



Chivenor Newsletter

Issue 9 23/24

29th Feb 24



"In you we believe"

Dear Chivenor Families,

As we begin the second half of the academic year, I want to begin by extending our sincere thanks to you all for your continued support. Our developing community means the world to us and we will continue to build on the many links and projects we have established.

These partnerships are vital in our mission to provide the very best experiences and opportunities for our children.

Each and every day, our young Griffins demonstrate great determination and resilience. It makes us so proud to see them grow as individuals as well as learners and leaders.

We have a full diary of events for this term (Term 4) such as our very Proud Tradition that is Founders Day. As we celebrate across all 12 schools in our Trust, we will all be focusing on 'Energy', the Trust theme for this year.

However, this edition of our newsletter looks back at many successful events from Term 3 such as Pupil Parliament and a visit from Paulette Hamilton MP, Safer Internet Day and our Book Swap event.

Happy reading!

Lisa Guest

Executive 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.

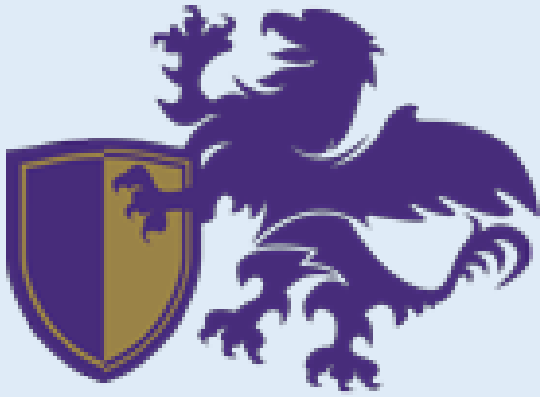
Proud Traditions

Wide Horizons

High Achievement

Farnborough Road, Castle Vale, Birmingham, B35 7JA

Phone number: 0121 675 9833 **Mail:** enquiries@chivenor-gst.org



Our Young Griffins this week:

Rec D: Lily

Rec F: Jua

Y1S: Adelaide

Y2K: Rhia

Y2W: Sophia

Y3P: Sierra

Y3W: Brandon

Y4B: Fatima

Y4C: Megan

Y5C: Frankie

Y5H: Lorraine

Y6O: A'lysha

Y6P: Corey

WE ARE SO
Proud
OF YOU

Our Reading Champions are:

Y1: Saskia

Y2: Annisa & Albie

Y3: Bannah & Shuaib

Y4: Pearl & Marlie

Y5: Ruby & Hope

Y6: Leo & Daniel

Top Track-its

Total number of Track-its
awarded so far this academic
year: 61,326!

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

1st: Y5 Curie—8162

2nd: Y6 Patel— 7765

3rd: Y3 Picasso—4991

Congratulations also to the top 5
track-it winners:

1) Anna—425

2) Joel—396

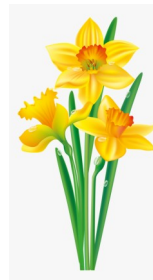
3) Ruth-Ann—383

4) Amaya—370

5) Willow—370

What will our Griffins be learning this half term?

*In Reception, the topic for this half term is 'People who help us'. They will use non-fiction books to discover interesting facts about firefighters, vets, police and dentists. They will become authors, creating their own non-fiction books about these people. In science, they will look at the effects of sugar on our teeth and making predictions and recording their findings. They will be going on a nature walk to discover signs of Spring and compare what happens in Spring to other seasons. In art, they will complete a range of observational drawings of Spring flowers. In maths, they will be thinking about measuring time, as well as height.



*In English, Y1 have been learning about Africa; listening to and reading 'Tinga Tinga Tales', role playing stories and writing them using story maps. They will be comparing Africa and the UK; the weather, cities and animals. In Maths, Y1 will be working on place value within 50 and begin to count in multiples of 10. In Science, they will be looking at animals, including humans, and having successfully labelled body parts and identified senses, they will be moving on to sort animals into categories and identifying animal habitats.

*Y2 are learning all about London. They are using DT lessons to make a carriage fit for the King! They are creating a non-chronological report in writing to give lots of facts and information about the Capital City and will be recreating the Great Fire of London using the Tudor Houses they have built- Fire extinguishers at the ready! Y2 are starting to learn all about multiplication and division in maths, which is supported by TTR. IN Science, they will be learning about electricity.

*Y3 are learning about light and dark in Science this half term. They have started reading 'Escape to Pompeii' which they will be using to write informal letters. This half terms topic is Romans; they will be learning about the Roman Empire, its impact on Britain and the legacy it left. In maths, Y3 will be learning about fractions; numerators and denominators and putting them in order. In ICT they are looking at data and charts including inputting data into software to create bar charts to show data.



*This half term, Y4 are exploring Ancient Egypt; looking at ancient civilisations and their achievements. In Maths, they will be exploring the perimeter of regular and irregular polygons, fractions, improper fractions and mixed numbers. In writing and reading, they are exploring the story 'The Butterfly Lion' and are writing a balanced argument as to why the lonely orphaned lion cub should stay in Africa or join the circus for a better life.

*In Creative Curriculum, Y5 are studying the Gold Rush, learning about rivers in North America and how gold was deposited through them. In Science, they are focussing on Geology, looking at different types of rocks and how they are eroded through time. In English, they are reading 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief', and have started writing a Greek God's blog- they are continuing this story through writing a diary entry and an alternative ending. In Maths, they are exploring fractions, decimals and percentages. In DT, they are making cowboy stew to complement the Gold Rush topic, using cooking skills to chop and make as well as taste test, plan and evaluate. In RE, we are looking at participating and willingness to lead through the lens of Christianity and Judaism.

*Our Y6 Griffins are building and developing their reading skills in practise for their upcoming SATs. They have started reading 'Explorer' which is linked to their Geography project where they are learning about the deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest and how and why it should be protected. In English, they are writing a recount of their trip to the Harry Potter Studios and in Science, they are learning about the human body and inheritance of genes, including the theory of evolution (Darwin)

Please look on Class Dojo for updates on what our Griffins are doing

Parent Workshops

We have had a great turnout from parents so far this academic year at our workshops and events. Our Griffins and Staff really enjoy parents visiting.



We have a number of DT workshops in the next few weeks so please look on Class Dojo for more details that will follow.

Together we are stronger in supporting our Griffins to be the best they can be.

Workshops coming up:

*Week beginning 11th March 2024

DT Easter Workshop Week

Sign up via ParentPay from Friday



Snapshot of Sport

We have taken part in a number of Trust and Spark Active Competitions including football, dodgeball and basketball. There are many more in the calendar including an Infant Agility Hub Competition that Chivenor will be hosting in a few weeks. Our Griffins have demonstrated our Chivenor Values of respect, tolerance and resilience and shown determination, perseverance and great sportsmanship throughout. We are so proud of all who have represented our school.

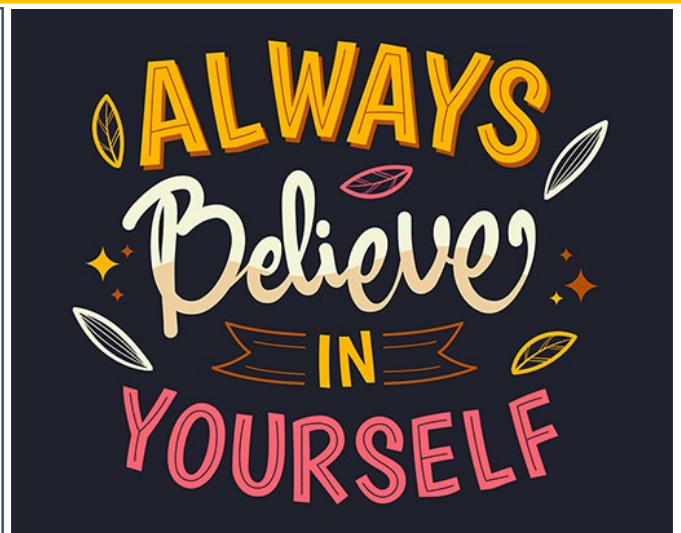
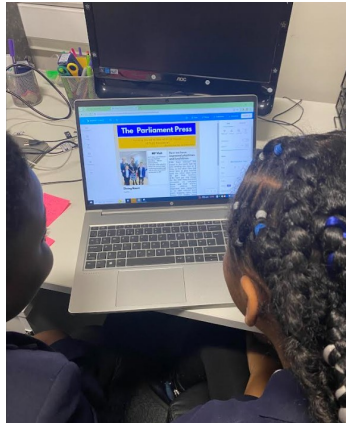


Just a reminder that Griffins are expected to wear PE kit on PE days. We have an increased number of Griffins not wearing kit and not being able to take part in PE. Thank you for your support with this.



Pupil Parliament

Pupil Parliament have had a massive impact over the last term including adding juice boxes and chocolate croissants to the items being sold in the tuckshop; organising for packed lunch and Griffins on dinners to be able to sit next to each other in the canteen and implementing Y5 and 6 having adult plates instead of trays at dinnertime. They are also working hard, alongside SLT, to redesign the school dining room to make it a more comfortable place to eat. Read more about their achievements and plans in the 'Parliament Press' – their new newsletter that will be out soon.



A visit from our local MP

Paulette Hamilton, MP for Birmingham and Erdington visited school on Friday. Paulette was impressed with our school; how hard our Griffins were working as she toured around school and the wonderful opportunities that we offer as a Trust. Paulette was asked some fabulous questions including 'What made you decide to go into politics?' and it was interesting to hear that she started her career as a nurse, never dreaming of becoming a politician but the opportunity arose and she took it. Living in the local area herself, makes her passionate about her constituents and our area.

Mrs Werrett explained about our very own 'Pupil Parliament' and Paulette was interested in learning about the ministers for the different areas we have in school. She met our Ministers for Art and Culture.



- *Democracy
- *The rule of law
- *Individual liberty
- *Mutual respect
- *Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Paulette emphasised that with a little determination and hard work, we can do anything we put our minds to.

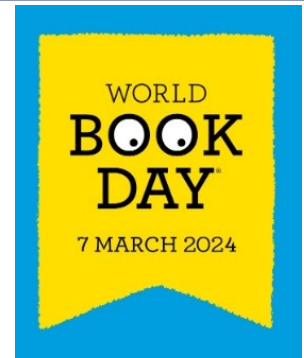
We look forward to opportunities to visit the Houses of Parliament to see where Paulette works and plan to host drop in surgeries in the not so distant future.

World Book Day: Thursday 7th March 2024

As part of the Griffin Schools Trust, we are proud of our traditions. We are therefore pleased to announce to our young Griffins that this year we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 7th March.

We are inviting all children to dress up as their favourite book character e.g. The Gruffalo, Little Red Riding Hood, Stick Man or Gangster Granny. As a Trust, we understand the cost of living difficulties and we suggest costumes are made at home, such as a headband or badge to wear. Please remember that children will still need to wear suitable shoes for school and will need their coats as usual as they will still be going outside to play.

We have lots of lovely activities planned but are keeping them as a surprise for World Book Day! Watch this space!



Partnerships with the Police

PCSO Duncan Long visited a number of classes during Internet Safety Day. He also delivered two parent workshops– thank you to those who attended.



It was concerning how many of our Griffins access apps, for example, Whatsapp, Snapchat and chat rooms on Roblox. We cannot stress enough how important it is to monitor your children using apps– especially if they are connected to the internet.

*Help us, help
you, keep our
Griffins safe*



Book Swap

Our first ever book swap was a huge success! Our Griffins really enjoyed choosing their books and swapping them with each other. We had a range of beautiful books brought in and our Griffins were really excited about reading and taking their new books home.

Reading is high on our agenda this year so it was lovely to see our Griffins so enthusiastic about reading.



TODAY
reader
tomorrow
A LEADER

*The more
that you READ,
the more things
you will know.
The more that you
LEARN, the more
places you'll GO.*





The winning classes for last week are...

KS1 Attendance Champions:

2W

95.19%



KS2 Attendance Champions:

3W

99.09%



Attendance Matters



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!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

The winning class for Spring term

1 is...

3P

Well Done! 94.37%

Do you need further support with 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.

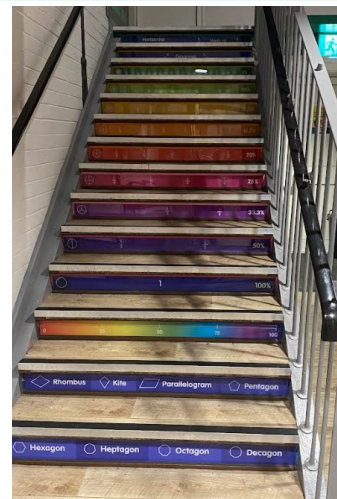
Just a gentle reminder that school finishes at 3:15pm and after school clubs finish at 4:15pm. Parents, please don't be late!

School Houses



School Improvements

Over the half term holidays, there were a number of changes to our school environment. We strive to make our school both welcoming and vibrant and try to utilise every space to encourage learning. We now have a maths and a reading staircase; have revamped our Pupil Leadership Team board to show not only the Ministers, but the impact they have had and have given our Griffins a sneak preview of the new houses that will be revealed on Founders Day! You may also have noticed our British Values outside the Foyer and our new Library area has started to take shape.

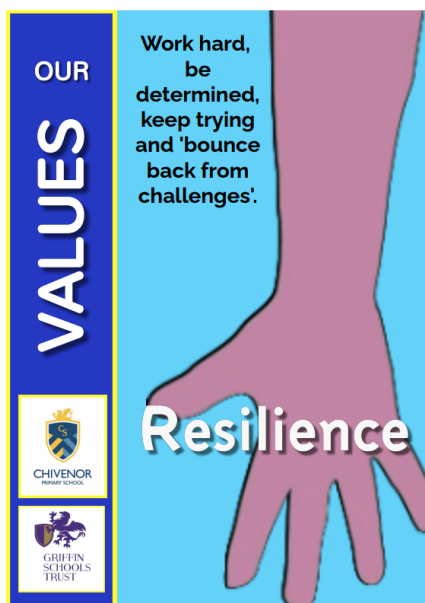


A number of visitors in recent weeks have commented on how striking our school is and how it is 'one of a kind' - we are very proud of it and we hope our Griffins and their parents are too.

We look forward to showing our new areas during Parents Evening on 6th March 2024.

How are you showing this half term's School Value at home?

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



Handle with care

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

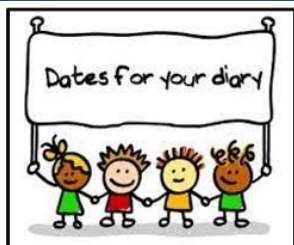
I understand that you are not always able to share details and that's okay. If your child is coming into school after a difficult night, morning or weekend, please email me 'Handle with care' and your child's name and class to the email: safeguarding@chivenor-gst.org

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!





- * Friday 1st March 2024: Founders Day
- * Monday 4th March 2024: Griffin Science Symposium Week begins
- * Tuesday 5th March 2024: Y6 Rainforest Explorer Day
- * Wednesday 6th March 2024: Y4 trip to 'The Lion King' London
- * Wednesday 6th March 2024: Parents Evening (Y4 date to be shared separately)
- * Thursday 7th March 2024: World Book Day
- * Monday 11th March 2024: DT Easter Workshop Week (more details to follow)
- * Friday 15th March 2024: Red Nose Day
- * Wednesday 20th March 2024: Easter bonnet competition– KS1 & Easter Egg Competition– KS2 (more details to follow)
- * Thursday 21st March 2024: Y4 visit to Shakespeare's House, Stratford
- * Friday 22nd March 2024: Shakespeare Day (More details to follow)
- * Friday 22nd March 2024: Break up for Easter—2pm finish



ParentPay



ClassDojo



Remember to follow us on Twitter
@ChivenorP

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



Term Dates - 2023/24

Autumn Term 1

Starts: Tuesday 5th September 2023
Finishes: Thursday 26th October 2023
Half Term holiday: 27/10/23 - 03/11/23

Autumn Term 2:

Starts: Monday 6th November 2023
Finishes: Thursday 21st December 2023
Christmas holiday: 21/12/23 - 05/01/24

Spring Term 1:

Starts: Monday 8th January 2024
Finishes: Friday 9th February 2024
Half Term holiday: 12/02/24 - 16/02/24

Spring Term 2:

Starts: Monday 19th February 2024
Finishes: Friday 22nd March 2024
Easter holiday: 25/03/24 - 05/04/24

Summer Term 1:

Starts: Monday 8th April 2024
Finishes: Friday 24th May 2024
Half Term holiday: 27/05/24 - 31/06/24

Summer Term 2:

Starts: Tuesday 4th June 2024
Finishes: Friday 19th July 2024

Summer Holiday:

starts on Monday 22nd July 2024

Survivors of Domestic Violence

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:

Compasspathwaysdap@compass-support.org.uk

0121-748-8111

 **Compass Support**
Part of The Pioneer Group

Proud Traditions

Wide Horizons

High Achievement

Farnborough Road, Castle Vale, Birmingham, B35 7JA

Phone number: 0121 675 9833 **Mail:** enquiries@chivenor-gst.org



Join us with your year 3 child for Breakfast



To celebrate one of
our Proud Traditions
The annual
Griffin Schools Trust
Founders Day on Friday
1st March at 8:45am



Places are limited to
1 adult per child.
Sign up via Parent
Pay by Monday 26th
February

Founders Day

We are so excited for Founders Day on Friday 1st March 2024. A day where we reflect and celebrate the Griffin Schools Trust and all we have achieved as both individual schools and as a family of schools. We have a number of events over the course of the day; we look forward to welcoming lots of parents and visitors in and also giving back to our community.



Litter picking in our local area

Afternoon Tea



FRIDAY 1ST MARCH

Join your Year 5 child to
celebrate one of our Proud
Traditions.

The annual Griffin
Schools Trust Founders
Day



Cake 2:30pm
Biscuits
Tea and Coffee

Places limited to 1 adult per child.
Please sign up via Parent Pay by
Monday 26th February.



FOUNDERS DAY Lunch

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN YOUR YEAR 2
CHILD FOR LUNCH AT 12:00 TO
CELEBRATE OUR PROUD TRADITION
FOUNDERS DAY

Thursday 29th February 2 Knight
Friday 1st March 2 Webber

Please sign up via Parent Pay by Monday 26th February
Places are limited to 1 adult per child



Singing at Phoenix Court Residential
Home

Food Bank Collection

Founders Day Plans 2024

Proud Traditions

Wide Horizons

High Achievement

Farnborough Road, Castle Vale, Birmingham, B35 7JA