



# THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

## Keeping you up to date

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### Summer Term Week 3

We were delighted to welcome two new children to The Griffin this week – Kenna and Oluwatishe have already settled in well and their classmates have shown good friendship and kindness to them. Everyone had their first lunchtime on the field this week and had a super time – it is such a fabulous space for them to run and play on. With Sports Day just around the corner, children have been practising and developing their skills.

In the classrooms, there has been some exciting learning happening. In Nursery, children have been exploring what shadows are and how they are made. They also enjoyed reading 'My Butterfly Bouquet' whilst carefully observing their caterpillars as they continue to grow.

Reception children have been investigating '5 and a bit' numbers – for example 5 and another 2 equals 7 – and have enjoyed learning about minibeasts, whilst Year 1 children have been writing innovated versions of 'Lost and Found' and really impressed me with what they know about Sikhism. We had some 'expert teachers' in the classroom who very proudly shared their own experiences and knowledge and tried to teach me how to pronounce some of the 5 Ks.

In Year 2, children have been writing a letter to the Prime Minister to stop the black pipe that they have built in our current book. In maths they started the fractions unit, looking at what equal and unequal looks like and what a half is. We hope you all enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend and we will see you back at school on Tuesday.

### Invite an Adult to Lunch – 7<sup>th</sup> May

The deadline for booking a meal for this event was 30<sup>th</sup> April. We look forward to seeing those of you who have signed up on Thursday.

### Polling Station – Nursery arrangements

Nursery parents will need to bring and collect their children from the Year 4 classroom door on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May due to the Nursery Building being used as a Polling Station. Please come through the gate at the top of the playground by the hall.

### Cancellation

I am sorry to say that we had to cancel our enrichment activity "Captivating Creatures" for our E2 and Reception children as we did not receive enough voluntary contributions towards the cost. These events are organised to enhance your child's learning experiences and support the curriculum and, unfortunately, school budgets are incredibly tight and cannot fund them and so we do rely on these contributions.

### Attendance

You will have seen the term time absence guidance in last week's newsletter. As a whole school we are trying hard to better our attendance from last year (96.4%) and aim for 98%, as every day missed is a loss of learning. Thank you for arriving in plenty of time and for making non-urgent appointments outside of school hours – it really does make a difference. Please find the attendance data for March and April below:

	March	April
<b>Nursery</b>	91.09%	92.81%
<b>Reception</b>	91.02%	96.35%
<b>Year 1</b>	96.58%	98.1%
<b>Year 2</b>	93.33%	96.97%
<b>School % (YR to Y2)</b>	96.20%	96.27%

Our school attendance data for this academic year so far is 94.95%.

Keep up the good work – together we can reach our target!

'Happy, Kind and Confident'

## Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

**Nursery** – Adhira- For excellent contributions during our Talk for Writing group time!

**Reception** – Aryan for being a fabulous role model.

**Year 1** – Aahil for amazing attitude, progress and kindness.

**Year 2** – Alex for being very respectful and helpful to all adults in the classroom.

## Presentation Awards

**Reception** – Harrison for his amazing progress and superb story map.

**Year 1** – Charlotte for consistent, beautiful presentation.

**Year 2** – Maahi for her incredible handwriting in English.

## Mr. Martin's PE Award

**Year 1** – Luca for his great effort in PE and attitude.

**Year 2** – Harry for his determination and confidence in PE

## House Points

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

## Pupil Wellbeing Checks

The week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> May is Mental Health Awareness Week and over the next couple of weeks we will be checking in with each child to see how they are feeling, what we can do to help them and showing them strategies or resources they can use if needed.

We will also be taking part in a Joe Wicks workout as part of Mental Health Awareness Week.

## Community Book Hut

You will notice that there is a new addition just outside the front gates of the school. Eden Park Community Association (EPCA) have purchased this and it is for the whole community to use, as the public library is further away. Mr Hine has kindly installed it, as we always want to promote reading, but it does not belong to The Griffin. If there are any questions about it or damage to the hut, please contact EPCA directly.

## Sir David Attenborough is 100 years old!

Next week we will be showing an assembly to children to help celebrate this amazing man and all he has done for nature. On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, children are invited to wear an animal themed accessory e.g. stripey socks or animal ear headband or bring in a small animal cuddly toy to celebrate his birthday!

## Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

**07/05** Polling Day – Nursery Building being used

**07/05** Invite an Adult To Lunch – Nursery and YR

**08/05** Sir David Attenborough is 100!

**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 (am)

**15-18/06** Nursery Home Visits

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

**26/06** True Music and Singing Club Performance (am)

**11/07** Summer Fayre & Farmers' Market



## News from the FROGS

### Family Bingo – Friday Evening!

Tickets are on sale for our first Family Bingo evening on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 5.30pm. Tickets are £4 per each. This will give you 6 games & a dabber! So 'Eyes Down' for a fun night with lots of prizes to be won. Refreshments will be available, including drinks and jacket potatoes for your dinner! Cash and card payments please.

### Pre-loved Uniform Sale

Thank you to the FROGS and our volunteers for sorting and setting this up on Wednesday morning. We have a lot of good quality second-hand uniform available. This will be on sale again at the end of year picnic and at the new Parents' Information Evenings on 9<sup>th</sup> June, for our Nursery and Reception September intake.

### Easy Fundraising

Booking your summer holiday?

Why not see whether you can also raise money for the school FREE OF CHARGE!

Sign up to Easy Fundraising, select The Griffin Primary as your cause and, if the company you are using is part of this scheme and you click 'get donation', they will donate a percentage of your spend to the school, without it costing you any extra. It is such a great way to support your child's school.

Don't forget to tell your extended family too!