



GRIFFE FIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

January 2017
NEWSLETTER



STAFF NEWS-Miss Currie's baby has arrived. Baby Oliver arrived safely and we are looking forward to meeting him very soon.

We would like to wish all our families a very happy and healthy New Year!

THE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE was a great success. Many thanks to FOG for organising this event and thank you to staff, children and parents who gave their time to run stalls. We raised over £2500. FOG are currently raising money to help school install the remaining new interactive white boards as well as supporting various trips and visitors for children throughout school.

The next FOG meeting is on Wednesday 11 January at 7pm at school-all welcome.

If you do have any unwanted artificial Christmas trees, lights and/or large decorations, FOG would be grateful if you could donate them to school so we can decorate Santa's grotto in the future.

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES

19 DECEMBER 2016

Thank you to the parents who nominated parents for election on the school governing body. There were 2 nominations for 2 vacancies so the candidates will automatically become parent governors:

Mrs Lakhy Dhillon

Mr John Reaveley

They will join the Board of Governors

School Money System

Thank you to all parents who have been using our new online system to pay for school dinners and trips/events. We hope this is proving more convenient for you.

School dinners should still be paid for weekly, in advance, please. The amount shown as owing will only take into account dinners your child has already had. However, this amount can be changed on the right hand side of the payment screen and once paid, will then show as a credit which will reduce daily as each meal is taken.

Before Christmas Amanda Solloway, Member of Parliament for Derby North, ran a competition to design her official Christmas card. One of our Year 4 pupils was the winner of the poetry part of the competition and his poem featured in all her Christmas cards. She also came to school to congratulate him. Well done!

OUR SCHOOL NEIGHBOURS ARE INCREDIBLY PATIENT. It must however be so, so frustrating to be unable to get onto or off your own drive because of inconsiderate parking three times a day! Mornings, after school and now at lunchtime too! School staff do need to enter and exit the car park at lunchtimes and haven't been able to because of bad parking. Please, parents, you wouldn't like this yourself – please do your bit towards keeping our good relationship with our neighbours. Thank you.

CHILDREN SHOULD BE ON THE PLAYGROUND AT 8.50am each morning so that they can start the learning day unrushed, happy and relaxed with the rest of the class. We think that it is important that children learn to be both well organised and independent. The whistle goes at 8.55am and children should be lined up by then. Also attendance is incredibly important! Children do not make good progress when their attendance is poor, they miss 'chunks' of learning and the continuity of learning is completely lost. Even missing just 5-10mins in the morning can have a negative impact on education. Obviously children are ill occasionally but encouraging and praising a positive attitude to attendance can be very powerful. 207 of our pupils achieved 100% attendance for the Autumn Term, well done and thank you, a fantastic achievement.



We have a new, very marvellous website! We hope you find it useful, have a look. ☺



Please see the DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR overleaf as we have many opportunities for you to be involved in the life of the school and your child's education.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

'Family Assemblies' are held at 9.05am every Friday. Families and Friends of the school are always welcome. Presentations, such as Merit Awards, are made at Family Assemblies.

Wednesday 11 January	FOG meeting 7pm at school ALL WELCOME (change of date)
Tuesday 17 January	Bedtime Story Evening for Reception (change of date)
Friday 20 January	Class 3M assembly
Monday 23 January	INSET 2 school closed for children
Thursday 26 January	Film Night
Friday 27 January	Year 6 Assembly-Chinese New Year
Friday 10 February	2R Class Assembly
Friday 10 February	Break up (at the normal time) for half term Premier Sport holiday club
Monday 20 February	Back to school
Friday 24 February	Spring Disco 6-7.15pm
Monday 6 March	Science and Engineering week
Wednesday 8 March	SATs meeting for Y2 and Y6 parents (meeting for parents only)
Friday 10 March	3R Class Assembly
Wednesday 15 March	Parents' Evening
Thursday 16 March	Parents' Evening
Friday 17 March	2W Class Assembly
Monday 20 March	Class (group) photos (with continue into Tuesday 21st March)
Friday 24 March	5M Class Assembly
Friday 31 March	1C Class Assembly
Tuesday 4 April	RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) meeting 5pm, <u>parents only</u>
Thursday 6 April	Easter Bingo (FOG family event)
Friday 7 April	Year 1 Easter Assembly
Friday 7 April	Break up for Easter at the normal time.

Snowy, cold weather may be on the way soon! (Or may be not!) The decision to close is made between 7-7.10am. We then swoop into action to contact Capital FM and Radio Derby, try to send you a text message and change the answer machine message (Option 4). Please don't call the school answer machine before 7.30am as we need the line free to be able to change the message. If we can't access the line we can't change the message. We will only close the school if there is no other option.

