



Griffin Primary School

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Interim Head of School: Mrs S Craig
Deputy: Miss S Casey

SENDco: Miss S Cooper
Interim Deputy: Mr Thomas

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GRIFFIN NEWSLETTER

Spring 1 2025

Welcome from Mr Taylor our new Principal

Dear Friends and Families of Griffin Primary,

I wanted to introduce myself as your new Principal at Griffin, and let you know how excited I am to work with you.

For over thirteen years, I've worked in schools both very similar and very different to Griffin. My most recent role has been as Deputy Headteacher of a brand new school, John Keats Primary in Rotherhithe. Previously I was Assistant Headteacher at John Donne and Pilgrims' Way Primaries in Peckham. In between these roles, I taught at Yoyogi International School in Tokyo, Japan.

In all schools, I've been passionate about school improvement, with a strong focus on teaching and learning, aspiration, pastoral support, inclusion and staff development. I've worked as an interim SENDCO, and will ensure that Griffin continues to meet the needs of all its students. As a parent myself, I know that the most important thing is for school to be a safe and enjoyable place where your child is valued, and I promise you that these will always be my priority. I feel very privileged to have the chance to work in a school with such a tight-knit community, amazing students and incredibly dedicated staff. From the first moment I visited Griffin, I got a sense of how special a place it is and what incredible potential it has. I've felt very welcomed by all staff members, and I'd like to say a special thank you to Ms Craig for all the support, advice and guidance she's given me over the last couple of months. I can't wait to start working for you all on Monday 24th February!

Best wishes,
Mr J Taylor



We are proud members of [The Elliot Foundation Academy Trust](#)

Dear Parents

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for all the support you have given the school this year. It has been a real pleasure to work with so many of you.

We have many exciting projects in place that should be completed this year-

- New changing rooms should be finished by the end of March
- Heating and hot water systems have been updated in the Early Years classrooms, watch this space as there are lots of additional works taking place to make the outside areas for our youngest children exciting places to learn.
- Our front playground is being relandscaped in the next two months which will give all our pupils further access to outdoor learning.
- We are also reviewing our site security systems and significant works will be undertaken over the next few months.
- The football astro turf is due to be replaced and a new base added to make the whole football experience more professional for children in the school and for those clubs who hire the area from us.

I am really excited about Mr Taylor starting with you. We have already had lots of meetings to ensure that the handover of the school is smooth for all. He will be a great asset to both the school and the community.

I would also like to thank staff and TEFAT publicly for all the support and professionalism that has enabled us as a team to get the school on a secure footing ready to move forwards to make the school an irresistible place to be.

Many thanks again

Sally Craig and Gareth Thomas

Attendance 4th Sept 2025 - 7th Feb 2025

Class	%
N: Penguins	84.3%
R: Dolphins	86.2%
Y1: Elephants	93.2%
Y2: Lions	92.6%
Y3: Tigers	88.1%
Y4: Jaguars	92.9%
Y5: Pandas	91.3%
Y6: Lemurs	94.7%
Whole School	91.1%

Attendance Matters

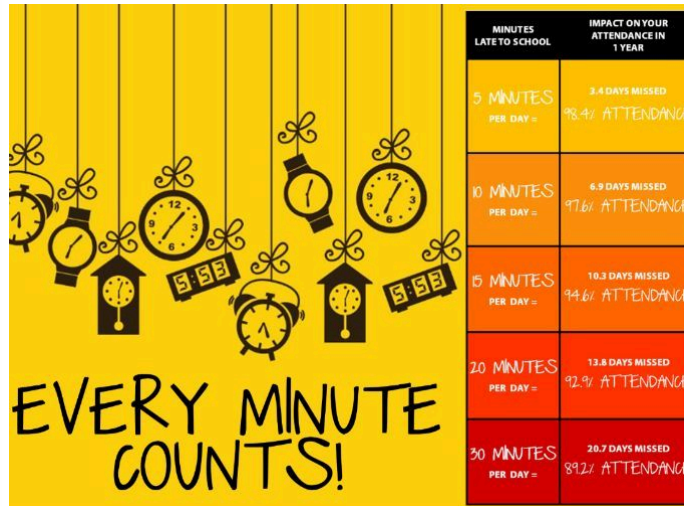
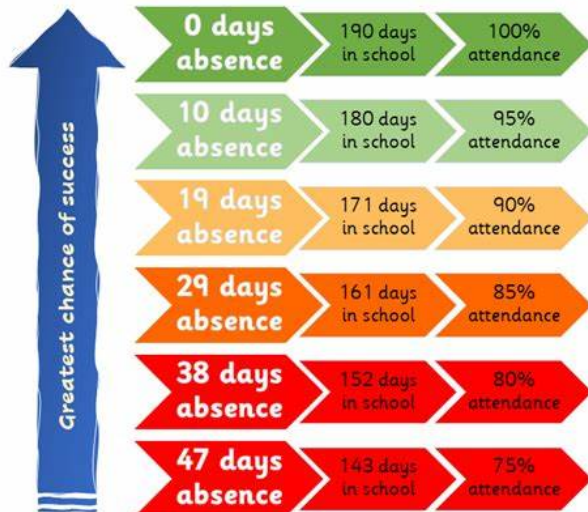


A quick reminder that the gate is open from 8:45 am until 9 am.

Registration is at 9am; In accordance with our statutory responsibilities, any child arriving after 9am will be marked late. If you arrive after 9:15am, your child will be given a 'U' code which means that they are on site but recorded as absent after the registers have closed.

The rules around fines for attendance have changed this year. We are required to consider fines when a child has missed 10 sessions (5 days) without a reason. The amount for fines has also increased to £80 per child up to £160 if not paid quickly or if fines have been sent previously.

If you need any support with school attendance or punctuality, please contact the office and we can arrange a time to meet.



Learning and Events

Take a look at all of the wonderful learning, trips and events that have taken place over the spring term so far!.

SEND Miss Cooper, SENDCo

Happy New Year!

I hope you had a restful holiday. Your child's Spring Term support plan detailing their SEND targets and support is now on Provision Map. Please use your login to view this. If you need support logging in to Provision Map or a reminder of your login details please let myself or your class teacher know.

Wandsworth Autism Advisory Service are running some useful workshops for parents across the Spring Term.

[Parent Workshops from the Autism Advisory Service](#)

[Sensory Processing Online Workshop for Parents](#)



PE updates Miss Crook, PE Lead

PE News – Spring Term Update

This half term, all year groups are focusing on gymnastics in their PE lessons, developing balance, coordination, and confidence. We're also delighted to continue working with our fantastic PE coach, who provides one session per week, offering high-quality coaching for our pupils.

Our after-school clubs are in full swing, with amazing opportunities for children to take part in football, netball, and dodgeball. It's great to see so many pupils getting involved and staying active! Below you will find some pictures from our Netball club and last half-term's Gymnastics club.

A quick reminder that all children need to bring their PE kit on their designated PE days, including appropriate footwear. Thank you for your support in improving this over the last half term—it's made a real difference!



Family Support and Wider Community

Free School Meals

All pupils who attend Griffin Primary School are now entitled to have a *free* school meal, provided by the school kitchen. This has been extended to pupils in Years 3-6, through the **Mayor's Universal Free School Meals Scheme**.

It is still very important to let us know if you are in receipt of benefits that can trigger additional funding for your child whilst at the school.

If you wish for your children to have lunch it is really helpful to let us know so that we can ensure we always have enough food to provide lunches for all!

**MAYOR OF LONDON
TO FUND EMERGENCY
FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

For all primary school children in London

