



# GRIFFE FIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

September 2018

NEWSLETTER



**WELCOME TO NEW CHILDREN** – We hope all our families have had a lovely summer break. It is great to be back at school and we are looking forward to another interesting and exciting year. ☺

**STAFF NEWS**– We would like to welcome Mrs Ellis to our teaching team.

Parent Helpers are a very valuable and appreciated part of school life. If you have 1 or 2 hours a week to spare we would love your help and support either in or outside the classroom, subject to a small safeguarding check. Please return the slip on the reverse of the newsletter if you are able to help. Thank you.

 **OUR HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT** sets out our high expectations of the children, which we are sure that parents share. You will find the Home School Agreement inside the Reading Diary, please go through it carefully with your child/ren. We want to work together with parents to create a really strong partnership. Thank you.





Back in July our School Council organised a sponsored walk. We would like to say a HUGE thank you to our amazing school community as we raised £2316.69, for MacMillan. A representative from MacMillan visited the school and thanked the children, during an assembly, she was truly grateful.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL** will be celebrated in school on Fri 5th October at 9.05am followed by a **MACMILLAN CANCER RELIEF COFFEE MORNING**. Year 5 will lead the Harvest Assembly and the whole school will contribute in song. We hope that each family will feel able to donate a Harvest Basket (or other produce), we will be supporting the Padley Centre, and cakes for the Coffee Morning as a way of sharing what we have with others. Please send in harvest donations on Wednesday and Thursday of that week and cake donations on the Friday. The children may bring in 50p to buy an extra snack for breaktime on Friday 5th Oct. Thank you for your support.



**PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE** name **ALL** school uniform, including PE kits and coats. If it is named it is much easier for us to reunite you with it. Don't forget their lunch box, clearly labelled with their name and current class.



Reading is a whole school focus, again, on our School Development Plan. We do need parents support and engagement to help our children improve, develop and apply their reading skills. All children in school need to be heard read at home. I know lives are busy but time spent reading with your child is invaluable for their

development and educational success. Even when your child is a fluent reader they still need to be heard read to improve their understanding of language, genre, plot and style. Parents do tell us that time is an issue, we have significantly reduced the amount of homework expected in most year groups. Most year groups will only have reading, spellings and maths skills (number bonds, x tables, addition etc) as their weekly homework, there will also be the occasional 'creative' piece.

*The next FOG meeting will be Wednesday 19th September at 7pm. This is the AGM followed by a planning meeting. We will be thinking about whole school events for families and children to enjoy. Please come along, we are a friendly group, and new ideas are always welcome.*

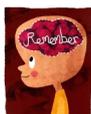
Wearing the correct school uniform is very important. Our school colours are red or navy blue. Also children are to wear sensible school shoes, not trainers. Any 'fashion' jewellery is not allowed and children should not wear nail varnish or make-up for school. Extreme hairstyles are not allowed, including bright or unnatural colours, shaved heads, or patterns/lines shaved into hair. Full details and information can be found in the school brochure on the school website.

**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.

Wed 19th Sept	FOG meeting and AGM 7pm at school –all welcome
Tues 25th Sept	Reception Parent Meeting 2.30pm (The Curriculum)
Tues 2nd Oct	Reception Parent Meeting 2.30pm (Phonics and Reading)
Fri 5th October	9am Harvest Assembly led by Y5 followed by our Macmillan coffee morning (9.30am ish)
Mon 8th Oct	Y5/Y6 Reading workshops for parents ~ details to follow
Mon 8th Oct	Family and individual photos
Tues 9th Oct	Family and individual photos
Tues 9th Oct	Y2/Y4 Reading workshops for parents ~ details to follow
Wed 10th Oct	Y1/Y3 Reading workshops for parents ~ details to follow
Fri 12th Oct	6W Class Assembly
Mon 15th Oct	INSET 1—school closed to children
Fri 26th Oct	Diwali Assembly led by Year 3 Break up for half term (normal time)
Mon 5th Nov	Autumn 2 term starts
Tue 6th Wed 7th Nov	Parents’ Evenings



**Please let us know if any of your contact details have changed including address, telephone number and mobiles.**

96-100% is classed as good attendance
91-95% child at risk of underachievement
85-90% serious risk of underachievement
Below 85% serious concern and the local authority Education Welfare Officer (EWO) is involved.

Attendance is very important and we pride ourselves on being a ‘GREEN’ attendance school. An attendance figure was reported on the end of year report in Key Stage 1 and 2. The table, to the left, will help you interpret this information. Punctuality is also important, the day starts promptly at 8.55am and children should be on the

playground at around 8.50am to ensure a calm, relaxed start.



### Parent Helper Offer

I would like my child’s teacher to approach me as I have some time to help in school.

Child’s name .....

Class .....