



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

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Spring Term Week 3

A Bracing Week

WOW! We have had a really wild and windy week here – Storm Isha and Juliet have really made their presence felt! This has prevented us using the outdoor learning spaces as much as usual but there has, of course, been some fabulous learning inside the building. I am constantly delighted with the progress all of our children are making. In Reception all children work on decoding, prosody (expression) and comprehension each week before taking their books home to read to their parents and they are doing brilliantly. In Nursery children are learning the initial graphemes and some children already know 10! The children's thirst for knowledge is infectious! We had the school photographer in to take photos for the website and the children all looked so smart – thank you! They really enjoyed being in the spotlight and having their photos taken whilst engaged with the adults, in continuous provision with their friends and there were a few posed shots too! Have a fabulous weekend – I hope the beautiful sunshine continues so that we can all get outside without being blown or washed away!

Slap Cheek

This is just to inform you that we have had a couple of cases of slapped cheek syndrome. Slapped cheek syndrome is common in children and should get better on its own within 3 weeks.

The first sign of slapped cheek syndrome is usually feeling unwell for a few days. Symptoms may include:

- a high temperature
- a runny nose and sore throat
- a headache
- A red rash may appear on 1 or both cheeks. It may be less obvious on brown and black skin. Adults do not usually get the rash on their face.
- A few days later, a spotty rash may appear on the chest, arms and legs. The rash can be raised and itchy. It may be harder to see on brown and black skin.

Your child does not have to stay off school after the rash appears. Please let the school know if your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

Absence Notification

You **must report any absence to the school office** by 8.55am on the first day of absence. You should also call the school office on each day of unplanned absence – this is not necessary if the 48 hour rule applies or your child is having a medical procedure eg operation.

If you wish to send your child's class teacher a message on Class Dojo as well, that is also helpful.

'Our Wonderful World' Display

In the hall we now have a display all about 'Our Wonderful World'. This will change slightly each term, but one element which I am keen to celebrate is the rich diversity of our families and their cultural heritage. I would like to put a dot on each country that we have families from – this will keep growing as more families arrive in the future. I obviously want to get this right so could you please send your child's teacher a Dojo message with any countries for your family by Friday 2nd February. Thank you.

Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Nursery – Miguel for his amazing progress in phonics – he has been working so hard and is doing well in all areas of learning.

Reception – Bella for such great strides not only since September but since returning in January. Her confidence has shot up both socially and with her learning. Well done!

House Points



The winning house this week is.... Topaz! Well done to everyone in Topaz House.

Items from Home

This is just a polite reminder to ensure that your children do not bring toys or other items from home into school unless it is something special the children want to show the teacher, in which case please check with the teacher in advance. In my experience items get lost, damaged or cause children to get distracted – none of which helps with their learning! Thank you.

February Half Term Holiday Activity Club

With only 2 more weeks of this half term left, the Half Term holiday is fast approaching. Game On are running a half term club based at Rugby Free Primary School and it is open to children from The Griffin Primary. A booking form has been sent to you via Class Dojo. If you wish to book a place please complete the form and return it directly to Game On. Thank you.



Uniform Check

On Monday, we will be double checking that all cardigans and jumpers are named as we are finding quite a few around that are unnamed, and cannot then return them to their owner. It really does help make our life easier so please spend 10 minutes this weekend checking that all items of school uniform are named.



Dates for the Diary

Spring Term 2024

08/02 – Chinese New Year Menu

09/02 – Chinese New Year Focus Day (Parents invited to join us at 2.30pm)

12/02 – HALF TERM

19/02 – Second Half Term Starts

20/02 – Parents' Evening (3.30-6pm)

22/02 - Parents' Evening (3.30-6pm)

23/02 – 'Invite and adult to Lunch' Day

07/03 – World Book Day (further information nearer the time)

07/03 – Bedtime Story at School (further information nearer the time)

22/03 - Last day of Spring Term

25/03 – EASTER HOLIDAY

08/04 – First Day of Summer Term