



January 2024

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! The focus for this term's projects is History and class projects include dinosaurs, castles and knights, the Stone Age, Romans, Tudors and World War 2. Our focus value for this term is unity.

We have been so lucky to have two inspirational authors visit our children this January – Jenny McLachlan for our KS2 children and Bethany Walker for our KS1 and Reception children.

We are also so proud of the 41 children in KS2 who took part in the Young Voices concert at Sheffield Arena this term. It was such an incredible experience to be part of a choir of 5,000 children singing to an audience. Thank you to all the parents who supported this event and to Miss Milson for dedicating so much of her time to organising this. It was amazing!

Last week, we welcomed teachers and leaders from other schools to see our 'Reading for Pleasure' ethos in action. Our children were amazing, and it was fantastic to showcase all the work we have been doing to continue to ensure all our children love reading.

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 or call the main office on 01507 327393. Please note that our school email address has changed if you haven't used it for a while!

The last day of term is Friday 9th of February and school will reopen again on Monday 19th February, for the second half of the Spring Term.

Attendance



Your child's attendance is a priority in our school and it is closely monitored on a daily, weekly and half termly basis. Good



January 2024

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 September 2022, 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:

School Attendance - boundaries and description	
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 this expectation. 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.

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 next week. 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 for you to subscribe to). Please remember this is a time to look at your child's work and classroom with your child and *not* for a meeting with class teachers.

After half term, parents with children in Years 1 – 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 Reception are invited to join in with a letter formation lesson and parents with children in Nursery are invited to 'stay and play'.



January 2024

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 'My voice matters'.

On Friday 9th 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 will also be taking part in a Winter Wellbeing Walk – please can all children bring a pair of wellies or some old shoes they can change into for this walk (it might be muddy)?

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 6th 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 regularly updated page for parents all about Online Safety and supporting their child:

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

Behaviour Policy

We have recently updated our Behaviour Policy. Whilst we have added a lot of updates to the policy to ensure it is in line with guidelines in England, the main focus of everyone being the best that they can be has not changed. Please take the time to read this policy following this link:

<https://www.grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk/policies/>.

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 Brooks (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Stuart Spendlow (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead) Becky Taylor (Senior Teacher) and Caroline Jaines (Family Support Worker).



January 2024

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.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

5 th February	Rec & KS1 Parent Drop-In 15.15 – 15.45pm
5 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
6 th February	KS2 Parent Drop-In 15.15 – 15.45pm
6 th February	Safer Internet Day
8 th February	Frogs Uniform Sale
9 th February	Express Yourself Day
9 th February	Winter Wellbeing Walk
9 th February	Y2 Medieval Banquet
9 th February	Last day of term
19 th February	First day of term
22 nd February	Reception Parent Share 14.30 – 15.00pm
24 th February	Y5 visit Gainsborough Old Hall
26 th February	Nursery Stay and Play 11-11.30am
27 th February	Y3 visit Back to Bear
29 th February	FrOGS Sponsored Leap Year Leap
1 st March	Yr 6 Parent Share 14.30 – 15.00pm
4 th March	Yr 5 Parent Share 14.30 – 15.00pm
6 th March	Y1 Parent Share 14.30 – 15.00pm
7 th March	Y4 Parent Share 14.30 – 15.00pm
8 th March	Y2 Parent Share 14.30 – 15.00pm
14 th March	Basketball Wow Day
15 th March	Y3 Parent Share 14.30 – 15.00pm
19 th March	Parents Evening
20 th March	Parents Evening
25 th March	Y6 PGL (3 days)
26 th March	FrOGS Easter Bingo
28 th March	Last day of term
16 th April	First day of term
6 th May	Bank Holiday
13 th May	Y6 SATs Week
24 th May	Last day of term
3 rd June	First day of term
3 rd June	Y4 Multiplication Check
10 th June	Y1 Phonics Screening
19 th July	Last day of term