



Friday Flyer

Friday 24th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been another lovely week in both schools. It was a pity that the football tournament for some of our Duncton children was cancelled due to the wet weather, but we hope it will be reorganised soon. I have enjoyed popping into phonics lessons this week at Graffham and have seen some excellent learning from the children. It is always such a pleasure, as a Headteacher, to watch talented teachers deliver high-quality lessons. I have also been really impressed with the work and learning of the children at Duncton and I'll be popping into their lessons next week!

We have linked our Christian values (Hope, friendship, kindness, respect and responsibility) to Bible stories and begun discussing these in collective worship. This week we focused on the story of Ruth and Naomi and how this links to friendship. Our children have a very good understanding of what makes a good friend, and this is really evident in their lovely relationships with each other.

I would like to wish you all a very happy and relaxing weekend.

Charles Beckerson

Next Week		
Monday 27 th January	Year 6 Bikeability WEEK	
Wednesday 29 th January	Hedgehog visit to Graffham with Saint Francis Animal Care	
Future Dates		
Mon 17 th – Fri 21 st February	HALF TERM	
Thursday 27 th February	Friends of Graffham and Duncton AGM	Graffham school 9am
Thursday 27 th February	Bags of Support Collection Day	
Wednesday 12 th March	Year 6 Residential	
Monday 17 th March	INSET DAY	
Tuesday 18 th March	Parent Teacher Consultations Years R&1 - Wren/Mrs Wethered (1.30-4.30pm) Years 1 & 2 - Kingfisher/Mr Lloyd (1.30-4.30pm) Years 4 & 6 - (3.30 - 6pm) Mrs Harris and Ms Bassett	Bookings will open <i>after half term</i> . Please sign up via the school office from 24 th February.
Thursday 20 th March	Parent Teacher Consultations Years R&1 - Wren/Mrs Wethered (3.45-6pm) Years 1 & 2 - Kingfisher/Mr Lloyd (3.30-6pm) Years 3 & 5 - (3.30 - 6pm) Miss Woods and Ms Bassett	Bookings will open <i>after half term</i> . Please sign up via the school office from 24 th February.
Thursday 22 nd May	Year 5 and 6 Visit to Tangmere Aviation Museum	Information to follow
Monday 23 rd June	INSET DAY	

*New dates/additions are in GREEN

NOTICES

- **Woodland @ Graffham** - Please could we ask everyone to refrain from walking through/playing in the woodland at the front of Graffham school until further notice. We need to protect this area so we can use it in the Spring and have noticed the grass and some new plants being trampled on. Please enjoy the snowdrops from afar until further notice. We have moved the bench onto the path if you would like to use it after school.



Wren Class Year R and 1

This week in Wren class we have had fun outside in Wild Wednesday making hairstyles in nature for our funny masks. It was such fun and the children were so creative when they placed their masks in all sorts of places outdoors! We've also been finishing off painting our fossils as they were ready out of our school kiln and are now looking beautiful! Children have also been learning a lot about freezing and melting in Science and were really excited about freezing our treasures in nature but also the mammals that we've been learning about. We were asking the children to be real scientists and think how they could melt the ice quickly. They came up with some brilliant ideas!



Kingfishers Year 1 and 2

In Kingfisher class this week the children have shown a real interest in their learning about deserts. We've investigated what makes The Kalahari Desert different to Graffham. Turns out, quite a lot! Year 2 showed a real desire to look after their local environment and were very conscientious in their litter picking on Wednesday, while Year 1 have continued to wow us with their fantastic phonics learning and with some of the beautiful art they are creating with Miss Kenway.



Kestrel Class Year 3 and 4

Our class report this week is written by Sophie and Aurelia. We have been playing musical instruments relating to an animal movement, we have also listened to a piece of music called the carnival of animals. In P.E we did movements of different animals like a lion and an elephant; we have also been doing symmetrical and Asymmetrical shapes with our P.E teacher Joe. For D.T we are researching Warburtons history and how bread is made, we taste tested 6 different breads and recorded our findings.



Peregrine Class Year 5 and 6

This week in our PE class we learnt about the Lambeth Walk, a dance from WW2, creating our own versions. We started reading Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll, this is a story about two children who were evacuated from London to Devon.

Ben, Evie, Myla and Rosie visited Fittleworth Primary School to represent our School Council with other schools in the Rother Valley. The focus was about British Values, such as democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance. We discussed Wastebusters an initiative to support the environment and climate change. We had a great morning and enjoyed talking to people about different ideas.

Sadly, the football was cancelled because of the weather. It is rearranged for Friday 28th February.

In maths we have worked on fractions. In English we discussed Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement. The third Monday in January is 'Martin Luther King Day'.

A great week with lots of new opportunities.

By Evie and Noah D in Year 6



Information from our SENDCo Callie Reid

I am writing to you from Reaching Families to let you know about the services that we can offer to parents and carers.

Who are Reaching Families?

Reaching Families is a parent-carer led charity that supports parents and families of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in West Sussex. We do this through a number of services including the delivery of information, training and peer support. You can find out more about us and details of all of our services on our website here- <https://reachingfamilies.org.uk/>

We have recently increased our training delivery and support groups and have a wide range of free workshops, courses and groups that some of your families may find helpful. I have attached our current flyers but I wanted to let you know about our Umbrellas parent/carers support group in Shoreham.

What is Umbrellas?

Support from fellow parent-carers is one of the most effective ways in which parents and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities build resilience and emotional wellbeing. Parents also tell us their most valuable source of information, support and advice is other parent-carers.

To help parents build networks of mutual support we currently run seven parent support groups in Shoreham, Burgess Hill, Horsham, Littlehampton, Chichester, Worthing, and online via Zoom. Known as Umbrellas, our groups provide an informative, supportive, relaxed and non-judgmental environment within which parents can swap life experiences, share hints and tips, seek advice and share information and resources.

Here is a link to a short animation explaining everything we offer: <https://youtu.be/xuZkTgsRr5U>

- Factsheets - [Reaching Families Fact Sheets](#)
- Animations - [Reaching Families Animations](#)
- Training - [Reaching Families Training](#)
- Benefits Advice Service - [Reaching Families Benefits Advice Service](#)
- Befriending - [Reaching Families Face-2-Face](#)
- Umbrellas Support Groups - [Reaching Families Umbrellas Parent Support Group](#)
- NDP Navigation Service - [Reaching Families NDP Navigation Service](#)
- Facebook Group - [Reaching Families Facebook Group](#)

LEGO Club at Duncton

A super session in Brilliant Bricks club this week! In keeping with our monthly theme of Spectacular Space and the alignment of all the planets this week, the children were tasked with building their own planets. What wonderful ideas the children came up with! Edith and Elizabeth chose to build Earth, whereas Maud opted to build a desert wasteland. Pete chose a pink and purple gas planet, Sunny a very colourful planet whilst George and Alfred chose metal metropolis's! Some brilliant building by all! Well done!!



FGD News...

Our AGM has been set for 27th February. Please pop this date in your diary. Everyone is welcome – Please come along if you can.

Remember we have Second hand Uniform for sale at both schools. We also have a few wellies in Graffham now too, so grab yourself a bargain & help support FGD.



Cake Raffle



Graffham was treated with these indulgent treats this morning. A BIG thank you to Lucy Bingham (& Ethel in Year 2) for baking for us this week.

The lucky winner taking them home today was Evie (Year 2). Well done Evie!



At Duncton we have had a visit from Giggles the caterpillar today, thank you very much for Angie (Imogen Y4 and Evie Y6) for bringing the cake in today.

Our lucky winner who will be enjoying this cake over the weekend is Myla who also has a birthday tomorrow and is going 11. 😊

Reverend Vivien writes:

Today I told another story that shows we can be friends with somebody who is different from us. Naomi came from a country called Judah. As there was no food in Naomi's country, she and her husband and two sons went to live in a foreign country called Moab. It was very different in Moab. There was food,

but the people worshipped different gods, so it was strange. Very sadly Naomi's husband died. Her two sons married two girls from Moab. One called Orpah, the other called Ruth. Very sadly again, her two sons died as well. So, of the little family which left Judah, just Naomi was left. Naomi decided to go back home to Judah. She told her son's wives, 'Stay in your home country, Moab, where you might get married again. Orpah did. But Ruth wouldn't leave Naomi. She said, 'I'm coming with you Naomi'.

Ruth told Naomi,
Where you go, I will go
And where you stay, I will stay.
Your people will be my people
And your God my God.
Ruth 1.16

It was very generous and kind of Ruth to do this. Ruth and Naomi were really different people. Ruth was young. Naomi was old. Ruth came from Moab. Naomi came from Judah. Ruth worshipped different gods to Naomi. But Ruth still went to Naomi's country with her, and looked after her there, and worshipped the same God as Naomi. They became friends. And because of their friendship, very good things happened. One day, Ruth would become the great granny of King David!

We said a little rhyme, as if we were Naomi.

'Ruth is my best friend, my best friend, my best friend
Ruth is my best friend, she's always there for me!
And then we said it again using the name of our own best friend,
and finally using Jesus' name, who is a friend for us all.