



Friday Flyer

Friday 14th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been at Graffham and Duncton!

On Wednesday evening, families gathered at Graffham for a truly magical stargazing event. With telescopes and binoculars at the ready, we were treated to spectacular views of Jupiter, Mars, Venus, the moon, and even the Orion constellation. A huge thank you to Mr. Lloyd for sharing his passion, knowledge, and equipment – he truly inspired us all. It was fantastic to see children and parents alike filled with awe and curiosity about the wonders of the night sky.

Meanwhile, our Year 6 children from Duncton have spent the week embracing adventure at Marchants Hill on their residential visit. I had the pleasure of visiting them on Thursday and was so impressed by their enthusiasm and determination as they tackled archery and abseiling. It's always wonderful to see them challenge themselves, support each other, and grow in confidence through these experiences.

Thank you, as always, for your support. Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Charles Beckerson

| Next Week | | |
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| 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 | Booking now OPEN. |
| Wednesday 19 th March | Y3 Visit to Pizza Express Arundel | Information to follow |
| 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 | Booking now OPEN |
| Friday 21 st March | COMIC RELIEF DAY | <i>Wear something red for a suggested donation of £1.00. All donations & the Cake Raffle will go to Comic Relief.</i> |
| Future Dates | | |
| 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 | Please make payment if you haven't already done so. |

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| Wednesday 30 th April & Thursday 1 st May | Scholastic Book Fair at Duncton | ALL Graffham and Duncton Parents invited. |
| Monday 5 th May | BANK HOLIDAY | |
| Tuesday 6 th May | Yr 5 Level 1 Bikeability course on the playground | information to follow |
| Monday 12 th May | Year 6 SATS Week | |
| Tuesday 13 th May | Year R, 1 & 2 to Slow Grown Farm, Graffham | Information to follow soon. |
| Friday 16 th May | Year 5 and 6 to the Slow Grown Farm, Graffham | |
| 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 and REMINDERS

- Please return your signed school agreement to the school office.
- Please pay your any outstanding bus journeys or clubs for this term.
- Please remember to keep off the grass at Graffham so we can enjoy the beautiful crocuses and snowdrops.
- Please check your child's hair over the weekend & treat where necessary, as headlice are back again at Graffham.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED @ GRAFFHAM



CHICKENS – Thank you to everyone who has offered to help look after Mavis & Buttercup over a weekend for us. *We still need more volunteers* to help let them out of their house and put them away at school one weekend in June and July. If you can help, then please let us know and we will add you to the rota. Mavis & Buttercup would love to come back after their Easter holidays.

- **READERS** – We now have a Volunteer Reading Rota in place at Graffham. We are always looking for parents/grandparents to come into school and help read with the children. If you can spare an hour before pick up, between 2-3pm (any day except Wednesday), then please get in touch.
- **WILD WEDNESDAYS** – We need extra volunteers to help take the children off site on Wednesday afternoons, between 1-3pm. In particular, we need one more Year 1 parent on 19th March and 2nd April.

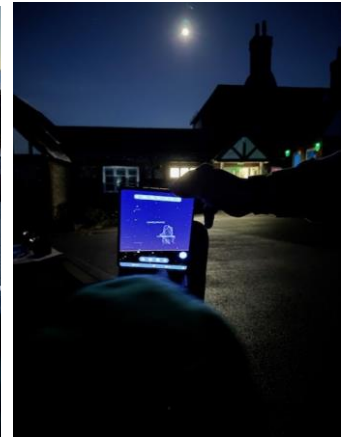
Please get in touch with Sonya in the school office if you can help.



Stargazing at Graffham this week...

Sofia and Casandra from Kingfisher class write: -

On Wednesday night we came back to school to do stargazing. It was really dark and it was as cold as Antarctica! There were lots of telescopes and binoculars and Florence's Dad had a special screen that can show you the constellations. We saw Jupiter, Venus, Mars and the moon. Also, we saw that Jupiter had a beautiful Ganymede. It had a beautiful rainbow colour around it and it was beautiful. There were faint stars everywhere too. Next time we really want to see the five other planets because we would want to see Uranus because its colours are fascinating, and its ring is too.



A huge thanks to Gio (Florence's and Arlo's Daddy), Chris (Charlie's Grandpa) and Mr Lloyd who provided their beautiful telescopes for the evening and to Tara (Tiger's Mum) for capturing the experience by taking photos for us.

Duncton Junior School Forest School

We are planning on starting up Forest School sessions again in the summer term. Forest School is a wonderful outdoor experience, in which children are given the opportunity, over time, to increase in their self-belief, confidence, learning capacity, enthusiasm, communication and problem-solving skills, as well as their emotional well-being. In order for this to go ahead, we will need 2 volunteers per session. Unfortunately, without enough adults to help off-site, we will not be able to run these sessions. The sessions will run (starting with Year 4) after Easter on Thursday afternoons from 12.30 to 2.45pm. If you can help out either regularly or on a rota, please let Mrs Dudman know as soon as possible.



Thank you in advance - Miss Woods 😊🌿

Wren Class Year R and 1

This week in Wren class, the Reception children have been learning about doubles in maths. We explored the concept of doubling by printing butterfly wings and then writing the number sentence to match. Unfortunately, our Wild Wednesday was a bit of a wash out and especially cold, so we huddled ourselves onto Wren balcony and planted some seeds ready for sowing in April. We are planning to grow a variety of vegetables and flowers in our garden e.g. carrots, beetroot, fennel, salad, beans, agapanthus. The seeds planted will stay on our warm balcony until we are free of morning frosts and then we can plant our seedlings outdoors. This week our year one children have been making their own planetariums using the boxes they have

painted black. Together we've been thinking carefully about the sizes of the planets compared to the sun and which planets are the closest to us.

Thank you to all of you that came to our stargazing event this week. We hope the children enjoyed looking through telescopes to get a closer look at the moon, stars and planets!



Kingfisher Class Year 1 and 2

This week Kingfisher class have shown such amazing learning values. Commitment to their maths, collaboration in their writing, craftsmanship with the beginnings of their model solar systems and most of all curiosity around their science. Today especially, they've shown fantastic creativity in their music, composing and sharing musical phone conversations. They all thoroughly deserve the long weekend!



Kestrel Class Year 3 and 4

Woody and Ben are reporting for Kestrel class this week.

This week we have been doing some research about the Amazon rainforest. The class have chosen a project to complete, I (Woody) am drawing lots of animals from the rainforest and I (Ben) am writing about the three most extinct animals (toucan, giant panda and jaguar).

In maths Year 3 have been learning how to divide and Year 4 have been learning to multiply two digit numbers. Year 4 had fun in Science, we made electrical circuits. In PE we had fun learning how to play basketball.



Peregrine Year 5 and 6 by Ned Moore and Maisy Squire

We have had a busy week this week with the year 6 away on their residential, when they left of Wednesday morning the whole school went outside to wave them off. In maths we have been learning about radius, circumference by drawing circles with a compass, in science we have been learning about the life cycles of animals and humans. We have also spent time finishing our world book day boxes.



We're going cashless!

From the start of the summer term, we will no longer accept cash payments for clubs, trips, childcare....etc.

We are looking into the possibility of having card-readers at both schools but for now we will be asking for all payments to be made by bank transfer to the following accounts:

Graffham CE Infant School

01350426

30-00-02

Duncton CE Junior School

00435010

30-00-02

Please speak to the office if you have any questions.

LEGO CLUB AT DUNCTON

Some fantastic building today from our group of Brilliant Builders! In keeping with our theme of Wonderful Worlds the children were tasked with building animals and creatures, real or from their imaginations. Well done Maud for your lovely puppy dog, Sunny for a clever caterpillar and bumble bee, George for your great effort of a giant panda, Ned for your creepy spider and Elizabeth for wowing us with her Macaw! 🦜 Well done all!!



FGD NEWS

Hi Everyone

This week our FGD newsletter was sent out in book bags. Hopefully this has given you some further insight into FGD and our fundraising aims. As mentioned, we would love to hear your suggestions on how you would like to see FGD funds be spend on the school or any other fundraising ideas. Next week, forms will be available if you are intereted in giving us feedback.

If you would like to make any contact or are interested in joining our committee, please get in contact:

chairfgd@gmail.com

Have a good weekend.

FGD Team

Martial Arts Group Photo ... On Sale Now ...

Tara (Tiger's mum) kindly came into Martial Arts Class at Graffham this week and took a Group photo of the children. 8x6 prints will be going on sale soon for £5 each and best of all, FGD gets all the proceeds – thank you Tara. Please sign up via the office if you would like to purchase one.

Cake Raffle



At Graffham we had this sparkly Banana cake baked by Jenny (Charlie's Mum) - thank you!!

Our lucky winner taking the cake home today was Pippa. Enjoy :)



At Duncton we have delicious smelling chocolate brownies brought in by Elizabeth- thank you to Melissa Ackland for making them.

Our lucky winner who will be enjoying them over the weekend is Woody 😊

Raising Awareness & Supporting 'Action on Postpartum Psychosis' - Can you help?



This April Mr Lloyd's wife Sarah, along with some of her friends are taking part in a 10k, half marathon and marathon to raise awareness around post-partum psychosis as well as money for the charity 'Action on Postpartum Psychosis'. One of Sarah's friends was affected by this personally and although the condition is a rare side effect of childbirth, the impact it has is severe and extremely distressing for the mother, baby and family members. Below are links to both the charities website if you'd like to learn more, and the running teams just giving page in case you are able to help in even just a very small way. Thank you.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/teamremy?utm_term=n2Qm3jbYj

<https://www.app-network.org/>

Reverend Vivien writes:

Reverend Vivien writes: We are thinking about respect this week. Whom should we respect? Should we respect people because they are older than us? Bigger than us? More important than us? Cleverer than us? Better at sports than us? More beautiful or handsome than us? If we do, it might make us think, 'Oh dear, I'm not as old as they are, not as big as them, not important, not clever, not good at sports, not beautiful or handsome', then think we're no good and have no respect for ourselves. It works the other way round too. Should we respect ourselves because we are older than someone else, bigger than them, more important, cleverer, better at sports, more beautiful or handsome than them? If we do, it might make us think, 'Hmm they are not as old as me, big as me, important as me, clever as me, good at sports as me, beautiful or handsome as me', and decide they're no good and have no respect for them.

Goliath might have thought that about David. But he wasn't right, was he? The story of David and Goliath is in the old part of the bible, the special book which helps us to understand what God means and how to follow Jesus. In another old part of the bible, there are special songs called psalms. In one, the psalm writer says to Father God, You have looked for me and found me, you know me, your hand will guide me wherever I go, it was you who wonderfully made me, your thoughts are precious to me and I will always be with you. The psalm writer is respecting God and giving thanks to God for every good thing about themselves, not claiming the credit themselves. The bible says, don't compare yourself with others. Be glad of every good quality another person has, but don't ever think that makes you not so good as them, and don't look at the things you can do better than others and think that makes you better than them.

Because we're in the season of Lent and thinking seriously about things, we know some people don't think they are any good, and some people make others think they are no good. Don't you be either of those kinds of people. Everyone is really wonderful just for being themselves and no one should make another person believe any different. Once we realise everyone is wonderfully made by God and that we are all beautiful in his eyes, then we can all respect each other, just for this.

In Lent I can have respect for everyone.

