



Griffydam Primary School



Achieving together

Parent Newsletter

Friday 30th June

Dear Parents and carers,

A huge and warm, massive welcome back to school! It was so lovely to see you and the children this week. I truly hope that you have all had a wonderful summer break and that everyone had some time to relax, away from the daily routines.

I would like to express a heartfelt welcome to our new families and children. I hope the children have had the best few first days and grow to love our school as they head through their time with us!

Last year, our children at the end of KS1 (Year 2) and KS2 (Year 6) received brilliant results! However we still have many areas that we wish to improve in and these will need your continued support! (As always!)

Reading, Reading, Reading! We need the children and yourselves to pick up the mantle again as we start a new year and hit that reading hard. It makes such a difference to the success and confidence of the children in every area! We will also be inviting all parents to join us in a reading session to explain how we teach reading at Griffydam. Everyone is welcome to join in.

It will be a busy term for all sorts of reasons and we hope the children will come home having had a brilliant week.

Kindest regards,
Miss Wills

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2023

School Opens Tuesday 29th August 2023

Inset Day Friday 13th October 2023

Half Term Monday 16th – Friday 20th

October 2023

School Closes Friday 22nd December 2023

Spring Term 2024

School Opens Tuesday 9th January 2024

Half Term Monday 19th – Friday 23rd

February 2024

School Closes Friday 22nd March 2024

Summer Term 2024

School Opens Monday 8th April 2024

May Day Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term Monday 27th May – Friday 31st

May 2024

School Closes Thursday 11th July 2024

INSET DAYS (when school is closed to pupils):

Thursday 24th August 2023

Friday 25th August 2023

Friday 13th October 2023

Monday 8th January 2024

Friday 12th July 2024

Calendar Dates

September

8th – The Space Centre assembly for Class 4

29th – Macmillan Coffee Morning

October

6th – Harvest Assembly (9am)

9th – Parents Evening

11th – Parents Evening

Uniform

Thank you all for making sure your child comes to school in school uniform. All

uniform is available from YourSchoolUniform.com. The uniform is Navy trousers, shorts, pinafore dress or skirt.

White polo shirt, blouse or shirt.

White or black socks or tights.

Black shoes (trainers must not be worn)

In the summer, a blue gingham summer dress may be worn as an alternative to the main uniform.

Royal blue 'Griffydam' sweatshirt or cardigan.

Please could we ask that all headbands are discreet and preferably in the school colours. Hats and headscarves can of course be used outside for protection from the weather.



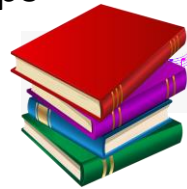
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Parent Inspire Workshops

Class 2 – Monday 11th September 2.30pm
Class 3 – Tuesday 12th September 2.30pm
Class 4 - Thursday 14th September 2.30pm



These sessions will take place in the hall. There will be a mix of a presentation and time to work with your child. All of the workshops this term will be reading based. Please do not worry if you are not able to attend as we will share a copy of the slides with all of the parents following the event.



Tuck Shop



We operate a small tuck shop each day at breaktime for children in Classes 3 and 4. The price list is as follows:

Snack-a-Jacks 40p
Cheese biscuits 20p
Milk biscuits 20p
Jelly 10p

Arbor

We school use Arbor as our 'Management Information System'. This allows parents to log into their parent account to make any updates as necessary, such as a change of telephone number or home address.

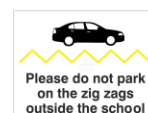
Most importantly, we require all parents to complete the 'permissions' section, giving or denying permission for things like photography and trips. Please ensure these sections are completed as soon as possible to allow us to use your child's image and information correctly.



Parking

Thank you to everyone for thinking about where they park when you collect and drop off your children. We are working with the council to further improve the safety of the road and the parking outside Griffydam and will keep you informed of any developments. Parking on site near the front door is now going to be used only for the school taxis.

Please remember not to park on or opposite the zigzag markings.



School Meals



Your child's school meal can be ordered from home, via your Arbor app. Menus are available to choose from for each day of the term. Vital time is saved each morning in class if meals are chosen at home and we strongly encourage all meals (even packed lunches) to be chosen this way. We thank you for your support.



Pre-Loved uniform



For many years now, the PTA have regularly held uniform sales on the playground. They have a good selection of school jumpers and cardigans, PE uniform and a small selection of trousers, skirts and dresses. All that is asked in return is a small donation.

If you ever need any items of uniform at any time during the term, please drop an email to pta@griffydam.leics.sch.uk or pop into the office and we'll check if the sizes you need are available (no need to wait for another sale).

Volunteering

Have you ever considered volunteering in school? Would you like to share in reading with the children once a week? We'd love to hear from you!

Please drop Mrs Blake an email for more information!



The Golden Table

Every Friday, two children from each class, who have followed The Griffydam Way (Our School Values) are invited by the Class Teacher to eat at the Golden Table. The children get to go to the front of the dinner queue with their Golden Ticket, have a special drink and sit on The Golden Table at lunchtime. We will inform you by a text message and the children get a sticker for following the values to the school

GOLDEN TICKET



Griffydam Model Village has a new home!

Remember the wonderful Griffydam model village that was created by our Class 4 children (with help from George Dunoon) for the King's Coronation? It now has a new home at Moira Furnace!

Pop along and visit the furnace (weekends only) until October, when they close for the winter.



Beautifully hand-made quilts

A local resident has made two beautiful quilts for our school which can be used throughout the school. A big thank you to Jo Culvert, Project Linus UK!





Griffydam Primary School

Dear Parent

Nomination for Parent Governor

There is a vacancy for two parent* governors to serve on the school's governing body. We are very keen to encourage parents and carers of registered pupils to nominate themselves to become part of our governing body.

Parent governors are elected by other parents and are vital to our governing body. They share equally with other governors the duty of carrying out the governing body's wide range of responsibilities. Governors do not run the school day to day, as their role is at the strategic or policy-making level in the school. They ensure that the headteacher performs his or her responsibilities for the educational performance of the school and ensure the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources.

You do not have to be an expert on education to be a school governor, and we value the experience and skills that all governors bring to the role. However you will be expected to demonstrate skills and experience that will enhance governance at the school, a commitment to undertake training and a willingness to engage in the life of the school and its strategic development. The Governing Body would welcome applications from parents with the following skills/experience:

- financial management
- strategic leadership and/or board experience
- human resources/ learning and development
- education (not necessarily primary)

If you join our governing body, you will serve for a four-year term and you can continue to the end of the four years even if your child leaves the school. There are four governing body meetings each year and governors usually serve on one or more committees which meet once a term. You will need to set aside time to be able to be an effective governor: time to prepare for meetings, visit the school, and undertake training.

We hope that the governing body reflects the diverse community the school serves, and welcome nominations from people of all backgrounds.

If you would like to take the opportunity to put yourself forward as a candidate please contact Mrs Blake in the office, either in person or via office@griffydam.leics.sch.uk and request an application pack. This will contain further information along with a parent governor election form. Please complete and return the election form to the office by Monday 18th September 2023.

If there are more nominations than vacancies the election will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

To find out more about what being a governor at this school is like, you can contact Dan Vogtlin (chair@griffydam.leics.sch.uk), who will be very willing to answer any questions.

Yours sincerely

Miss Wills

Headteacher and Returning Officer

* All 'parents', as defined in the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012, who make themselves known to the school, may stand as parent governors, providing they are not disqualified from holding office.

Parents include:

- the parents (natural or adoptive);
- any individual who has or has had parental responsibility for, or cares or has cared for, a child or young person under the age of 18;
- a person who the child lives with and who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child e.g. step-father, grandparents, other relatives, cohabitantes and foster parents. NB This must be someone involved in the full-time care of the child on a settled basis.