



GRIFFIN NEWSLETTER



Friday 29th April 2022

Dear Griffin Parents/ Carers

Welcome to the 1st Newsletter of the summer term 2022 - here we are already enjoying our term **Sharing the Planet**. It's such a great theme to incorporate into our **Year of Change!** I have had fun introducing our SMSC ideas in Assembly and through our SMSC sessions as we explore 70 years of change in our country starting in 1952. We've started to explore some interesting questions - please talk to your daughter/ son and ask them what they already know and what opinions they have about these questions.

Did you know this was the year that Griffin was built?

Did you know it is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June too? That's 70 years she has been the Queen!

How has the planet changed in the last 70 years? What can we do to protect the planet on Earth Day & in the future?



1. Parents Evening

We are so pleased that Parents' Evenings are taking place next week. Please make sure that you have all booked a meeting with your daughter/ son's Class Teacher. If you still need to arrange a time then do catch up in the playground or email the Teacher. The dates are:

- Tuesday 3rd May - All year groups Nursery to Y6
- Wednesday 4th May - EYFS (Nursery and Reception)
- Thursday 5th May - Y1 - Y6

It is an expectation that all families attend a meeting - if you are not available next week please contact your Class Teacher to arrange an alternative date. There are so many lovely stories to share - I hope your meeting is a good one!

2. Maths Coffee morning and Learning Walk for Families

Thank you to all those parents/ carers who joined Jodie Wallbank yesterday morning to find out more about how we teach Maths at Griffin. We had lots of positive feedback so I hope the visit was useful for our families.

Attendance

We continue to make strong strides with the number of students attending Griffin everyday - thank you for your support. May we reinforce the need for all students to come to school each day, other than on those occasional days when they are just too unwell to do so. All students are aiming for a minimum of 96% across the year. This level of attendance will give students the very best chance to make progress and to reach an age expected level of attainment by the summer. It is, of course, important for young people's well-being to be with friends, to develop their social skills and enjoy time with their peers. After our time at home over the past couple of years we want to make the most of our time together on site!

3. Y6 Tests

We are proud of all the hard work and progress being made by our Y6 students at this important point in the year for them. Many joined our Teachers at Easter School and continued some fab learning over the holiday.

They are all now getting ready for the last few days of revision before the tests begin on Monday 9th May.

On that day Y6 will take their GPS test. The Reading test will be on Tuesday 10th May and the Maths tests will be on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th May. If you have any questions about revision, the tests or the week itself please do not hesitate to contact Ms Williams or Ms Doyle - they will be happy to talk with you and answer any questions you may have, however small.

Good luck Y6 we are all sending you lots of best wishes and good luck - you can do it!

4. EYFS Places

A reminder if you are looking for a Nursery place for September 2022, please check in with Maggie in the Office. Your daughter/ son will need to be 3 by September 1st for them to start at the beginning of the new year. We offer free full-time provision at Griffin to support our families.

If you or a friend is looking for a Reception place for this September, please let us know as soon as possible and we will try our best to help. We'd love to hear from you!

5. Louise Black reaches France

As Ms Black makes her way to Copenhagen for the summer term, to enjoy her sabbatical, she sent this beautiful picture this week with a message to say she is missing us already! Although she is travelling, she will still post news and photographs on Instagram so please follow Griffin - the pictures are always wonderful! **@PrimaryGriffin**



6. TEFAT Annual Report

I hope you have also received a link to the Elliot Foundation's Annual report to parents - just in case here it is:
[annual report to parents and stakeholders](#)

Don't forget we have a Bank Holiday on Monday 2nd May and Griffin will be closed for one day only. We will be open bright and early on Tuesday 3rd May again!

Karen Bastick-Styles (Executive Head - Greenside & Griffin)
Griffin - a Federation with Greenside and part of TEFAT.

A Message from Ms. Doyle

It has been so wonderful having a whole year of learning in school and I am so proud of the progress made by all of our students, but especially Y6, as they prepare for their KS2 SATs and the final year of primary school. They have taken everything in their stride and I know they will do themselves proud when they complete their tests. A huge well done to the students and Ms Williams. GOOD LUCK!

Reading to Children

Sharing a book with a child is fun! It's a time for closeness, laughing and talking together – and it can also give children a flying start in life and help them become lifelong readers. This lovely poster gives you some tips about how you can do this at home.

■ [5-Ways-to-Encourage-Children-to-Read.pdf](#)

Fundraising for Griffin

Earn money for Griffin whenever you shop online by clicking on this link:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/griffinprimaryschool/

It doesn't cost you anything and could make a real difference to us. Thank you for your support.



Best wishes,
Carly (Deputy Head)

A Message from Ms Atkin

Welcome to the summer term!

At the end of last term you would have received your daughter/son's Summer SEND support plan via email.

Please use next week's Parents Evening to discuss anything that you can do to support your child at home to help them to achieve their targets set. I will be available to talk to during the Parents Evenings but also please feel free to email me at natkin@griffinprimary.org

In Y3 to Y6 we use an online programme called Nessy (<https://www.nessy.com/en-us>) which supports your child with their reading and spelling. If your child has a Nessy account you can also access this at home.

They have, already, made so much progress already using this and it would be great if they could spend 10 minutes a day practising their individualised targets at home to help them make even more progress.

Please ask for their log in details from your class teacher if you haven't already got them.

Nicolle (SENDCo)

A Message from Ms Wallbank

What a busy start to the Summer Term!

Firstly, thank you to those who attended the Maths coffee morning with me this week. It was so lovely to see you so interested in how Maths is taught from EYFS all the way up to Y6. I hope you enjoyed seeing what wonderful mathematicians we have at Griffin.

Our Planet Harmony music tuition started up again this week following the Easter break and our corridors were filled with the sound of trumpets and trombones. Students will be busy learning and rehearsing music to be performed to parents and carers in June.

Finally, it was lovely seeing our students out celebrating Earth Day in our **Forest in the City** last week! Every student contributed to our Nature Mandala - the symbol of the universe. Below is the final piece. Take a look at our Instagram page @primarygriffin to see how it unfolded across the day.

Jodie (AHT)

