



THE GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Keeping you up to date

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Summer Term Week 5

We are so pleased with the fencing that is now completed around the playgrounds to keep everyone in the right place and safe. Children are also able to access the grass spaces as there are gates. We are also delighted with the extension to the Reception outside area so that we can then use the space in a variety of different ways, including on the grass. It will make an enormous difference to our provision.

This week in school, Nursery children have been learning about rainforests and animals that live there. They have innovated their class text so that 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' is now 'The Very Hungry Fly', allowing the children to learn about the lifecycle of a fly. They have also been making the most of the weather by enjoying outside water play, including using the hose pipe!

Reception children had a fascinating afternoon of spontaneous learning, when they saw a Red Kite hovering over the field at the back of the school. It was hunting and preying on a crow (which managed to escape!). Obviously, the children wanted to know all about Red Kites so they represented how big the wing span is, discussed what they eat, which linked to their previous learning about carnivores. There was also an interesting conversation about 'road kill'! In PSHE, they listened to a Best Friend story about different communities being friends to each other and they have also been busy writing non-fiction texts about Minibeasts. I thought it had been a quiet week in school, but I was wrong! Look at all the amazing learning your children have been doing! I hope they get a good rest this weekend!

The Sun has got his hat on, hip, hip, hip hooray!

What a joy it has been this week to see the sun and to finally feel as though Summer has arrived. Thank you for reading our Safe Sun Policy and providing hats, water and ensuring that your child has sun cream on or that they have some to apply whilst at school.

Please be careful not to use any sun product that has coconut or nut oil in, as we have children who are severely allergic to nuts in school. Could you please complete and return the consent form in the policy we sent, if you are happy for us to apply the sun cream to your child (particularly in Nursery).

Your children have been so sensible in the heat and have really shown that they understand the 'Sunsafe' Rules. We have been making the most of the nice weather by spending more time outside this week. Let's hope it lasts for a bit longer!

New Reading Award Scheme

Today, Reception parents will receive information about our new 'Out of This World' reading scheme. If you have any questions about it, Miss Byrne will be happy to answer them for you when you next see her. We can't wait to give out raffle tickets and to start moving the children's astronauts onto new planets!

Sports Day Practice

Today, we started practising for Sports Day which will soon come around – the children were focusing on jumping and balancing in their lesson with Mr Martin (from Game On) and were developing their skills.

Twycross Zoo

Just a reminder that the deadline for your voluntary contribution towards the trip is next Wednesday, 15th May. Thank you.

'Happy, Kind and Confident'

Star of the Week Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to our stars of the week:

Nursery – Maria for coming into school with an amazing smile and for her perseverance with her writing, so that she did a fabulous job.

Reception – Theo for really changing his attitude to writing so that he now asks to do it! Also, for being so helpful – everyone in the class really values him.

House Points

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

Ofsted – The Big Listen – they want to hear your views!

The National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) is carrying out a short survey on behalf of Ofsted. We want to hear from parents/carers of children who are under 18 years old. It should only take around 10 minutes to complete. We are interested in views of Ofsted, including Ofsted's inspection, regulation and reporting practices. We really want to hear from a wide range of parents and carers, even if you don't have strong opinions about Ofsted, or haven't had much experience of Ofsted.

Please click on the following link to find out more or take part in the survey:

survey.natcen.ac.uk/TheBigListen

You can look at our [Taking Part webpage](#) for more information about the research, and our [Privacy Notice](#) for what will happen to any information you give. Links to these webpages are also included in the survey.

Contact us

If you have any questions about the research NatCen is conducting as part of the Big Listen, or have trouble accessing the survey, please contact the research team via email at thebiglisten@natcen.ac.uk.

Dates for the Diary – new dates in red

06/05 – Bank Holiday Monday

15/05 – Deadline for Twycross Zoo voluntary contribution

20/05 – Book Fair in school all week

22/05 – Reception trip to Twycross Zoo

23/05 – Nursery trip to Twycross Zoo

27/05 to 31/05 – Half Term

03/06 – Second half term starts

05/06 – Class Group Photos

11/06 – New Intake Parents' Information Evening (for our September Nursery and Reception families - 6pm)

14/06 – FROGS 'Break the Rules' Day –further information to follow!

18/06 – Year 1 Parents' Information Evening

20/06 – FROGS Meeting (7pm at school)

21/06 – New Nursery Intake Stay and Play (10-11am)

26/06 - New Nursery Intake Stay and play (10-11am)

28/06 – New Intake 'getting to know you' session (am)

04/07 – New Intake 'getting to know you' session (pm)

05/07 – Sports Day (1.30pm – parents welcome)

08/07 – Reserve Sports Day (1.30pm)

10/07 – Move Up Morning (All children spend time with their new teacher in their new classroom - if possible!)

12/07 – FROGS Dress Down Day & Disco – further information to follow

12/07 – Annual Reports out to parents

15/07 – Open Classrooms (2.45pm –parents welcome)

18/07 – Reception Class Graduation from EYFS – (11.15am – all parents welcome)

18/07 – Family Picnic & our 'end of our first year' party - 12pm (all families welcome)

18/07 - End of Term – Summer Holiday

19/07 – Staff Training Day

