



# Griffin Primary School

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Principal: Mr N Read

Deputy: Miss S Casey

*Experience the world with us. Give your best, get the best*

## GRIFFIN NEWSLETTER

Friday 20th October 2023

### Fortnightly Roundup

#### Parents' Evening and Book Fair

This week saw all parents/carers meet with their child's teacher to discuss how they have settled into the new year and next steps for their learning.

As well as this, Griffin had the Scholastic Book Fair in which over £200 of sales were taken, which supports us in restocking our library and class reading areas.

#### Oral Hygiene Project

Last Friday, we were visited by the NHS Oral Hygiene Team, who ran workshops with most classes about the importance of keeping our teeth healthy. The children learnt that to maintain healthy teeth we must brush twice a day and make regular visits to the dentist. We also learnt that too many sugary foods can be damaging for our teeth! Children in Nursery, Reception, Y1, 2, 4 and 6 received a free toothbrush and toothpaste. Happy brushing!

#### National Portrait Gallery

On Friday 6th October, Year 4 visited the National Portrait Gallery where they complemented their artwork learning. All of the children demonstrated exemplary behaviour and enjoyed their offsite experience.

#### Coffee Morning

Thank you for all that attended the parent coffee morning with the Battersea Education Wellbeing Team. This service offers a range of support and advice for parents and children that may be struggling with difficulties such as anxiety or behaviour. If you couldn't make it, please see the link which details the online workshops available: [Wellbeing Workshops](#).

#### Visiting Choir

The Princeton University Wildcats Choir visited Griffin on Monday and what a performance they put on for us! The children were enthralled with their singing and enjoyed asking questions about their values and how they compare to Griffin's. See our [Instagram](#) and [X](#) social media pages for pictures.

Have a lovely half term break,

*Mr Read*

### Important Dates:

**Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October**  
Half term

**Monday 30th October**  
CPD Day - school closed to pupils

**Tuesday 31st October**  
Secondary application deadline  
First World Beats sessions begin

**Friday 17th November**  
Children in Need (details to follow)

**Thursday 30th November**  
Flu immunisations

**Thursday 7th December**  
Y4 & Y5 Play Your Part - 6pm

**Friday 8th December**  
Open Morning for Reception 2024

**Thursday 14th December**  
Carol Concert - 9.15am

**Monday 18th December**  
Xmas Lunch & Xmas Jumper Day

**Tuesday 19th December**  
EYFS Nativity - 2.30pm

**Wednesday 20th December**  
Break up at 2pm

**Thursday 21st December**  
CPD day - school closed to pupils

**Monday 8th January**  
Term begins - pupils return

*Dates are given as a guide; always check the school website.*

### Parent/Carer Survey

Thank you for your responses in our survey. The results can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

We are very pleased with the positive responses and parents' thoughts on their child's education at Griffin. We will continue to focus on the areas raised and ensure families are aware of the work we are doing.

Comments from the Survey, included:

*"Several parents have opted to place their children in other schools due to limited after school clubs and wrap-around care. Introducing these features may make the school more appealing to prospective families."*

*"I think they should allow for parents to make a group chat for their children's classes."*

*"There should be more forest school."*

*"Nothing and thank you."*



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## Attendance

This half term the whole school attendance figure is **95.16%**. We are getting closer to our target of 96%. Well done to Y3 Tigers who have the best attendance in the school.

Thank you for your support in aiming to reach Griffin's high expectations of excellent attendance and punctuality.

We are happy to report that we have 39 pupils with 100% attendance and punctuality this half term. There are also 11 children with 100% attendance. They have all received a certificate in assembly today.



04/09/2023 to 19/10/2023		
Year	Cls	%
	N Penguins	94.99
	R Dolphins	94.65
	2 Lions	93.96
	4 Jaguars	95
	5 Pandas	96.57
	6 Lemurs	96.33
	1 Elephants	91.08
	3 Tigers	97.19
	Whole School	95.16

## Class Newsletters

Each class has put together a video newsletter to demonstrate and share their learning this half term.

[Nursery](#)   [Reception](#)  
[Year 1](#)   [Year 2](#)  
[Year 3](#)   [Year 4](#)  
[Year 5](#)   [Year 6](#)

## Y6 Late Admissions Testing

If your child did not sit the test in September, you must register your child for the test if you are considering applying to one of the following schools: Ashcroft Technology Academy, Burntwood School, Chestnut Grove Academy or Graveney School. If you are not considering applying for these schools or your child sat the test in September, there is no need to register for the test.

To register for the test, please visit the Wandsworth Council website at:

[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/about-the-year-6-test/](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/about-the-year-6-test/). The closing date for test registration is Friday 3rd November.

If you register by 3 November, your child will sit the test at a secondary school on one of the following dates: 1 December 2023 (Burntwood School), 9 December 2023 (Graveney School) or 11 December 2023 (Ashcroft Technology Academy). The Pupil Services team at Wandsworth Council will email you with details of the date, time and venue in the week commencing Monday 13 November 2023.

## Curriculum Miss Casey, Deputy Head

This half term pupils have been focusing on Geography in the wider curriculum. Across the school, pupils have developed their mapping skills. Next half term, each class will be teaching History and Design and Technology units as part of the wider curriculum offer. We look forward to seeing the skills and knowledge that pupils will gain in these subject areas.

Next half term, Year 4 and 5 have been selected to take part in the *Play You Part Project* run by the Old Vic. As part of this project, Griffin pupils will collaborate with professional facilitators/directors over a six-week rehearsal period to support putting on our in-school production. The brand-new play script is titled, 'The Present' and is written by Bafta nominated Laura Dockrill! More information about this exciting project has been sent out to the year 4 and 5 cohorts.

## SEND Miss Cooper, SENDCo

Thank you to all the families and children who have welcomed me as SENDCo this half term. It has been wonderful to get to know the children and see how hard the staff at Griffin work to support our children with additional needs. As a school, we are lucky to have such amazing external professionals working with us and supporting our children, and advising staff on how to best meet pupils' needs.

Next half term, we will be sharing with you our new platform 'Provision Mapping' for recording children's SEND support plans. It outlines the interventions and provisions in place for your child. Parents of children on the SEND register will receive login details to access support plans. More information to follow next half term.

As always, if you have any concerns about your child's learning, social, emotional or physical needs, please get in contact with myself or your child's class teacher.

## Who is a Griffin Learner?

This half term, we have been finding out the traits of a Griffin learner to create a set of core values. These will be used to create coherence and consistency, which is necessary for establishing and sustaining a positive, predictable and safe environment at whole school level.

Each Friday, we celebrate learners who have displayed one of these traits, which gives examples of positive learning behaviours to all.

We believe by having the Griffin Learner traits, it will promote good behaviour, self-discipline and respect for all, as well as a useful tool to teach learning behaviours.

**FORGIVING**  
**CURIOUS**  
**UNIQUE**  
**HELPFUL**  
**RESPECTFUL**  
**AMBITIOUS**  
**RESILIENT**

### FORGIVING

**Griffin learners pardon or excuse mistakes and shortcomings made by themselves or others.**

Being forgiving fosters a positive and inclusive learning environment, promoting a sense of empathy and understanding among us all. This helps us to be resilient and maintain enthusiasm for our learning, as we are less discouraged by errors and more inclined to persist in our aims and goals.

### CURIOUS

**Griffin learners are always eager to know or learn something new.**

Being curious encourages us to actively seek out answers and explore new concepts. This curiosity-driven approach to learning can lead to improved comprehension, retention, and overall achievement, as it promotes a deeper engagement with our learning.

### UNIQUE

**Griffin learners are one of a kind - unlike anything else.**

Being unique is beneficial because it allows each one of us to have different characteristics, abilities, and qualities that make us different.

Embracing individuality creates a rich and inclusive school, enhancing overall creativity, collaboration, and personal growth amongst us all.

### HELPFUL

**Griffin learners make it easier or possible for someone to do something.**

Being helpful builds a positive and cooperative learning environment, where we assist each other in acquiring knowledge and skills. This collaborative attitude promotes a sense of unity and helps us all achieve our learning goals.

### RESPECTFUL

**Griffin learners accept somebody for who they are, even when they are different or they do not agree with them.**

Being respectful demonstrates a courteous and considerate attitude towards everyone and learning, which creates a harmonious and conducive environment. Furthermore, it fosters an atmosphere of cooperation and mutual esteem, promoting effective communication and the acquisition of knowledge.

### AMBITIOUS

**Griffin learners have and show a strong desire and determination to succeed.**

Being ambitious motivates us to set and strive for high goals, fostering a sense of purpose and determination. This drive encourages active engagement with our learning journey, which helps us to gain knowledge and skills, ultimately leading to a more fulfilling and successful educational experience.

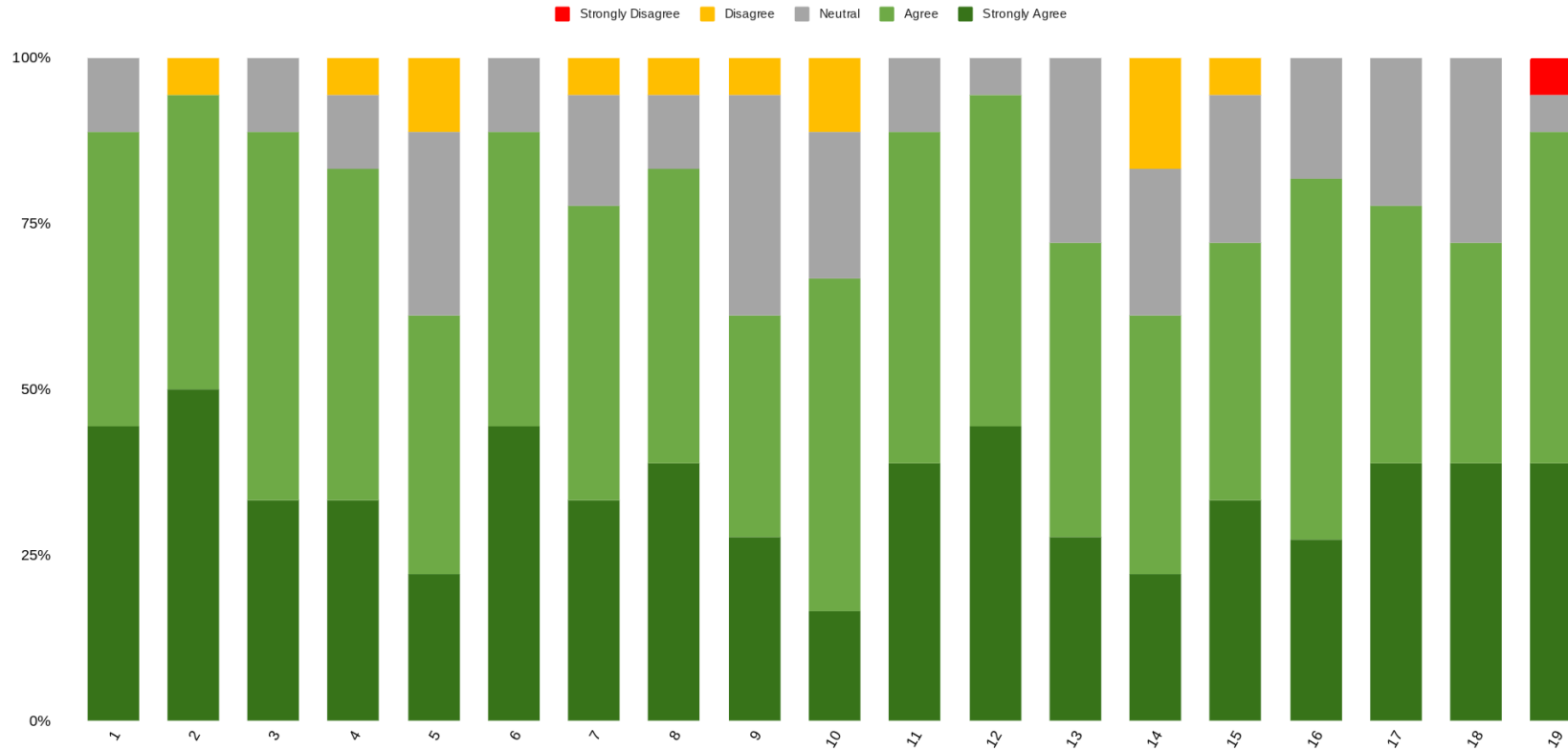
### RESILIENT

**Griffin learners are able to withstand or recover quickly from difficulty.**

Being resilient enables us to "bounce back" and adapt positively to challenges, setbacks, or difficulties encountered during our learning journey. This helps us to persevere and thrive in the face of adversity.

Resilience also helps us to "recover quickly from illness, change, or misfortune," enhancing our capacity to maintain consistent progress and emotional wellbeing in the ever-evolving world.

## Parent Survey: October 2023



### Questions

1. My child is happy at school
2. My child feels safe at school.
3. My child is confident that, should they have a problem, there is someone in school who will listen to them.
4. The school makes sure its pupils are well-behaved.
5. The school deals with bullying efficiently.
6. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.
7. If I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.
8. The school gives my child the support they need to succeed.
9. The school has high expectations for my child.
10. My child receives an appropriate amount of homework for their age.
11. My child does well at this school.
12. The school lets me know how my child is doing.
13. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.
14. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.
15. The school supports my child's wider personal development.
16. The school office is a welcoming and pleasant place to visit.
17. The school communicates effectively with parents/carers.
18. The school is led and managed effectively.
19. I would recommend this school to another parent.



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