

Friday 14th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of this half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that has been achieved and to thank you for your continued support. Our vision and hope for the children to *Live life in all its fullness* is at the heart of everything we do, and it has been wonderful to see the children embracing their learning with curiosity, creativity, and kindness. Across both Graffham and Duncton, we have seen children flourish not just academically, but socially and personally, strengthening friendships, deepening their understanding, and showing care for one another and the world around them. Just yesterday, I had the pleasure of attending a football tournament with our Duncton girls' team and watched them play three excellent games – losing their first but then, after finding their feet, winning one and drawing the other.

Our pattern of collective worship continues to provide a meaningful space for children to reflect, through listening to Bible stories, singing spiritual songs and having quiet moments of mindfulness. The children's engagement in these moments, as well as in their learning, reflects the values we hold dear. It has also been a pleasure to see the children express themselves through music, art, and outdoor exploration—so much of what makes our schools such special places.

As we pause for the half-term break, I hope you all find time to rest and recharge. Thank you for being part of our school community; your support makes all the difference. We look forward to welcoming the children back, ready for another exciting half term filled with learning, discovery, and new opportunities.

Charles Beckerson

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On Thursday 13th February Evie, Elodie, Rosie, Clemmie, Jess, Imogen, Sophie and Bibbs all went to a football match in Petworth. In this game Elodie was Captain/mid-field, Rosie was the best goalkeeper ever, Jess and Bibbs were attack, Evie and Sophie were also mid-field leaving Imogen and Clemmie to be defence. We had 3 matches in which we lost to Fittleworth, won to Petworth and drew with Northchapel.

When we lost our first match, we all created an amazing plan to win the next, and thanks to our teamwork and encouragement from each other we scored 3 goals and saved 2.

We enjoyed every minute of this fantastic experience! GO DUNCTON!!!!! By Elodie, Rosie and Evie



	After half term	
Wednesday 26th February	Duncton whole school trip to Arundel Wetlands Year 3-6	Letters have gone home this week
Thursday 27 th February	Friends of Graffham and Duncton AGM	Graffham school 9am
Thursday 27 th February	Preloved Clothes & Bags of Support Collection Day	Please drop off any clothes to the school reception on this day.
Friday 28 th February	Rescheduled Football match at Petworth Primary Y546	
Friday 28th February	National Child Measurement Programme 'NCMP' - Height & Weight Checks for Reception only	Details were sent home to parents on 14/11/24
	Future Dates	
Thursday 6 th March	World Воок Day	Information to follow
Thursday 6 th March	Rescheduled Bags of Support Collection	Deferred by a week to allow FGD to hold a Pre-loved Clothes Sale beforehand. More details to follow.
Wednesday 12th March	Year 6 Residential	
Monday 17 th MarCh	INSET DAY	
Tuesday 18 th MarCh	Parent Teacher Consultations Years R41 - Wren/Mrs Wethered (1.30-4.30pm) Years 1 4 2 – Kingfisher/Mr Lloyd (1.30-4.30pm) Years 4 4 6 - (3.30 - 6pm) Mrs Harris and Ms Bassett	Bookings will open after half term. Please sign up via the school office from 24 th February,
Wednesday 19 th March	Y3 Visit to Pizza Express Arundel	Information to follow
Thursday 20 th March	Parent Teacher Consultations Years R41 – Wren/Mrs Wethered (3.45-6pm) Years 1 4 2 – Kingfisher/Mr Lloyd (3.30-6pm) Years 3 4 5 - (3.30 - 6pm) Miss Woods and Ms Bassett	Bookings will open after half term. Please sign up via the school office from 24 th February,
Wednesday 26 th MarCh	Y4 Visit to Pizza Express Arundel	Information to follow
Wednesday 26 th March	Yrs R, 1 & 2 Astronomy Roadshow – A Mobile Planetarium Dome is coming to the School Hall in Graffham	Information was sent home on 11th Feb. Please return your Child's Consent forms/payment after half term.
Thursday 22 nd May	Year 5 and 6 Visit to Tangmere Aviation Museum	Information to follow
Monday 23 rd June	INSET DAY	1

*New dates/additions are in GREEN

Newly updated Home School Agreement.

This is coming home with your child tonight, this is a document all schools are required by law to issue, it sets out the principles that we believe our school community should follow in order to maintain a happy, well-ordered and caring learning environment for our children.

Please do take the time to read through the revised agreement and talk to your child about it. We hope that you will feel happy to sign the parent section, and that your child will write their name to show they understand the things they should be doing too.

Please return one signed copy to the school for our records and keep one copy at home. You may find it useful sometimes to remind yourself and your child of the important factors that we believe really help to keep our school an outstanding place to learn.

Wren Class Year R and 1

In Wren class this week, the Year 1's have been learning their number bonds to 10 using numicon and cubes. In Geography we learned about the countries that made up the United Kingdom and we can remember it with a little rhyme "England Ireland, Scotland Wales inside outside puppy dog tails". We have continued to create and glaze the wonderful clay dinosaurs and we are excited as they are at the final stage and will be going in the kiln over half term. In Reception the children have been amazing us with their fabulous writing in drawing club. Our text this week has been 'Stuck!' By Oliver Jeffers. Finally our Wild Wednesday was spent outdoors playing memory and sensory games, finished with hot chocolate and biscuits! Happy half term everyone!



Kingfisher Class Year 1 and 2

This week in Kingfisher the children had a great time on Wild Wednesday taking part in some memory games with Mrs Wethered, as well as doing some follow the leader games about and around the school. We've also made a great start on learning the 2 times table in year 2 and made great progress with our number bonds to 20 in year 1. The children have been very curious in our RE learning about Hinduism and Karma, and asked great questions about it's similarities and differences to the Christian ideas around right and wrong we learned about last week. Everyone has given their best in their learning this half term and the week break is well deserved. Have a great half term everybody!





Kestrel Class Year 3 and 4

Kestrel class have been working hard this week and are ready for a half term break! We have been learning about multiplication and division in Maths and are trying really hard to improve our speed on Times Table Rockstars. Year 4s designed a Viking outfit and Year 3s found out some more facts about Viking gods. Year 3 have been designing some amazing animations in our computing lessons. We had an amazing week with our football. On Thursday afternoon Bibbs, Immy and Sophie in our class went to play a football match at Petworth Primary. They enjoyed playing football and had an amazing time - we are very proud of them!

Peregrine Year 5 and 6 by Edith and Emily Year 5

Tuesday 11th February was Safer Internet Day. The theme this year was 'Too good to be true'. We discussed scams and explored phishing and pharming. Learning how to protect ourselves when online. We finished creating our own WW2 dances, incorporating steps from the Charleston, Lindy Hop and Lambeth Walk and enjoyed performing these to Glenn Miller music.



As part of our WW2 project, we looked at primary sources of evidence and listened to eye-witness accounts helping us learn about the bombing of Petworth Boys School. This tragic event took place on 29th September 1942.

Year 5 went to MRC for the Big Sing. We sang five songs and had an amazing time singing with other schools. It was a giant choir!

Elodie, Evie, Rosie, Jess, Clemmie, Bibbs, Sophie and Imogen went to Petworth Primary to play in a girl's football tournament. Elodie was our captain and Rosie was the goalkeeper.

A quote from the captain

"We loved every minute, it involved a lot of running and we were happy but tired at the end." Our Christian value this week is kindness. We talked about The Good Samaritan.

Happy Half-Term!



French at Duncton



My name is Marie Byers and I am delighted to be joining Duncton Primary School just after half term as the new specialist French teacher. As a native French speaker with many years of experience in primary education, I am passionate about making language learning engaging, interactive, and exciting for children. This year, I will be introducing French to all KS2 pupils, ensuring they build strong foundations in the language, especially as they are transitioning from Spanish. My lessons will focus on practical communication, cultural awareness, and a love for languages, using a variety of activities, songs, and games to make learning fun and meaningful. I look forward to getting to know the children and supporting them on their French learning journey.

> Best regards, Madame Byers

LEGO CLUB AT DUNCTON

We have a make-up session for the current Lego club group on Tuesday 25th February (this is for a missed session due to illness) If you wish to sign up for the next 5 weeks (4th March –1st April) please follow this link <u>www.brilliantbrinks.co.uk</u>

Super last session today before a well-deserved break by all.

Today the children got to build whatever they wanted! Noah and George did an amazing jungle theme, Petey was inspired to build a mountain, Elizabeth did a beautiful pink build with two sun lounges- perfect for a half term break! Well done to Frank for his Top Gun fighter jet and Ben for his epic vehicle!



Application to reduce the speed limit around the school:

Back in October 2024 we applied to WSCC to reduce the speed limit around the school from 30mph to 20mph, in an effort to make the area safer for our children and families. This proposal was supported by the Parish Council and we have lots of anecdotal evidence to suggest that Graffham residents feel strongly about this issue.

Unfortunately, our request has been rejected based on a lack of evidence.

WSCC have suggested the following:

"The best way for residents to report near misses is to report online via: <u>raise a highways related enquiry</u> – alternatively reporting unlawful driver behaviour to Sussex Police via: <u>Operation Crackdown</u>.

We will be gathering feedback from the school, church and local community and I will be re-applying later this year. If you have any comments to add regarding near-misses or concerns, please email them to traffic@graffhaminfant.org.uk

FGD NEWS

Thank you for all those who took part in Colour Day and our end of term Bake sale! These small fundraisers all help and add up, so thank you to everyone who got involved!

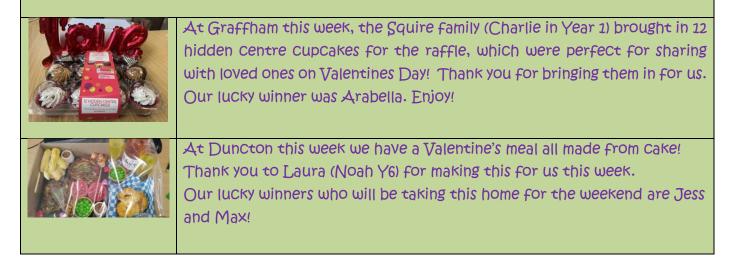
We would just like to remind you of the bags of support collection day on the 27th February. Half term week may be a good opportunity for some to Clear through any Clothes that are not longer in need. We will be using donations to be put towards 'bags of support' or a school Clothes sale later in the term. Both contribute towards funraising for the school, so all efforts to donate are appreciated.

Have a fun half term week.

FGD team

Cake Raffle

During the Winter months, tickets will now be on sale every Friday, in the School Hall at Graffham.



Reverend Vivien writes:

It was a kindness week this week. We thought about God's loving-kindness.

I told the story of two farmers. One grew carrots and the other grew strawberries. The farmers met in the marketplace. They made a bargain, an agreement. When it was harvest time, the carrot farmer would give the strawberry farmer some of his carrots. In return, the strawberry farmer would give the carrot farmer some of his strawberries. Harvest time came. The strawberry farmer had a wonderful crop of strawberries. He loaded some up to take to market to give to the carrot farmer, as he had promised. The carrot farmer had a very bad harvest though. His carrots didn't grow, so he had no carrots to sell and didn't know how he would look after his family.

The strawberry and carrot farmers met at the marketplace. The strawberry farmer said, 'Look, just as I promised, here are lots of wonderful strawberries for you.' The carrot farmer hung his head, and said, 'I'm so sorry, my carrot crop was ruined, I've no carrots to give you in exchange.' The strawberry farmer thought about this and said, 'I'm going to keep my side of the bargain anyway.

You can have my strawberries even if you can't give me your carrots.' So, the carrot farmer had strawberries to sell and could look after his family that year.

We decided the strawberry farmer was kind to give the carrot farmer his strawberries, even if the carrot farmer couldn't give him any carrots.

We thought the carrot farmer would be very thankful to him.

We can imagine God as the strawberry farmer and everybody in the world, as the carrot farmers, and the harvest as love, on both sides. God agrees to love everyone. Everyone agrees to love God in return. People don't always love God though. Sometimes people are selfish, or greedy, or unkind, or fight each other. So don't bring a good harvest of love to God. God says, I will love you anyway. And I will give you Jesus to show you what love means. For this we are very thankful.



CHURCH REMINDERS

- There is a Foodbank Collection Point inside the Church. Any family can leave a donation there at any time. It's a simple way for families to be kind to people in need that they do not know and show generosity as a community.
- Our Third Sunday Service at St Giles Church is at 10.30am this Sunday when we are especially pleased to welcome families to church.





GTC		AFFHAM IIS CLUB
		<u>/eek – 2024</u>
	Friday 19th Jul	y — Friday 26 th July
51404 A.L	O' 4.30 PM	O Pickle Ball
Fri 19th July	O 5.30 PM	O Parent & child Tennis / Ball Machine
		Bring and share Barbeque / Picnic - Pavilion Bar open
	O 9.30 am	Coffee & Bacon butties
Sat 20th July	O 10.00 am - 12.30 PM	O Mixed doubles
	O 1.00pm	O Mixed doubles final
	O 2.00pm	> Parent and Kids 2 wicket cricket match
		Pavilion bar open / Bring Picnics
Sun 21st July	O 10.00am	O Men's Doubles Tournament
	O 1.30pm	O Men's Doubles final
Mon 22nd July	O 10.00 am -12.00pm	O Seniors Tennis
	O 4.30 pm – 6.00pm	O Adult Coaching
Tue 23rd July	O 1.00pm – 2.30pm	O Adult Coaching
	O 4.00 – 6.00pm	O Graffham v Rogate Juniors match
Wed 24 th July	O 9.30AM - 1.00PM	O Junior/Academy Coaching
	O 6.00pm '	O Hampshire League match
Thurs 25 th July	O 9.30AM - 1.00PM	 Junior/Academy Coaching
	O 6.00pm	 Friendly match v Petworth
	O 7.45pm	Club Curry at the pavilion
Friday 26 th July	O 9.30AM – 1.00PM	O Junior Academy Coaching
	O 6.00pm – 8.00PM	 Club night / Olympic Opening Ceremony
adm		events PLEASE use our all or SEE BELOW & CALL/ Email <u>NOW!</u>
Richard Hopp	richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk	Junior coaching
Simon Longman	2 07979 590891	Men's Doubles
Richard Gyles	2 07976243297	Mixed Doubles
Denise Clay	2 07771948343	Curry Night tickets

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2		GRAFF TENNIS CLL	
		Summer Juni	
We		ennis Coach 24 th July - Friday 2	4
	Age	Time	Price
Yrf	R – Yr1	9.30 - 10.30am	£27 (non members E30
Yra	2 – Yr3	10.30 - 11.30am	£27 (non members £30
Yr	4 – Yr6	12.00 – 1.00pm	£27 (non members £30
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Coad	play, fu	n games and a mini tou low open to non membe /+ available on request, ple	e, tactics, match irrnament. ers! wase get in touch to
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