



Griffin Gazette

Monday 17th March '25



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a wonderful couple of weeks at Griffin Primary, and I am so grateful for the warm welcome I've received from the students, staff and parents. **I've truly enjoyed getting to know the children**, and I'm thrilled to be part of such a welcoming community. It's been a privilege to see the positive energy and enthusiasm from all involved. I'd like to thank you for your support, and I'm especially appreciative of the hard work from our staff who have made my transition here seamless. It was also fantastic to witness the children's excitement during World Book Day. A huge **thank you to everyone for their creativity and effort with the costumes**, and a special thanks to Ms. Casey for organising such a memorable day. I am very pleased to share that our **attendance has seen an improvement**, with over 95% attendance this half term—considerably higher than the yearly average of 91%. This is an incredible achievement, and I encourage everyone to keep up the hard work to ensure we continue this momentum. Over the coming term, **you'll start to see improvements around the school**, particularly with the site and playground, as we continue to enhance the environment for our children. **Please do feel free to come and speak with me** if you have any questions or suggestions—I look forward to working closely with you all to build on the amazing work already happening here at Griffin.

Mr. Jack Taylor, Principal

Nursery and Reception pupils are having an exciting term focused on developing routines, expressing emotions, and enhancing their learning skills. Nursery children will build self-care and independence while exploring feelings and learning through stories, using adjectives to describe characters. Reception pupils will focus on forming sentences, developing stamina, and using descriptive language, especially related to space, as they study planets and astronauts. Both year groups will engage in sensory activities to improve motor skills, while Reception focuses on phonics through Little Wandle. In Maths, Nursery will explore numbers 1-5 and shapes, while Reception will dive into counting, measurement, and time. Both classes will take part in science week, learning about space, forces, and soil. Through role play, art, and small-world activities, children will explore their creativity and understanding of the world around them.

[See more here!](#)



EYFS



Year 1



This half-term, Year 1 will explore *Tree* by Britta Teckentrup and *Off to the Market* by Alice Oher, developing narrative writing and creating recipes linked to their D&T food technology unit. In phonics, they will continue the Little Wandle programme, refining blending, decoding, and reading fluency. In maths, pupils will focus on addition and subtraction within 50 and explore capacity and volume. Science will build on their study of materials through investigation. In geography, they will learn about the UK, its countries, capitals, and key features. In D&T, pupils will explore healthy eating and make smoothies after visiting the supermarket. Music will focus on tempo, helping pupils explore fast and slow beats through movement and instruments. In PSHE, they will learn about staying healthy and forming positive friendships, while in RE, they will explore why Jesus was welcomed like a king on Palm Sunday. PE will focus on football, developing ball control, teamwork, and understanding game rules. [Please see more here!](#)



Year 2



This term, Year 2 pupils will be inspired by *The Bear and the Piano*, crafting their own magical stories about characters with extraordinary talents. They'll continue developing reading fluency through *Little Wandle*, while maths brings measurement to life with hands-on activities exploring length, mass, and volume. In science, they'll discover fascinating life cycles, from tiny tadpoles to fluttering butterflies! Geography takes them to hot deserts and icy polar regions, exploring how animals and people adapt. DT gets tasty as pupils design and make nutritious wraps, while Healthy Me in PSHE promotes well-being. RE delves into the meaning of Jesus' resurrection, and basketball in PE builds teamwork and agility. A fantastic term ahead and [please see more here!](#)



Year 3

This term, Year 3 pupils dive into *Cinderella of the Nile*, sharpening writing skills by retelling stories, creating information texts, and crafting instructions! Their reading fluency soars with *Little Wandle*, while exciting books like *The First Drawing* and *The Polar Express* spark imagination. In maths, students explore fractions and capacity through hands-on activities. Science gets magnetic as children experiment with forces, while geography takes them on an adventure through North America. Creativity shines in DT as they design and build castles! Plus, the Healthy Me unit encourages smart choices for well-being. A fantastic term awaits, [please see more here.](#)



Year 4



This term, Year 4 pupils journey back in time with *Escape from Pompeii*, crafting vivid narratives and heartfelt letters as Roman citizens witnessing Mount Vesuvius erupt! They'll also explore *Climate in Chaos*, deepening their understanding of environmental challenges. Maths brings fractions to life, while Science tunes into sound, vibrations, and insulation. In Geography, pupils trace rivers from source to sea and investigate their role in nature and society. Creativity sparks in DT as they design and build working torches using electrical circuits! Healthy Me in PSHE promotes well-being, while RE explores forgiveness in Christianity. Plus, on the court, Basketball hones teamwork and skills. An exciting term ahead; [please see more here.](#)



Year 5

This term, Year 5 pupils step into the wizarding world of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, crafting vivid descriptions of Gringotts Bank and writing their own magical adventures! They'll also develop reading comprehension through rich vocabulary and storytelling analysis. In maths, they'll explore decimals, percentages, perimeter, area, and statistics, sharpening problem-solving skills. Science uncovers life cycles, with a focus on naturalists like David Attenborough. Geography takes them deep into rainforests, examining ecosystems and deforestation. In DT, pupils design and build sturdy bridges, while Healthy Me in PSHE encourages smart lifestyle choices. RE delves into salvation in Christianity, and on the field, tag rugby builds teamwork and agility. A truly spellbinding term ahead, [with more detail available here.](#)



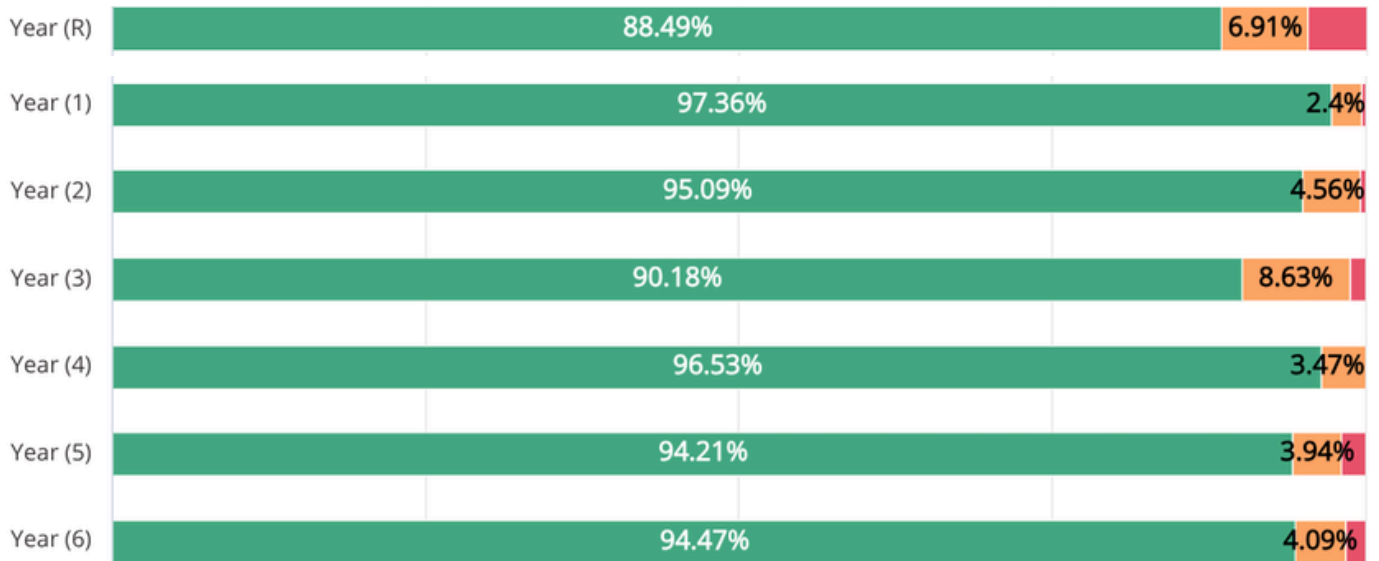
Year 6



This term, Year 6 will be immersed in *Pig Heart Boy* by Malorie Blackman, exploring resilience, ethics, and medical innovation through diary entries and persuasive writing. In reading, they'll refine key comprehension skills, analysing language and emotions. Maths will focus on percentages, fractions, and calculating the area of complex shapes. Science brings the circulatory system to life, examining the heart and blood vessels. DT challenges pupils to design and sew their own waistcoats, while PSHE promotes healthy choices for body and mind. In RE, they'll debate Christianity's lasting influence, and basketball in PE will develop teamwork, coordination, and strategy. A fantastic term ahead and [more information can be found here.](#)

Attendance

Last week's attendance was 94.06%, a big increase from before half term! Thank you to all of you for helping us work towards our goal of improving attendance by being at school for 9am. A huge well done to Year 1 who had the best attendance of the week! our attendance for the year is now 91.61%.



Griffin Community Council

Over the coming term, we are looking to relaunch our Community Council!

What is a Community Council?

In summary, a Community Council is a group of 9 volunteers, made up of parents, staff and community representatives, who meet 4 times a year to focus on things that are unique to our school, such as the context of the local community and how the school's curriculum can best meet the needs of our pupils.

What skills / experience do I need for the role?

No special qualifications are needed for the role and training is available for members, including a full induction. We are, however, looking for parents / carers who have:

- A strong commitment to maximising the potential of all our pupils;
- Good interpersonal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to learn and develop new skills' and
- Are fully committed to the continuing success of Griffin.

Want more information? [Add your email address here.](#)

Please don't worry, this is not committing you to anything!