



# THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

The Griffin Primary School

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## Autumn Term Week 5

What a week it has been, with our phone call on Monday morning to announce the visit of Ofsted on Tuesday and Wednesday to carry out an Inspection. It was an extremely busy and tiring two days and everyone worked their socks off! We are unable to share anything with you about the outcomes but hopefully the report will not take too long to be published. Thank you to those who completed the parent survey – it is much appreciated.

Of course, Ofsted is simply a snapshot in time, and it does not stop the fabulous learning and experiences that your children have at The Griffin!

This week in Nursery, our 3–4-year-olds have started creating their text map for 'Rosie's Walk' as part of Talk for Writing. They have also enjoyed listening to the stories 'Once There Were Giants' and 'Leaf Man', and are excited to be creating their own Leaf Man next week! In the two-year-old provision, children have been enjoying the story 'Old MacDonald Had a Farm' and have also been focusing on sorting different colours.

Reception have been learning how 1 and another 1 is 2 in maths and they have been exploring the 'twoness' of 2. They also enjoyed their walk around the local estate and were excited to see some familiar places, as well as features of a map. They have been drawing maps to show the route they took and have been brilliant at talking about where they walked!

This week, Year 1 should be incredibly proud of themselves. They have written exciting sentences inspired by the front cover of our new book, *Astro Girl*, and discussed why they would like to travel to space. In maths, they have been writing addition sentences and learning about fact families. They have also explored the passage of time by ordering the decades from the 1950s to the present day.

Year 2 children have been working on expanded noun phrases using their text 'Grandad's Camper' as their inspiration. In maths, they have been ordering numbers and in Design and Technology (DT) making mini pavlova's learning the skills of cutting and mixing.

This week, Year 3 have finished the text 'Leon and the Place Between' and are now writing their own stories based on the book. They have been learning how to punctuate direct speech and been using thesauruses to find synonyms for 'said', using them well in their writing. The Bronze Age has been the topic of conversation in history and the children have been comparing it to the Stone Age and finding similarities and differences between the two. In Science, they have been learning about the human skeleton and have begun assembling their own!

## 'Hello Yellow' Day

Next Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, we are inviting children to wear something yellow to help support the wonderful charity MIND. This could be Children need to bring in £1 donation and we will send this off to help support children and young people's Mental Health.



## Flu Immunisations

Please see the poster coming home to you on Dojo about the upcoming immunisations. Please make sure that you have checked your child's details are up to date.

## PE Kits – week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> Oct is Week B

|           | Week A                       | Week B                      |
|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Reception | Tuesday                      | Friday                      |
| Year 1    | Monday & Tuesday             | Monday & Thursday           |
| Year 2    | Wednesday & Friday           | Tuesday & Wednesday         |
| Year 3    | Thursday & Friday (Swimming) | Tuesday & Friday (Swimming) |

## Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

**Reception** – Azlan for his super listening ears and helpful nature

**Year 1** – Patrick for his brilliant attitude to learning. He always goes above and beyond, embraces challenges and shows a real love of learning.

**Year 2** – Aahil for trying his best in English – he wrote some fantastic expanded noun phrases

**Year 3** – Arvinder for huge effort in all subjects and starting to participate more in class. Well done.

## Presentation Awards

**Reception** – Adhira for working so hard when writing the graphemes during phonics

**Year 1** – Jakub for his excellent letter formation and the care he takes with his handwriting.

**Year 2** – Luca for taking such care with his presentation.

**Year 3** – Karthi for the transformation to cursive writing and really trying hard to keep it neat!

## PE Award

**Year 1** – Esmeralda for her excellent listening skills and for consistently choosing to do the right thing, even during busy lessons.

**Year 2** – Zach for showing everyone how to land safely in gymnastics.

**Year 3** – Hani for real focus in swimming and respect for the instructors

## House Points

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

## Photos

Please remember to order your school photos, using the information provided in your proof photo pack.

## Year 2 Movers and Shakers Day

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October, you may see our Year 2 children arriving at school dressed as a 'Mover' or 'Shaker' – someone inspirational to them. In the past we have had sports stars, music stars, explorers, people from religions and people from history. It should be an exciting day and I can't wait to see who arrives at school on Monday!

## Communication

Please remember to communicate any significant events that have happened at home and also any alternative arrangements for collection from school need to be in writing please. Thanks.

## Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

**07/10** - Flu Immunisations Reception and Years 1 to 3

**08/10** - Tours for prospective parents for 2027/2028 intake 1.15pm/2.00pm/2.45pm

**09/10** - Hello Yellow Day – Wear something yellow and £1 donation on ParentPay, for the mental health charity MIND.

**12/10** - Open morning - tours for prospective 2027/2028 intake 9.30/10.15/11am

**16/10** - Harvest Festival – 9am - Parents welcome

**16/10** - Y3 visit to St Michael & All Angels Church and mini Harvest Festival (Parents welcome to attend – 1.30pm)

**22/10** - FROGS Halloween style Dress Down Day & Disco

**23/10** - Teacher Training Day

**26-30/10** - Half Term

## Online Safety – Apps to be aware of

The NSPCC have published data about the top five social media platforms and apps named in Childline counselling sessions about online child sexual abuse last year. Between April 2025 and March 2026, Snapchat was mentioned in 324 counselling sessions where a young person also spoke about their experience of online sexual abuse – a 19% increase on the previous year.

TikTok (234 mentions), Instagram (197 mentions), Discord (92 mentions) and WhatsApp (39 mentions) have been named as the other top platforms mentioned in counselling sessions where online sexual abuse was the main concern, during the same period.

## Harvest Assembly

**All parents** are invited to join us for our Harvest Assembly on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 9am in the hall – we are collecting items for the Rugby Foodbank. We will send out a list of items that they are currently requesting next week.

## Year 3 Harvest Festival

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October our Year 3 pupils only have been invited to a short Harvest Festival and visit to St Michaels & All Angels' Church. They will be walking there and will leave school at 1.05pm. If any Year 3 parents would like to join us you can either come to school for 1pm and walk down with us or meet us at the church for a 1.30pm start.