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## News & Updates

It has already been such a busy Spring Term and it's been brilliant to see our children so enthusiastic about their learning, as always! Our Curriculum Spotlight is History and across school our children are learning about dinosaurs, castles and knights, the Stone Age, Romans, Tudors and World War 2. We still teach our broad range of curriculum subjects; we simply have a spotlight on one subject each term. We have also introduced our new History Curriculum Leaders in Y5 and Y6 who will be helping Mrs Nicholson to monitor the teaching and learning of this subject across school. They have already visited each class and spoken to a selection of children about their history learning so far

Our focus value for this term is *inspiration*. We have all been inspired by the community spirit and I would like to say a big thank you to Paul Hugill from Daniel's Kitchen who has been sharing food donations with our community and working in collaboration with our school. We really appreciate it and is such a great example of how we all help each other.

Last week, Mrs Coy and Miss Milson were invited to the Houses of Parliament to receive the British Council International School Award 2024-2027. It was amazing to be able to share what we do at Grimoldby with schools from all over England. Our MP, Victoria Atkins, met us and congratulated our school too for our outstanding

development of the international dimension in the curriculum.

As part of our international school's work, we are excited to be taking 15 of our Year 6 children to Elblag in Poland in June. This visit will be fully funded through the DFE Turing Scheme.

Thank you for continuing to support our school X (Twitter) accounts - we try to update them as regularly as possible so that you can see what the children are doing in school. Please follow [@grimoldbyschool](https://twitter.com/grimoldbyschool) if you don't already. It is also a quick way for us to get messages out to our school community.

Please also remember to get in touch with us if you have any questions about your child's learning or anything else related to their education. You can reach us via [enquiries@grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk) or call the main office on 01507 327393.

The last day of term is Friday 14<sup>th</sup> of February and school will reopen again on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February, for the second half of the Spring Term.

## Attendance





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Your child's attendance is a priority in our school, and it is closely monitored on a daily, weekly and half termly basis. Good attendance and punctuality are essential for good academic achievement, good social development and good mental health. Being in school every day is so important for your child's future, and this is why we monitor it so closely.

In August 2024, the Department for Education published the following guidance, which all schools have to follow and has been designed to help schools and local authorities maintain high levels of attendance - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>

The Local Authority has produced the following attendance descriptions, which we follow at our school:

Boundary	Description
95-100%	As expected
91-94%	At risk of persistent absence
80-90%	Persistent absence
51-79%	At risk of severe absence
<=50%	Severe absence

**At our school, we expect 96% attendance from all our children.**

We will write to you after our monthly attendance monitoring if your child's attendance is below 95%. This is to inform you and also so that we can work together to improve your child's attendance. We also appreciate every child is unique and there

can be many reasons why attendance isn't where it should be. If you are asked to attend an attendance panel meeting, this is so we can work together to support you to make an improvement.

A copy of our school attendance policy can also be found on our website on the Policies page.

Please can I remind all parents that term time holidays will not be approved? All children need to be in school: parents will receive a fixed penalty notice warning letter in conjunction with the Local Authority guidance if a term-time holiday is taken and you will receive a fine.

### **What To Do If Your Child Is Unwell**

The best advice we can give you is to check the NHS website about poorly children attending school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

If you're still unsure, contact us and we will help however we can. We know it's difficult to decide if your child is too poorly for school, but please do not keep them off with a minor cough or cold.

If your child *is* too poorly to attend school, please contact the school office as soon as possible because we need to know where they are for safeguarding purposes. If we do not hear from you by 09:30 each morning, we will contact you. Please also inform us of your child's symptoms as we do keep a record of illnesses effecting our school.



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## Drop-In & SHARE Events

We'll be having Drop-Ins for you to come and look through your child's books and their learning environment straight after school during the last week of term. These are on the Dates For The Diary (blue box) on the last page of this newsletter and on the public school calendar (found on our website). Please remember this is a time to look at your child's work and classroom environment with your child and *not* for a meeting with class teachers.

Parents with children in Reception – Year 6 will also have the opportunity to come to a Maths SHARE! This is your chance to participate in part of a Maths lesson with your child and get to see just how hard they work in school! Parents with children in Nursery are invited to 'stay and play'. Again, all the dates and times for these are below.

Parents' Evenings will also be held before the Easter break, and we will inform you as soon as our booking system is open.

## Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week takes place next week and we'll be discussing the importance of this in assemblies and in class. The theme for this year is '*Know Yourself. Grow Yourself.*'

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February, we'll be having EXPRESS YOURSELF DAY whereby children and staff can come to school however they wish. It might be wearing their favourite colour, wearing their favourite clothing or just wearing something they are longing to have an occasion to wear! We can't wait to see how everyone chooses to express themselves. We'd love our parents to join in too. Please come dressed to express yourself for drop off and collection!

## Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February is the annual Safer Internet Day whereby we focus on online safety. Of course, we focus on this lots throughout the academic year and – fortunately – our children know how to protect themselves online quite well.

Watch out on X to see what your child does to celebrate Safer Internet Day and, in case you didn't know, do check out our page for parents all about Online Safety and supporting their child:

<https://www.grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk/online-safety/>

## How Safe is Whatsapp for Children – NSPCC

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. Although rated 16+, all that is required is a phone number. All it takes is one child in a class to be on WhatsApp, and all the others will wish



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to join. This can lead to increased vulnerabilities for child users. The NSPCC has released its own analysis about the dangers of the app. Click on the link below for further information all parents should be aware of:

[Is WhatsApp safe for my child? | NSPCC](#)

## Safeguarding

It is really important to remind you that **safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility**, and it is so important that our entire school community works together to achieve this.

Our Safeguarding Team consists of: Antonia Coy (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Becky Taylor (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead) Sophie Waters (SENDCo) and Caroline Jaines (Family Support Worker).

Please contact a member of our Safeguarding Team, in school, if you have a concern or you can call Lincolnshire Children's Services on 01522 782111 or 01522 782333 (out of hours). You can also contact the NSPCC Helpline if you are worried about a child on 0808 800 5000 or email [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk).

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Y3 & Y4 Maths Parent Share 2.15 – 3pm
4 <sup>th</sup> February	FrOGS Pre-loved uniform sale 2.30 – 3.30pm
6 <sup>th</sup> February	Y2, Y5 & Y6 NSPCC Workshops
6 <sup>th</sup> February	Y5 & Y6 Maths Parent Share 2.15 – 3pm
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Express Yourself Day
7 <sup>th</sup> February	NSPCC Number Day
10 <sup>th</sup> February	KS2 Drop-In 3.15 – 3.45pm
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
12 <sup>th</sup> February	Y2 visit to Lincoln Castle
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Young Voices Concert at Sheffield Arena
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception and KS1 Drop-In 3.15 – 3.45pm
14 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of term
24 <sup>th</sup> February	First day of term
24 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception Maths Parent Share 2.30 – 3pm
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Nursery Parent Stay and Play 11am
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Y1 & Y2 Maths Parent Share 2.15 – 3pm
27 <sup>th</sup> February	Nursery Parent Stay and Play 11am
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Dentist workshops whole school
28 <sup>th</sup> February	FrOGS Disco (after school)
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Y5 STEM Day at Louth Academy
4 <sup>th</sup> March	FrOGS meeting 9 – 10am
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Neurodiversity Celebration Week
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Coffee Morning 9 – 10am with Mrs Waters and Mrs Jaines
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Consultations 3.30 – 5.30pm
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Consultations 3.30 – 5.30pm
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3 visit Back to Bear
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Y6 visit Eden Camp
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	FrOGS Easter Bingo 3.30pm
4 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of term
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	First day of term
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs Week
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Last day of term
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	First day of term
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Y4 Multiplication Check
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 Phonics Screening
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Last day of term