

Chivenor Newsletter

Issue 7 22/23 31st March 2023



"In you we believe"

Dear Chivenor Families,

For those of you who are not already aware, part of my role is to lead Wide Horizons which means I have the enjoyable job of planning and organising the trips and events which underpin the children's curriculum. It is therefore particularly pleasing to look back at the Spring Term and recall how many wonderful opportunities our children have taken part in.

Some of our youngest Griffins visited the West Midlands Safari Park; our Year 3's were visited by a Roman Soldier in school; Year 4 children were fantastic ambassadors for our school when they became tour guides at Shakespeare's house and our eldest Griffins spent a day at Harry Potter World -London.

I know that some of my best childhood school memories were the trips where I could experience learning outside of the classroom. I am therefore very proud to be part of the Griffins Schools Trust who not only value these experiences but also ensure all trips are fully funded so no child misses out.

While I have your attention, I'd also like to thank everyone who attended our Founders Day Breakfast and afternoon tea. It was fantastic being able to share this important day with so many members of our school community.

Have a great Easter and we look forward to seeing all our Griffins again in the Summer Term on 17th April 2023

Sylvia Werrett

Deputy Headteacher

Social Media & Communication

We have a number of methods of communicating with our parents. If you haven't already, please follow our Facebook and Twitter pages where we share all the amazing things we do here at Chivenor. If you could give us a 'like' or a 'share' that would be appreciated. Class dojo is also being used to communicate what your child is doing in class and general whole school news. We try to update this daily. Any likes and comments are appreciated.

Please note that any messages need to come to school via Class Dojo NOT Facebook Messenger.



Our Young Griffins this week:

Rec: Freddie

Y1S: Elijah

Y1B: Maya Eve

Y2K: Rocco

Y2W: Malay

Y3P: Zak

Y3W: Emily

Y4B: John

Y4C: Lois

Y5C: Ja'Kayla

Y5H: Sainabou

Y60: Minha

Y6P: Crystal

Book Token Awards:

Y2: Nael and Brandon

Y3: Eva and Noah

Y4: Anna and Sienna

Y₅: Maya and Lily-Anna

Y6: Mason and Shoaib



Millionaire Reader

Our first Millionaire reader of the

academic year was awarded her prize by Miss Ismail in assembly this week. H has worked so hard to get this award and her hard work has paid off— well done!



Top Track-its

Congratulations to the top 3 classes for an incredible number of track-its this half term:

1st: Y6 Patel-1621

2nd: Y4 Cadbury- 1298

3rd: Y1 Beckham- 1296

Congratulations also to the top 5 track-it winners:

- 1) Marley-139
- 2) Hailey -129
- 3) Scarlett -105
 - 4) Macie –90
 - 5) Jaxon-87

What have our Griffins been learning this week?

*Reception have been learning about people who help us; we have looked at the roles of the emergency services and what to do if we need their help. Last week we looked at the story 'Supertato' and our Reception Griffins created their own sentences linked to the story about what happened to the vegetables in the book. In maths, we have been looking at 2d and 3d shapes, learning all about the properties and shape names. We played a game of guess the shape for children to link their knowledge to hidden shapes.

Year 1 have created bird feeders and hung them in the forest school garden. All the children enjoyed getting messy with the ingredients. In maths, we have been consolidating all the skills we have learned so far. We also drew hands on the clock to make 'o'clock' times. In English, we have created story maps and recounted the hilarity of 'What the ladybird heard'. We have also been testing our phonics skills ahead of the phonics screening test. Keep going! We want you to all pass with flying colours so keep the reading going over the holidays - a great pastime with an easter egg!!

*Y2 have continued to explore London and have become tour guides! We have created our own tour booklets with a recount and facts about each Landmark. Y2 have continued our topic of measurement and have been focusing on ml and Litres; we have done some practical activities to help us in our learning. In Science, we have explored the different fruits and vegetables that plants produce. We tasted a range of fruit and veg and decided if they were the root, stem or leaf of a plant. In Creative Curriculum, we created our own moving carriages for King Charles Coronation. We used an axel and wheels to make this possible.

*This week in Year 3, we have explored how shadows are formed using puppets and torches to help us with our investigation. We discovered that the further away light is from an object, the shadow increases in size. Year 3 also made a stop motion animation about the battle between Boudicca and the Romans; we were very careful about where we placed our characters and where we held a camera for consistency within our pictures.

*In maths this week, Y4 have been converting fractions into decimals and working on our place value using number lines. In English, we have been writing a narrative inspired by different cultures. In music and drumming this week we invited the parents to come in see their performances. Some performed their lion king scripts while others read their Butterfly Lion Poems.

*In Y5, we have been looking at the features of rivers focusing on the Colorado River which is responsible for creating the Grand Canyon. We have also looked at the process which sees gold deposits found in the water thus starting the California Gold Rush in the mid 19th Century. In music, we have been learning the chords and melody to the classic carol Silent Night, and in English, our Griffins have published their own stories based on the characters in Skellig. Y5 Curie performed their Shakespeare play 'A comedy of Errors' at Perrywood and in School this week too! In Maths, Y5 have looked at the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes and composite shapes and in science, they have gathered data on the heights of babies, boys and girls in their first 12 months of life and presented this through the construction of a line graph. In their final swim session, our Y5 Griffins swam as far as they could in one go to allow us to compare their progress over the swimming sessions this term.

<u>Please look on Class Dojo for updates on what our Griffins are doing</u> in class.

PROUD TRADITIONS

Founders Day Breakfast and Afternoon Tea

Founder's Day is a celebration across all of our Griffin Schools; it is the anniversary of the day the Griffin School Trust became a reality. There were a number of events across the Trust and at Chivenor we had a number of events including breakfast and afternoon tea with our Griffins and their adults. Thank you to all those who joined us in our celebrations!









Community Partnerships

Some of our Y5 Griffins were delighted to join the Community Environmental Trust on an International Women's Dav Walk this week. The Y5 Griffins and staff went on a snowy walk throughout the ages and learnt about some remarkable women who made a lasting contribution to science and to the environmental moment. Our Griffins met some furry friends along the route. Chivenor were the only school to take this opportunity and have had several tweets and Facebook comments regarding the exemplary behaviour of our Griffins who were a credit to our school. Such lovely feedback to make us even more proud! We aim to make this another proud tradition to mark this annual date in the diary and look forward to taking part in more events with the CET in the future.





Founders Day Fundraising

To celebrate Founders Day, some of our entrepreneurial Griffins asked if they could run a hot chocolate stall to raise money for a local charity. They worked hard during their lunch break and served over 100 hot chocolates topped with cream and marshmallows. As a result of their hard work, they raised £85, which they decided to donate to Birmingham based charity 'Young at Heart' which supports children with heart defects. Such a worthy cause! Thank you to our Y6 Griffins and to all who purchased a hot chocolate.





PROUD TRADITIONS

Science Symposium

This half term we have celebrated the Griffin Science Symposium. The theme for the GSS this year has been Family or Connections. The Young Griffins have had extra lessons to explore the different connections which can be found in their science topics. Year 6 took part in a seminar with Dr Alice Dunford from the Open University about her work involving space probes. Year 4 were out finding links in the natural environment to explore their hypothesis that more insects than mammals lived around school. Year 5 were concluding their astronaut training with some NASA tasks getting lunar modules to land safely and delivering payloads on target.

Alongside this, the children were also exploring links with the history of the local community; Aviation. Year 5 designed a water powered rocket and implemented their designs and tested them whilst some classes in the lower school were designing and testing paper aeroplanes, using their knowledge of different forces.



World Book Day Thursday 2nd March 2023

Thank you to all the parents for their great effort for World Book Day. Our Griffins enjoyed lots of activities in the class and even had a workshop with an Author! We had an assembly where our Griffins paraded their costumes to all of their friends and teachers chose the



best dressed for each class. Our winners won a book token and were able to choose a book from our vending machine as a prize. Thank you all for the effort you made!







PROUD TRADITIONS

Easter Competitions

This week, KS1 made some amazing Easter bonnets and KS2 decorated eggs to make an Easter egg scene. Parents/carers were invited into school to see the entries and they agreed that they were all amazing! Thank you to everyone for all their efforts! Here are a few of the amazing entries—look on dojo for the winning entries.































WIDE HORIZONS

Y1 Visit to the Safari Park

To support their topic 'Amazing Animals' our Year 1 children visited West Midlands Safari Park to see the animals roaming around the grass, before getting up close with some smaller creatures in a hands-on session. They learnt all about what animals eat and where they live and even got to meet some of the birds of prey.



Y6 Visit Harry Potter World

Y6 visited Harry Potter World as part of their Topic work. They took part in a costume workshop where they learnt how the costume department distress the clothes for films and had a go themselves!

Our Y6 Griffins were able to tour around the studios, some took a Herbology class, a ride on a broomstick using green-screen technology to make it look like they were soaring through the skies!



Y4 visit Shakespeare's House

Just before half term, our Year 4 Griffins visited Shakespeare's house in Stratford Upon Avon. When they arrived, they were split into groups to take part in different activities. Some children learnt part of a play and performed it on a staged area in the garden outside the house where William





Shakespeare grew up as a child. Another group went on a tour of Stratford to find out about where Shakespeare went to school and where he was eventually buried. The last group spent the day as tour guides in Shakespeare's birthplace, telling the public and their friends about life during Shakespearian times. We were



very impressed with all the children's knowledge and we hope they enjoyed this special trip as part of our Shakespeare week celebrations.

Y3 Roman Visitor

This week, our Year 3 Griffins were visited by a Roman Soldier who showed them some of his replica weapons and artefacts and told them about life during Roman times. The children re-enacted a Roman battle and

tried on some of the armour while learning how to say "Hello" and "Goodbye" in Latin. Our Griffins had a fantastic day and we were very impressed by their fabulous costumes.



HIGH ACHIEVEMENT

Pupil Parliament

Pupil Parliament met to discuss the way children are treating the new toilets. They decided to launch a poster competition to encourage our Griffins to keep them clean and tidy. All entries were handed to their Pupil Parliament representative and these were shared, the winner was chosen and presented with a chocolate hamper. Please speak to your children about how to treat these areas with respect.





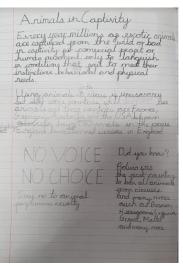
International Women's Day

Our Griffins marked International Women's Day on Wednesday 8th March. They were invited to a special assembly where we discussed gender gaps and how we can help to ensure they diminish quicker than the estimated 135 years! This years theme was #EmbraceEquity and people were encouraged to strike the pose below in support of Equity for all. We hope you all used this opportunity to say thank you to all the wonderful women out there who are doing amazing things to make a difference.



Prep for Learning

Thank you for supporting your children to complete their 'Prep For Learning'. Our Griffins have fed back that they feel more confident during lessons when they have some prior learning and they enjoy sharing their knowledge with each other. We have been blown away with the quality of some of the work and look forward to sharing more examples with you in the future.





STEM workshop with Aston Villa

As part of our ongoing partnership with Aston Villa, Year 5 have been participating in a number of STEM workshops this half term. Some of the activities our Griffins have been taking part in include looking at different variables in the control of mini robots and using coding to create an LED light show! The Y5 Griffins have really enjoyed the sessions and we look forward to seeing what else they will accomplish through our partnership with AV Foundation in the future. #AVFCFoundation #officialpartners







Y4 Drumming Performance

Thank you to all our parents/carers who attended our Y4 Griffins Drumming Performance and shared in their success. Our Y4 classes have been having weekly sessions where they have learnt how to play the drums in unison, multi parts and solo part sections. Our Griffins

have learnt songs and rhythms and have had a lot of fun along the way! They were extremely impressive and their adults did well too!



New Playground Equipment

During assembly, Mrs Guest shared a delivery of new playground equipment for both playgrounds. Year 6 have been testing out the equipment, including space hoppers, Frisbees, nets, goals and magnetic dartboards, and designing a few games to share with both KS1 and KS2 after Easter.

We look forward to seeing our Griffins engaging in more physical activity at break times.





Visit from the Police

PC Reynolds, PC Walsh and PC Stanley joined Reception and Y1 to speak to them about their job. They showed our Griffins the different parts of their uniform and brought items to try on. PC Reynolds brought along his Police van and our Griffins were able to sit in it and turn on the blue flashing lights and sirens— they were very loud! A number of Griffins and teachers were also put in the cage, in the back of the van, but thankfully none were taken down to the station! Reception have been learning about 'People who help us' in their topic work and there were some amazing questions and observations made by both year groups.











PC Reynolds came back to speak with Years 5 and 6 about his career and role in the Police force this week. He was asked some fabulous questions by our

Griffins who found out that initially PC Reynolds wanted to join the army, about the kit he wears, some of the work he does currently and about his next adventure when he leaves Castle Vale to move down South in a couple of months. PC Reynolds also spoke about malicious communication with Years 5 ad 6 and the implications of misusing social media. PC Reynolds has promised he will return for another visit with our older Griffins before he moves as they have also requested a look in his police van!

Celebrating Culture and Diversity

We are so lucky at Chivenor that our family is made up of a wealth of cultures, traditions and heritages. Over March and April we have a lot to celebrate:

The Islamic calendar follows the phases of the moon, commonly known as the lunar cycle. As a result, the Holy month of Ramadan started on Wednesday 22nd March, lasting for 30 days, and ending on Friday 21st April, with the celebratory days of Eid al-Fitr starting on Saturday 22 April or Sunday 23 April.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpdtsbk/articles/zjc2bdm





Easter will be observed on Sunday 9th April 2023 and is the most important festival in the Christian calendar. It celebrates Jesus rising from the dead, three days after he was crucified. Easter Sunday is on 9th April 2023 and the week leading up to Easter is called Holy Week, consisting of Palm Sunday (the Sunday before Easter Sunday when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem riding on a donkey), Maundy

Thursday (when Christians remember when Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples, breaking bread and drinking wine— also known as the Last Supper) and Good Friday (which commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus).

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztkxpv4/articles/z4t6rj6

Good News!

Congratulations to Mrs Watson and her husband on the safe arrival of the newest member of our Griffin family, Amelia-Rue.



We were lucky enough to have cuddles recently when they visited. Pictured is our youngest and oldest member of our Griffin family.



We wish them all the very best as they start their parenting journey as a family of three.

Goodbye and Good Luck!

At the end of the term we say Goodbye and thank you to Mrs Isherwood for all she has done for our Griffins and their families over the last 5 years.

Mrs Isherwood is leaving us to take a post as a Early Years SENDCo. We are hoping she will visit us soon under the remit of her new role.

We also say Goodbye to Miss Hemming and Ms Richards and wish them luck in their new schools.





The winning classes for this week are...

KS1 Attendance
Champions:

KS2 Attendance
Champions:

2W

60

95%

94.3%

The winning classes for the Spring Term are...

KS1 Attendance
Champions:

KS2 Attendance
Champions:

15

5C

94.55%

93.62%

Did you know that your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That's when every minute counts the most!



The winning class for the academic year so far is...



5C

50ne/93.47%

<u>Do you need further support with</u> attendance?

Mrs Cox and Mrs Hinkley are always available to offer advice and support to help ensure your child is able to attend every day and reach their full potential.

Please call the office to book an appointment or a call-back.

Every day, every moment counts in the life of every child in our school.

#SchoolAttendanceMatters

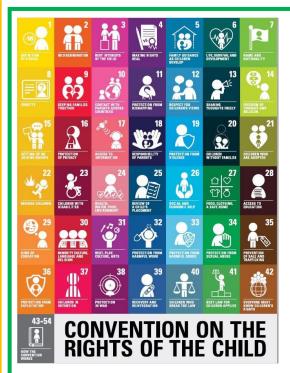


Being on time is just as important!

If you miss 15 minutes every day for one week, you have lost over an hour of learning!

Our gates open at 8:35am every day and lessons start at 8:50am.

Just a gentle reminder that school finishes at 3:15pm and after school clubs finish at 4:15pm. Parents, please don't be late!





We are a 'Rights Respecting School'

Article 5 (parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities):

Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents and carers to provide guidance and direction to their child as they grow up, so that they fully enjoy their rights. This must be done in a way that recognises the child's increasing capacity to make their own choices.



Article 18 (parental responsibilities and state assistance):

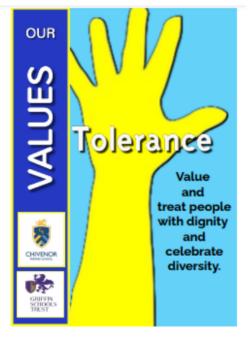
Both parents (or legal guardians) share responsibility for bringing up their child and parents and carers should always consider what is best for the child. Governments must support parents and legal carers by creating support services for children and giving parents the help

they need to raise their children.



How are you showing this half terms School Value at home?

We would love to hear how our Griffins are being Tolerant at home. Let your teachers know via Class Dojo.











BACK TO SCHOOL MONDAY 17TH APRIL 2023

*Mon 17th Apr: Griffin Arts Festival Tues 18th & Wed 19th Apr: Book Fair

from 3:30-4:15pm

*Tues 25th Apr: Y2 Sealife Centre trip *Wed 26th Apr: Rec DT Workshop

*Mon 1st May: Bank Holiday
*Mon 8th May: Bank Holiday

*Tues 9th-12th May: Y6 SATs *Mon 15th & Tues 16th May:

Y6 Rainforest Explorer Visit

Remember to follow us on Twitter **@ChivenorP**

For updates and celebrations of the wonderful things happening in our school



Handle with care

If your family is experiencing difficulties at home, I would like to provide additional support at school.

I understand that you are not always able to share details and that's okay. If your child is coming into school after a difficult night, morning or weekend, please email me 'Handle with care' and your child's name and class to the email: safeguarding@chivenor-gst.org

Nothing else will be said or asked. This will let me know that your child may need extra time, patience or help during the day.

Mrs Cox & the Chivenor team

If you do wish to talk about it, please also know that our door is always open and the kettle is always on!



Autumn Term 1

Starts: Wednesday 7th September 2022 Finishes: Friday 21st October 2022 Half Term holiday: 22/10/22 - 30/10/22

Autumn Term 2:

Starts: 31st October 2022 Finishes: 16th December 2022 Christmas holiday: 17/12/22 - 02/01/23

Spring Term 1

Starts: Tuesday 3rd January 2023 Finishes: Friday 17th February 2023 Half Term holiday: 18/02/23 - 27/02/23

Spring Term 2:

Starts: Tuesday 28th February 2023 Finishes: Friday 31st March 2023 Easter holiday: 01/04/23 - 16/04/23

Summer Term 1

Starts: Monday 17th April 2023 Finishes: Friday 26th May 2023 Half Term holiday: 27/05/23 - 04/06/23

Summer Term 2:

Starts: Monday 5th June 2023 Finishes: Friday 21st July 2023 Summer Holiday: starts on 22nd July 2023

<u>Survivors of Domestic Violence</u>

Peer Support Group

Compass are holding weekly peer support groups at the Sanctuary; an opportunity to interact with others who have similar experiences.

FREE & CONFIDENTIAL

For more details contact:

 $Compass pathways dap@compass-\\support.org.uk$

0121-748-8111



Proud Traditions

Wide Horizons

High Achievement

Farnborough Road, Castle Vale, Birmingham, B35 7JA **Phone number:** 0121 675 9833 **Mail:** enquiries@chivenor-gst.org





VYGA EASTER PROGRAMME



GARDENING SESSION

Growing season is here! Together let's plant fruit and veg seeds and get creative making wooden labels

> Monday 3rd April 11am-3pm

> Allotments - £4



BELL BOATING AND DISCOVERING THE CANAL

Let's explore our local canals, learn about the waterways and have some fun!

> **Tuesday 4th April** 11am-3pm **CET OFFICE**

FREE (sponsored by StreetGames)



ALL THINGS BIRDS

We will be making parabolic birdsong recorders and play bird themed games

Thursday 6th April

Allotments - £4

POND DIPPING AND MEADOW EXPLORING

Find out what creatures live in our ponds and meadows at Plantsbrook

Wednesday 12th April 11am-3pm

CET office- £4

EASTER HUNT

Join us in the Castle Vale conservation area to look for easter themed goodies

> Friday 14th April 11am-3pm Allotments - £4



COME AND JOIN US!!

VYGA is open to young people aged 8-14 years

To get involved, please contact us on

info@environmentaltrust.org.uk or 07436809236 to request a registration form and book the activities









Proud Traditions

Wide Horizons

High Achievement

Farnborough Road, Castle Vale, Birmingham, B35 7JA Phone number: 0121 675 9833 Mail: enquiries@chivenor-gst.org



Foodbanks

Erdington/Stockland Green

Hope Food

Stockland Green

Methodist Church, Slade Road, B23 7JH

Every Tuesday 10-10:30am

George Road Baptist Church George Road, Erdington, B23 7RZ Every Tuesday 12-2pm

Six Ways Baptist Church Wood End Road, Erdington, B24 8AD Every Thursday 12-2pm

<u>Falcon Lodge Methodist Church Centre</u> Every Wednesday 2-3pm

Baby Banks

<u>Loving Little Ones Oikos Community Church</u> <u>8 High St, Erdington, B23 6RH</u>

<u>Little Light Bundles, Lighthouse Church</u> <u>St Mary's Hall, Tyburn Road, B24 oTB</u>

Local Children's Centres

<u>Lakeside Children's Centre</u> 22 Lakes Road, Erdington, B23 7UH 0121 752 1970

<u>Featherstone Children's Centre</u> 29 Highcroft Road, Erdington, B23 6AY 0121 752 1870

<u>Castle Vale Children's Centre</u> 375 Yatesbury Avenue, Castle Vale, B35 6DG 0121 752 1920

<u>Holland House Children's Centre</u> Holland Road, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1RE 0121 752 1860

