome to invite an adult to school for lunch on Thursday 7th May. You have already received a Dojo message with the menu and prices and the **deadline for booking a meal is 30th April**. Even if your child has sandwiches (e.g. E2 children), you are welcome to join us and order a meal. Please let us know if you have any allergies/cultural dietary needs when you book on Parent Pay. We hope to see you there.

Celebration Assembly

From next Friday, 1st May, we are inviting any parent that wishes to attend the celebration assembly to come along, regardless of whether your child is receiving recognition or not.

Following this, we will provide a short tea and coffee session until 10am as an opportunity to catch up with other parents and, possibly, meet new people.

Thank you for signing in when you arrive – please remember to also sign out for fire regulation purposes.

FROGS Pre-loved Uniform Sale

We find ourselves with a LOT of pre-loved uniform and so the FROGS are going to have a pre-loved uniform sale on Wednesday morning as you arrive.

Prices are:

Non-logo tops/cardigans/jumpers 50p

Trousers/sundresses/pinafores £1.00

Logo polo shirts £2.00

Logo cardigans/jumpers £3.00

We will also be having uniform for new Reception and Nursery children available at the New Parents

Information Evening on Tuesday 9th June and another general one at the end of term family picnic. Cash and card payments please.



Family Bingo

On Wednesday morning, tickets will also be on sale for our first Family Bingo evening on Friday 8th May at 5.30pm. Tickets are £4 per each. This will give you 6 games & a dabber! There will be refreshments available, including drinks and jacket potatoes for your dinner! Cash and card payments please.

'Happy, Kind and Confident'

Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Nursery – Asees for consistently demonstrating our school values and always being a super star!

Reception – Patrick for his super attitude to learning and great progress.

Year 1 – Luca for taking pride in and understanding the value of politeness

Year 2 – Riya for always showing our school values.

Presentation Awards

Reception – Aayan for his amazing story map.

Year 1 – Aanvi for taking time to reflect on her work and try again if she thought it could be presented better.

Year 2 – Lera for her fabulous handwriting, map and key.

Mr. Martin's PE Award

Year 1 – Ezgi for showing good team work and respect.

Year 2 – Aaron for persevering with a new skill .

House Points

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

Values Ambassadors

Congratulations to this half term's ambassadors who are:

We are Considerate: Arya; Brody; Rosabella; Lera

We are Kind: Renee; Carter; Evangelia; Arthur

We Talk: Asees; Daniel; Zach; Arvinder

We are Respectful: Khadija; Noah W; Azylah; Harry

We Listen: Azlan; Amaia; Finley; Denver

Do you know any adults who need support with their reading?

Read Easy is a national charity with local groups that offers free, confidential, one to one support for individuals who cannot read, or struggle with their reading ability. support is available to over 18s, who have a good level of spoken English. This support can be invaluable to a family member and benefit the whole family. Experience has shown that having a child or grandchild is often the incentive that some people need to get support with their reading. There are no classrooms or exams. The structured reading programme tailored to the individual and is delivered in a friendly, supportive manner and in complete confidence. Individuals can contact their local group directly or be referred via the website.

<https://readeasy.org.uk/learn-to-read/>

Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

29/04 Captivating Creatures Workshop – E2 and YR

04/05 Bank Holiday

07/05 Polling Day – Nursery Building being used

07/05 Invite An Adult To Lunch – Nursery and YR

08/05 Family Bingo Evening 5.30pm

11-15/05 Scholastic Book Fair in school

14/05 Nursery Sports Day (pm)

15/05 Reception, Y1 & Y2 Sports Day (pm)

25/05 Half-Term

03/06 Recorder Club performance (PM)

09/06 New Intake Parents Evening – Nursery and YR

12/06 Class Photos

15-18/06 Nursery Home Visits

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

26/06 True Music and Singing Club Performance

11/07 Summer Fayre & Farmers' Market

A Belated 'Happy Vaisakhi'!

Vaisakhi is a spring festival which happens on the 13 or 14 April every year – it was the 14th this year!

It is a day to celebrate 1699 - the year when Sikhism was born as a collective faith. Originally a harvest festival in the Punjab, it became Sikhism's most important festival.

We hope all of our Sikh families had a wonderful time celebrating.



Football Future Stars

Football Future Stars are running lessons at the Harris Sports centre every Friday between 5.00pm-7.00pm. They are also running a Half Term camp at Rugby Free Secondary School for 2 days on Thursday 28th May – Friday 29th May . If you are interested in this, please see the flier I will send on Class Dojo.

Leave of Absence During Term Time – Updated Information for Parents

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made it clear that attending school ‘regularly’ means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996. The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request. A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school’s discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance. Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school. When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Headteacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents’ responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the ‘resident’ parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides. Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence. Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as ‘unauthorised’. All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council’s Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings. The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
- First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
- Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.
- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council’s Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.
- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notice will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council’s Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child’s progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

‘Happy, Kind and Confident’