



Griffydam Primary School

November



Achieving together

Parent Newsletter

Friday 29th November

Dear Parents

What a cold couple of weeks we have had! The children loved spending time in the snow last week and I am sure they told you all about it.

On Monday, I went on a lovely Autumn walk with Class 1. We looked for different animals and listened for woodland sounds. We heard everything from crunching leaves to the sound of the Griffydam Dragon snoring in his little home.

Class 2 made some delicious scones last Friday and I was very sad to have missed the tasting of them.

Year 6 has started making their Christmas cakes. The lovely smell has filled the school. I cannot wait to see the finished products.

Our School Council met again this week and has been looking at which new books we should have in the classroom reading areas. They also would like to change the menu that is offered for dinners.

Children from Class 3 and Class 4 will be first on the stage at The Ashby Market to sing to the Christmas Shoppers on Sunday 1st December. Please come along to support them.

Finally, have you ever thought about becoming a School Governor? Now is your chance, as we have positions available. If you are interested, please read the details at the end of the newsletter, contact Dan Vogtlin or speak to any of our current School Governors. The Governors do an amazing job helping Griffydam go from strength to strength.

Miss Wills

Dates for your diary

November

29th – PTA Disco (after school)

December

1st – Ashby Market singing

5th – Whole school pantomime trip

11th – Class 1 and 2 nativity performance 5pm

12th – Christmas dinner

12th – Christmas jumper c



12th – KS2 Carol Concert 6pm

16th – Class 1 & 2 Crafts 2.30pm

17th – Class 3 & 4 Crafts 2.30pm

19th – Celebration Assembly 9am

19th – Last day of term (school closed on Friday 20th December)

January

6th January – First day of term

20th-23rd – Bikeability for Class 4

29th – Young Voices



Illness and Absences

If your child is too unwell to come to school, please ensure you have contacted the school office by 9.30am that morning with the reason for their absence. As a school, we are not permitted to administer any over the counter medication. Should your child need a dose of Paracetamol or Antihistamine, please arrange for someone to pop in at lunchtime to administer the medication.



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Sports Achievements

So far this year, all of the children who have taken part in sports events have done extremely well. These are our recent achievements.



Dodgeball – we won the event!



Dodgeball – we won the event and will be playing the Area Finals next Thursday.



Boys football vs Measham – we won the match!

Sports Award

Our Sports Ambassadors attended the 'Let's Get Moving' Event this week.



Our school received the Gold School Games Mark award for their commitment, engagement in the School Games for 2023/24. Well done to everyone in the school, because you all played a part in us getting this award.

Because we have an amazing girl's football team, we also received the Equal Access School Award.

A special thank you to Mrs. Shaw and Mr. Bentley for attending all of the after-school events. We could not be so successful in the competitions without your dedication. Thank you.



Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who registered for the Children in Need run. We raised an amazing amount of money from the RunPudsey event;

£2593.40

As well as this, we raised £80 on the day for everyone wearing yellow.

When the Pudsey lanyards arrive at school, they will be given out to children/families who raised £10 or more.





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Visitors to school

Open the Book Assembly

Every two weeks, we are extremely lucky to have an 'Open the Book' Assembly.

During their last visit, our visitors shared the story of Mary being told that she was going to have a baby; Jesus. Our visitors always make the stories interesting and engaging, including wearing fun costumes.



Fire and Rescue

This week, Class 2 and Class 4 had a visit from Leicestershire Fire and Rescue service, where they talked to us about being safe in our homes. They talked about what we have to do if we have a fire in our house; making sure that all smoke alarms are working properly.

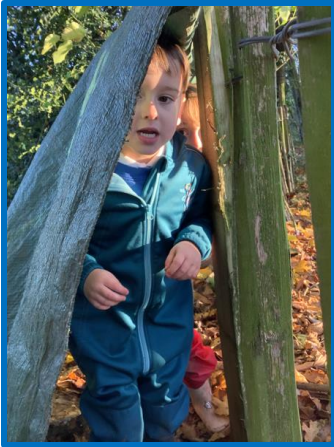
Snow Days

All of the children enjoyed having time with their friends playing in the snow! We had some amazing snowball fights and snowmen being built.



Class 1

On Monday, the children had a lovely Autumn Walk around our forest area. Everyone was amazed to find the Griffydam Dragon's home deep in the woods. The children, along with Miss Wills and Miss Calow, tip-toed past so as not to wake the sleeping dragon.



Class 2

Our D&T topic for this half term is 'Remarkable Recipes'. We linked this to our class text and made fruit scones just like the ones Billy the Brave Knight enjoys. The children enjoyed tasting jams, planning, baking and finally eating their scone with their chosen topping. We had so much fun and learnt a lot about following a recipe.



Class 3

Class 3 had fun last week in our D&T lessons. We learnt all about the different food groups and the Eatwell Guide. The children learnt about different methods of cooking and explored this by cooking potatoes. Everyone had a turn at chopping vegetables for our class Cowboy Bean dish. On Wednesday morning, we tasted the Cowboy Bean dish. Some children gave it a 10/10 and even asked for the recipe! In addition to this, the children designed their own taco. We will be making these in the next few weeks.



Class 4

In DT, we found out about the 'Make Do and Mend' Campaign that took place during WW2, where people were encouraged to make use of their old clothes instead of wasting them, for example, suits were made into dresses, trousers were made into shorts. We used old t-shirts, cut them up and made class bunting that we will decorate our classroom with. Class 4 were amazing at sewing and used 2 stitches to make their triangles.



During our History lessons, we had a lesson this week that was led by a parent about Bletchley House.

Andrea very kindly shared information about what happened at Bletchley House during WW2, and everyone tried to work out Morse Code messages!





At Griffydam Primary School we are looking for two governors to join our governing body. As a governor you will be a volunteer who makes a vital contribution to the success of the school.

School Governors have three main roles.

- **Governors ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction. The governing body helps to set long-term plans for the school.**
- **Governors hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and the effective and efficient performance management of staff. The governing body looks at the quality of education being offered and ensures the head is doing everything possible to improve results.**
- **Governors oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent.**

Full training is available, and governors are encouraged to attend regular training sessions, either in person or online.

We are looking for someone who can attend 3 full governing body meetings per year and about 3 committee meetings per year. These are usually held at the school. Governors are also asked to visit the school during the academic year.

You must be 18 years or over to apply and all governors are subject to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks if you do not already have a DBS. If you would like to find out more, please email office@griffydam.leics.sch.uk for an application form.