



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

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Autumn Term Week 1

Off to a Flying Start!

What a fantastic first week we have had here at The Griffin Primary School and Little Griffin Nursery. After all the hard work, not only over the summer holiday but also since The Griffin was first commissioned, we finally opened with our very first cohort of children into Reception and the Nursery. It feels like we have already been on an amazing journey but actually the most exciting part has only just begun – the start of your children's education.

It has been an absolute pleasure to have your children in school this week and every single member of staff has been enormously impressed by the way they have come into their classrooms, interacted with the staff, interacted with each other and respected their learning spaces and equipment. Even our cleaner, Mr Stalmach, has commented on how tidy the children are!

The Nursery children have stayed all day and had their lunches in the hall – Alex, our school cook, was really pleased with the way the children ate and the good manners they displayed when asking for their food. Great job Nursery!

Not only have there been a lot of new things and new people to get used to this week, which is hard in itself, but everyone has had to contend with such high temperatures and have done so with big smiles on their faces.

Official Opening

On Monday 11th September at 11.30am we will be welcoming some VIPs to the school to have a short 'Official Opening' Ceremony. You are very welcome to join us if you are free. The Mayor of Rugby will be coming, along with some members of our Trustee Board and the Lawrence Sheriff Team who have been instrumental in opening the school. We also have a local TV Star coming – Waffle the Wonder Dog will be joining us, which is very exciting!

School Meals

All children will be having meals in school from Monday – please upload meal choices to the App by 9pm on Sunday evening and we suggest booking lunches for the whole week so that you don't have to think about it each day or forget to order. In the case of an emergency (eg your child is meant to be having packed lunch but you have run out of bread) we can take orders until 9am in the morning.

100% Response Rate

A big thank you for signing up to Class Dojo – this really helps, as it is our main form of communication with you.

Wraparound Care

Wraparound starts next week with Sophie from Game On. The breakfast session is from 7.45-8.45am, the drop off session is from 8.30-8.45am and after school the club session is 3.20-4.20pm and the later session is 4.20-6pm. Mrs Tucker has entered the requests you have made onto ParentPay. If there are any variations to this please let us know and also let your child's teacher know if they are at wraparound after school. Please come to the main entrance to arrive and collect from wraparound.

Contacting Us

The best email to contact the school on is now admin2072@welearn365.com or call 01788 249115

'Happy, Kind and Confident'

Our Reward System

At The Griffin, we have the following reward systems:

Dojo Points and Star of the Day - in class rewards.

House Points – all children will be in one of the following houses: Emerald – Green, Topaz – Yellow, Sapphire – Blue or Ruby – Red. Points will accumulate towards an end of half term treat for the winning team.

Star of the Week (presented in our Celebration Assembly - to start with 18th September.) Parents of the 'Stars' will be invited to the assembly – 9.10am on Fridays.

Mrs. Hine's Tea Party – Stars of the Week come to a Tea Party with Mrs Hine as an extra 'Well Done'.

Photos

We are still waiting for our ipads to arrive and so have been unable to take photos of your children this week during their learning and looking smart on their first day. If you have a photo of your child on their first day you could send us via Class Dojo we would really appreciate it for our 'First Day, New Beginnings' display.

School Grounds

The school grounds are looking wonderful, especially having been mown for the first time. However, as well as the grass growing quickly over the Summer holiday, the weeds have too. If there is anyone who could arrive half an hour early for pick up on Mondays to help us keep on top of the weeds that are growing in the bark chipping areas, it would be much appreciated. You would need to bring your own hand fork. Thank you.

Dogs

Dogs should not be brought onto school grounds – please leave them at the gate.

Smoking

The school site is a non-smoking or vaping zone – please respect this.

Nuts

We are a nut-free school. Please do not send in any snacks or products that contain nuts.

Pathway on its Way

We have been informed that, within the next few weeks, the pavement to Rocherbie heights from the school will be ready for pedestrian use. This is great news.

PPA Cover

Starting on Tuesday 12th, I am delighted to announce that when Miss Byrne and Mr Pouton have their PPA (Planning, Preparation and Assessment) time, the classes will be covered with subject specialists and expertise from Lawrence Sheriff School as follows:

Week A – Marcus Gregory (PE) / Mrs Hine

Week B – Sally Hewitt (PSHE) and Maria Strangleman (Spanish) / Mrs Hine

Miss Byrne and Mr Pouton will stay on site and return to the class to dismiss the children at the end of the day. Mrs Cole, Mrs Wijayarathna and Mrs Day will be with the children as usual. Next week is Week B on the cycle.

Blue Tesco Tokens – get voting!

Hooray! We have been selected to be one of the next groups to vote for using the Blue Tokens at Tescos – we would really like to win, so please ask everyone you know (near and far) to support us and start saving those tokens now to put in our box. We have applied for outdoor play equipment for the children and can win up to £1500.

Voting starts in store from the first week of October to mid-January 2024. The stores are the main Tescos, Cattlemarket, Bilton and Helvelyn Way Express Stores.

Dates for the Diary

26/09 School Photographs (Individual)

27/09 Phonics Information Session (6pm)

13/10 Harvest Festival (2.30pm - families welcome)