



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

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Summer Term Week 7

Welcome back to the last half term of the academic year! I hope you all had a fabulous half-term holiday and enjoyed the stunning weather.

We have had a busy first week back! On Tuesday, some children were involved in a promotional event with TG Escapes, who are building our new nursery building. On Wednesday, we had a brilliant performance from our wonderful Recorder Club and on Thursday our Year 1 children were at Ryton Pools doing some pond dipping! On Friday, we were finally able to run our Captivating Creatures enrichment activity, having received enough voluntary donations. Thank you – it was a fantastic event and I loved seeing children showing their curiosity and courage by holding a snake and having a tarantula on their head! In all of these events the children made me so proud with the way they conducted themselves and represented the school. Well done and thank you to them all!

In class this week, Nursery children started their new topics, 'Big Wide World' and 'Splash!'. They explored different places of interest in Rugby and talked about what makes our local area special.

Reception children have made porridge as an introduction to their new Talk for Writing story 'The Magic Porridge Pot'. They have also talked about what they might find at a beach and thought about 'more' or 'fewer' in maths.

Year 1 have started a new book, *'Stanley's Stick'*, and enjoyed using our own sticks as wands, flutes, bow and arrows, and wizard canes. They also enjoyed Ryton Pools, representing the school brilliantly while pond dipping and learning about the animals and plants that survive in our local ecosystems.

This week year 2 have jumped back into learning about fractions, finishing their unit after blowing Miss Fitzpatrick's socks off with their understanding of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$! They have also been learning about different jobs that people used to have in the coastal town of Whitby - the children definitely prefer today's jobs that's for sure!

Have a happy weekend and we will see you next week.

Year 1 Phonics Screening

This will be taking place on Tuesday 9th June. It will be completed by Miss Barrow and Mrs Hine and will be done in a way that is non-stressful for your children.

Year 3 Teacher

I can finally announce who the Year 3 teacher is going to be next year. Mrs Fiona Birnie, who is currently teaching Year 3 in a local school, is delighted to be joining the team and we are equally delighted as she was excellent at interview. Following the teaching task on the interview day, one of the Year 2 children was overheard saying "I want her to be our teacher, because she was great!"

Mrs Hine - News

I just wanted to let you know that, on the 16th June, I will be having surgery and this will mean that I will be off school for up to 4 weeks. As I am sure you might guess, I will still be working remotely whenever possible, answering emails, reading reports and planning for next year. Plans are in place so that Miss Byrne can take the lead in school and she will be out of class in the afternoons to enable her to fulfil this role. Mrs Cole, Mrs Donnelly and Miss Browning will be joined by Mr Pouton when Miss Byrne is out of class, and I will be in contact with her and the admin team regularly. Mrs Day will lead the Nursery team in the afternoons. I will be back as soon as I am allowed, following the advice of my medical team of course, and I will hopefully be attending the end of term assemblies, as I would not want to miss those.

'Happy, Kind and Confident'

Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Nursery – Kiaan for always being ready to learn and for producing a fantastic self-portrait

Reception – Peter for working incredibly hard, especially on his blending in phonics

Year 1 – Athiran is our Star of the Week for the fantastic start he has made in class.

Year 2 – Yuvaan for always producing his best, especially in maths!

Presentation Awards

Reception – Mia for great letter formation and handwriting.

Year 1 – Vaanya for her beautiful DT work, where she grouped foods by their source.

Year 2 – Zac for really trying hard to make sure his letters are on the line and formed properly.

Mr. Martin's PE Award

Year 1 – Arlo for consistently excellent effort.

Year 2 – Fabian for always doing his best.

House Points

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

Values Ambassadors

Congratulations to this half term's ambassadors who are:

We talk: Emi, Lorenzo, Ezgi, Fabian

We listen: Fabian, Patrick, Kiaan, Maahi

We are considerate: Lydia, Maninder, Athiran, Zainab

We are respectful: Jesse, Kolby, Hugh, Frida

We are kind: Adhira, Harley, Alex, Bella

Morning Drop Off

Please ensure that you bring your child around to the classroom door if your child is in Year 1 or 2.

PE Kits

Please ensure that your child has this in school on Monday so that they have it for their PE lessons. It can then stay here until the end of term.

Recruitment

We have been busy with recruitment and I am so pleased to announce that we have recruited really fabulous Early Years Educators to join our Nursery team meaning that we are fully staffed for both the E2 and N2 buildings.

Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

09/06 New Intake Parents Evening – Nursery and Rec

12/06 Class Photos (am)

15/06 Year 2 Trip to Birmingham Botanical gardens

15-19/06 New Nursery & Reception Pupils Home Visits

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

03/07 True Music and Singing Club Performance (9am)

10/07 NEW EVENT Y1 & Y2 French performance (9am)

11/07 Summer Fayre & Farmers' Market

15/07 Reception trip to Twycross Zoo

Attendance

I met with our attendance officer today and I am pleased to say that our overall attendance is currently above national average – well done everyone.

However, we still need to keep working towards our end of year goal of 98%. I will contact parents whose children's attendance is below 95%, so that we can work together to increase the attendance further.

Attendance is as follows:

	May	Year to 31.05
Nursery	96.47% (E2) / 90.97% (N2)	89.68% / 92%
Reception	97.06%	96.46%
Year 1	96.17%	96.65%
Year 2	96.89%	95.86%
School % (YR to Y2)		95%

News from the FROGS

Well done to everyone involved with organising events and those who have supported by attending. Our recent events – the Family Bingo Evening, Ice Lolly Sales, Wonderful Women Trolley and Silent Disco – have raised £600.

Next Event – 'Marvellous Men' Trolley

In order to celebrate our Marvellous Men (to include Fathers' on Fathers' Day) – there will be gifts for children to buy from the Marvellous Men Trolley. This will be going around to classes on Friday 19th June. The cost is £3 for 1 gift or £5 for 2. **Payments for this will be cash. Please bring in an envelope with the correct cash in, with your child's full name, year group and 'Marvellous Men' written on the front.**

There will be a postbox by the office for you to put your payments in. The deadline is 17th June at 6pm.