



Griffin Gazette

Friday 5th December 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

The past two weeks have been incredibly busy and full of festive excitement as we head towards Christmas at Griffin Primary!

We are very excited to be holding our **Winter Fair on Thursday 11th from 3:30pm**. There will be raffles, refreshments, a temporary tattoo stall, winter games and so much more for the whole family to enjoy. **Please remember to bring cash on the day to support our fundraising.** We are extremely grateful to our new PTA for all of their hard work in organising this event, - their time, energy and dedication are already making such a huge difference to our school community.

On Monday 16th, it will be Christmas Jumper Day, so children are invited to wear their favourite festive jumper to school. This will also be the day of our whole school Christmas Lunch, which is always a very special and joyful occasion for the children. **Even more exciting, our whole school Christmas Concert will take place at 2:00pm, and we warmly invite all families to come along and support our performers.**

Our EYFS Nativity will take place on Thursday 18th at 2:30pm, and we are so proud of our youngest pupils for all their hard work in preparing for this special event.

The final day of term is Friday 19th, and we would love to invite you to join us for hot chocolates and carols in the playground from 2:00pm as we come together for a festive send-off to the term.

Please note that next week will be the final week for after-school clubs this term. We truly hope to see as many of you as possible at our upcoming celebrations as we round off what has been a wonderful and busy term together.

Kind regards,
Jack Taylor, Principal

EYFS

This week we have been enjoying the festive story The Jolly Christmas Postman. The children loved writing postcards to their friends, creating their own Christmas trees, and wrapping parcels just like the characters in the book! We have also started practising our Christmas songs and nativity, filling the classroom with lots of excitement. In Reception, the children have been working on AB patterns and practising reading and writing CVC words, while Nursery have been joining in with early festive activities too. It's been a wonderfully busy and joyful week, and next week we will continue to discover and explore this exciting celebration together!





Year 1



The Year 1 children have been working incredibly hard over the past two weeks. In Maths, they have been exploring place value and practising their numbers from 1 to 20. In English, the children have enjoyed writing their own narratives by retelling the story of Traction Man. In Geography, our young geographers have been learning to recognise the weather in each season and choose suitable clothing, while in Science they have continued to investigate the changes we see across the year. During PE, the children have shown fantastic effort while developing their tag rugby skills. In Art, they have loved creating shape portraits inspired by the work of Paul Klee.



This week in Year 2, the children will be writing their final version of Jim and the Beanstalk by Raymond Briggs, changing one part of the story to make it their own. In Maths, we will continue learning about 2D and 3D shapes, exploring their properties and how to identify them. In Geography, the children will be building on their Continents and Oceans topic by learning about physical features such as mountains and rivers, as well as human features like cities and roads. In Science, we are continuing our work on plants and observing how they grow and change. We will also be rehearsing our Christmas songs, and the children are already showing great excitement and enthusiasm.

Year 2



Please return the trip consent letter by Thursday 11th to ensure your child can take part. We'd also like to remind families to read everyday with your children and to sign reading journals regularly.

Year 3



Year 3 had an exciting visit to Battersea Power Station, where they travelled up the iconic chimney to enjoy breathtaking views of London from 109 metres above the ground. The trip linked brilliantly to our geography lessons, as the children were able to see firsthand just how flat the city is and how much green space surrounds it. They also explored how electricity was once generated inside the power station, bringing their classroom learning to life in a memorable and engaging way.



Please return the trip consent letter by Thursday 11th to ensure your child can take part. We'd also like to remind families to sign reading journals regularly. Books are changed every Friday, so having journals up to date really helps us support the children's reading progress. Thank you for your continued cooperation!

Year 4



Year 4 have been working very well through their multiplication and division unit of Maths. In English, we've finished adapting Greek Myths and look forward to using and developing those skills to continue our work on narrative. The enthusiasm and curiosity in Science, Computing and Geography has been great to see and the class' creativity and resilience working on texture and tone in Art has been really inspiring.

Year 5



This week in Year 5, we have been learning how to draw buildings using perspective. First, we drew a vanishing point on the horizon line. Then we used rulers to draw guidelines from the road into the distance. Between these guidelines, we sketched our buildings, making them appear smaller as they get further away. This technique helped our drawings look realistic and gave the impression that we were looking down a street with buildings stretching into the distance. We are really proud of how effective and exciting our artwork looks, and we will be sharing some photographs to show our fantastic work!



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Year 6



This week, Year 6 have worked incredibly hard across all subjects. We've completed a number of assessments and it's been fantastic to see just how much progress the children have made since October. Their confidence in maths has grown noticeably, supported by our daily arithmetic practice, which is really beginning to show in their results.

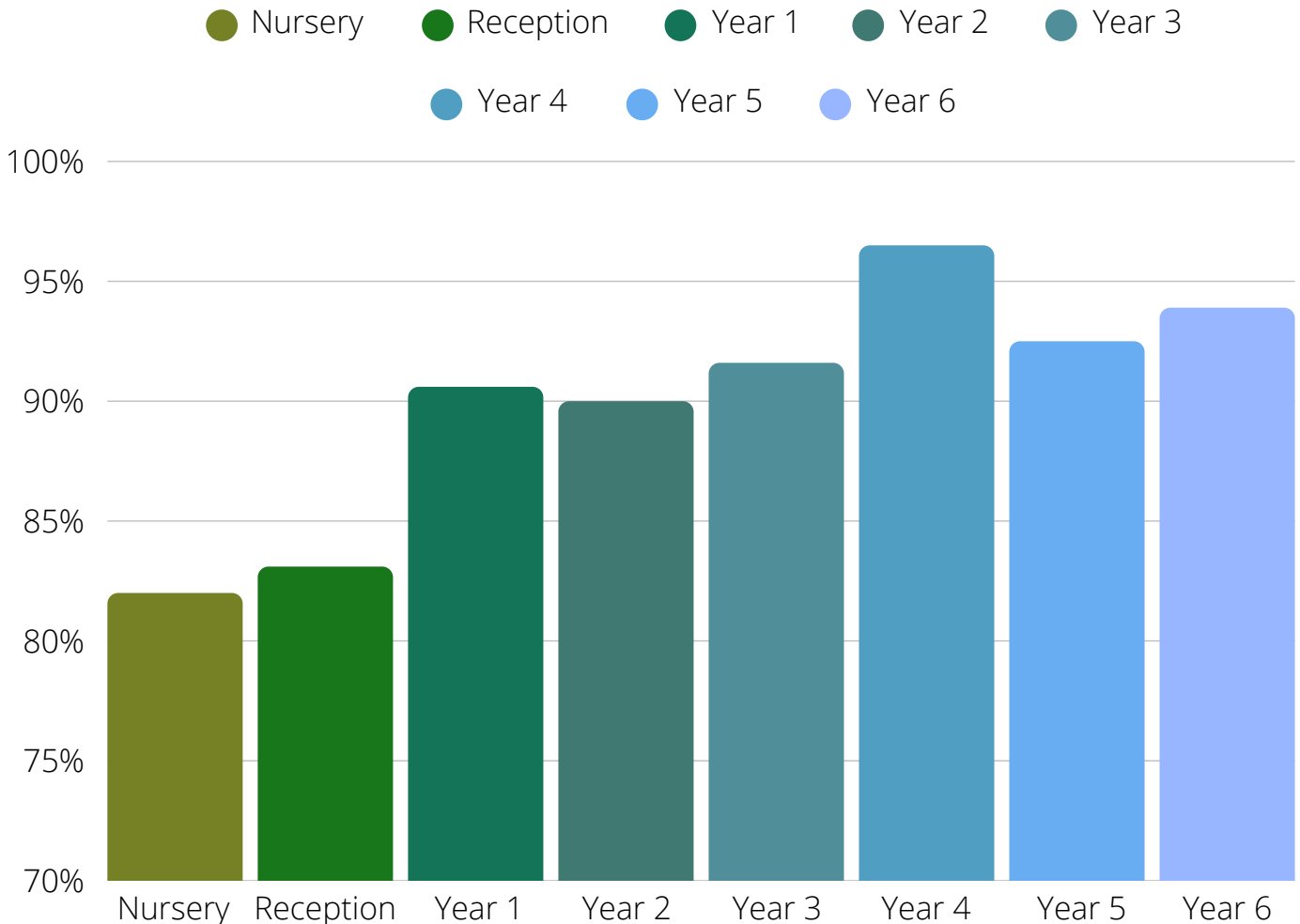
Attendance

Well done to Year 4, who have achieved an excellent 96.5% attendance – a fantastic reflection of commitment and consistency. **Great work also to Year 6 (93.9%), Year 5 (92.5%) and Year 3 (91.6%), all of whom are maintaining strong attendance levels.**

Year 1 (90.6%) and Year 2 (90.0%) are just on the edge of our attendance target - with a little extra push, they can be right up there too!

Our Nursery classes currently have a combined attendance of 81.7%, and Reception is at 83.1%. These year groups will be a key focus for us moving forward, as good early attendance is vital in building strong routines and confidence for learning.

As always, **every day in school really does count.** Thank you for your continued support in helping children attend regularly and on time. If you need any support with attendance, please speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team.



Key Winter Dates



Head Lice

We have been made aware of some cases of head lice at school. **Head lice are very common in young children and nothing to be embarrassed about. They are not caused by dirty hair – they spread through head-to-head contact, which happens easily during play.**

Please check your child's hair carefully and treat them if head lice are found. Head lice do not spread to your home, furniture or bedding; they can only live on human hair.

According to NHS guidance, you do not need to keep your child off school if they have head lice, as long as they are treated promptly.

Full guidance: [NHS Guidance](#)

If you do find head lice:

- Treat your child overnight using a suitable lotion or shampoo.
- Check their hair regularly after treatment to ensure all head lice have been removed.



WINTER FAIR

Thursday 17th December

3:30pm - 5:30pm

GAMES, RAFFLES, REFRESHMENTS,
UNIFORM STALL, TEMPORARY TATTOOS,
FACE PAINTING AND MUCH MORE!





Griffin Primary - Residential Trips

In aid of The Elliot Foundation Academies Trust

Residential trips offer life-changing opportunities for pupils to build confidence, independence, and resilience, but too often, cost is a barrier. We want to change that. Our goal is for every child in Years 4, 5 and 6 to attend a fully funded residential trip, free of charge to families. These experiences should be for all, not just for those who can afford



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