



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

26/27

The Griffin Primary School
Lower Lodge Avenue
Rugby
Warwickshire
CV21 1NU

Headteacher: Mrs. Alison Hine
Telephone: 01788 249115
www.thegriffinprimary.co.uk



Autumn Term Week 1

Welcome to a new academic year and the Autumn Term – we hope you all had a fabulous summer and enjoyed spending time together. We are so excited to see children return and to welcome our new starters, so that we can begin to get to know each other.

A lot happened over the summer holidays – our new nursery was busy being made ready by our fabulous nursery team, and Mr Hine (with the help of our cleaner Millie, and Kezia, my daughter) created a fabulous ‘nursery rhyme’ mural and brilliant pavement art for the nursery. Thank you all so very much – it looks wonderful. The grounds are looking super and in the main school we have re-organised the learning street and staff were busy getting their rooms ready for their new classes. We have been preparing for our new catering company and the office team have worked so hard, alongside Culinera, getting everything ready for this. Last but definitely not least, our premises staff have been busy cleaning and scrubbing, dusting and hoovering and the school looks super smart. I am very lucky to have such a dedicated team.

You may also have noticed a shipping container on site – this was donated by Bloors and is now the new storage for our PTA – the FROGS! As you can see, it is in need of a touch of paint and I know that the FROGS have plans. If anyone is able to help with this, please do let us know. We are so fortunate to have such kind and helpful builders operating near the school and they will be keeping in touch about the start of the new phase of building.

Over the last 2 days, I have felt extremely proud at the superb start all children have made to nursery and school. They have been calm, confident and had amazing attitudes. They are so pleased to see their friends again and begin their new learning. It has been a joy to be back! Have a great weekend and we will see you all nice and early on Monday.

Staffing News

You may have noticed that Miss Barrow is pregnant – this is such exciting news! I will of course be sorting out maternity arrangements from February and will keep Year 1 parents informed with any further news.



I also wanted to welcome our new staff: Miss Stanger and Miss Richardson in Nursery, Mr Copeland and Miss Phillips in Reception, Miss Smout who will be working across classes, Mrs Birnie our Year 3 Teacher, Miss Dennehy a Mid-Day Supervisor and Mrs Hejnowicz our new cleaner. They have made a great start and we are delighted to have them join our team. We also have a new volunteer, Mrs Kaur, who will be based in Year 1.

Year 3 Swimming Lessons

A compulsory part of the KS2 PE curriculum is swimming and our Year 3 pupils will be going to Rugby School’s Swimming Pool on Friday mornings during the Autumn Term. Lessons start on Friday 11th September until 18th December. This is now set up as a payment item on ParentPay and a Dojo message has been sent out with further information.

Eden Park Allotment Association Harvest Celebration

On Sunday 4th October, children from last year’s Eco Club are invited to join this celebration from 2pm – there will be fun activities to do and I will be there too. Families of these children are welcome too.

I have also been asked to see if anyone knows of a face painter or maybe does this themselves and would be happy to volunteer their time. Please let the office know.

Flu Immunisations

As we move into the autumn and winter months, the seasonal flu immunisation programme is now commencing. To help protect young children and reduce the spread of flu within our communities we will be sharing a leaflet from Warwickshire's health team with further information. Please note:

- Children aged **2 and 3 years** can receive their **flu vaccine from their GP from 1 September**.
- Eligible children can also receive their **flu vaccine from a local pharmacy from 1 October**

Our in-school immunisations for YR-Y3 will take place on 7th October.

Wraparound/Clubs

We are really proud of our before and after school offer and how flexible it is to support our families. We have already sent out the wraparound clubs via Class Dojo. Wraparound is for 3 year olds and over only.

The teacher led clubs will start on 21st September and are:
Monday – Boys Football (Mr Pouton), Girls Football (Mrs Taylor), Textiles (Miss Fitzpatrick) and Art (Miss Barrow)
Friday – Cooking (Mrs Hine)

If you would like your child to join one of these clubs, you need to express an interest by messaging the office and they will allocate places. If you do not get a place straight away (due to limitations on numbers of pupils attending) your child will be placed on a waiting list and allocated a place at a later date. For fairness, we will only offer repeat places once we have been through the waiting list.

The deadline for expressing an interest in teacher led clubs is the 16th September, in order to allow time for the places to be sorted. They will be on a first come, first served basis.

Trustees

We are recruiting Trustees to join our Trust Board. This is a voluntary position, is extremely interesting and rewarding, working alongside others to develop the school and make sure it is the best it can be. If you are interested in this please contact Mrs Hine.

Dates for the Diary

We are just finalising our dates for the whole academic year that we already have in the diary. This will be sent by Class Dojo but if you would prefer a hard copy please do let the office team know.

From next week our usual 'forthcoming dates' section will be in this newsletter to keep you up to date.

Celebration Assembly

Our first celebration assembly will be next Friday (11th) at 9am. If your child is chosen as Star of the Week or gets the PE (Y1,2,3) or Presentation Award (YR-Y3), you will be notified on Wednesday, with the hope that you are able to attend.

Ambassador Badges

If your child still has an Ambassador Badge at home from last year, could these please be returned as soon as possible so that we can give them to the next recipients. Thank you.

Service Road

Just to remind all parents, and notify new parents, that you **must not** use the service road which runs along the side of the school as this is only for the Construction vehicles. We have a great relationship with the builders and want this to continue for the time that they are working in our neighbourhood.

Leave of Absence During Term Time

Attendance at school is critical for children to learn to their best and to form secure relationships with the friends and teachers. We all have a duty to work together to ensure that children attend school on time and regularly.

We encourage you to book holidays during school holidays wherever possible so that your children do not miss school.

Further information will be posted onto Class Dojo about this.

