



# GIFFARDS PRIMARY

## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



### Year 6 Residential Trip & Activity Week

We had over 50 children attend the Year 6 Residential Trip to the Isle of Wight. The children had a fantastic time, taking part in various activities for eg. Jacobs Ladder, Abseiling and Zip Wire. Our staff members were very proud of the children and how they represented Giffards.

The children who stayed for the Activity Week also had an amazing week. They had an activity day at Thriftwood, taking part in raft building and Abseiling. They visited Thameside Nature Park as well as Wat Tyler Park and had 2 days of in house activities. A good time was had by all.

Photos of the week have been posted on our Twitter Page.

### NO DOGS ON SITE

We would like to remind all parents/carers that Dogs are NOT allowed on the school premises, this includes carrying the dog. Only registered Guide Dogs are allowed on site.

### Mobile Phone/Smart Watches

A reminder please - ideally, pupils will not bring phones to school, if they are needed, then phones must be put on silent and must be handed in to the class teacher. Smart watches should not be worn in school by pupils.

Children will be asked to remove them if bought in.



It's been a busy half term and our *Scary hair* non uniform day has been a wonderful way to finish for the October break. Well done to all the pupils and parents for some fantastic, creative hair styles. I have had the pleasure in showing prospective parent/carers around the school over the last few weeks with further tours going ahead in November. I want to thank the children and staff who welcomed the visitors so warmly, showing them what a fantastic school and wonderful, polite pupils we have. I am a very Proud headteacher. If you have a child due to start school in September 2023 and would like to have a look around or know someone who is considering Giffards, please ask them to contact the school office, tour dates are on the school website. We say a sad GOODBYE today to Mrs Rushmer who is relocating, we wish her well for the future and thank her for all she has done since working at Giffards. We are closed now for 2 Inset days ( 21/10 +31/10) School reopens to pupils on Tuesday 1st November. Have a wonderful Half term.

### New School Menu

We have a new school menu which will start on Monday 31st October, Week 1. You can find a copy of the Menu on our School Website and our notice boards by the KS1 entrance and in KS2 Reception.

If you would like a copy of the Allergen & Nutrition Lists, please contact the school office.

### Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

The PSA held a Macmillan Coffee Afternoon and we are pleased to announce they raised £115.00 in cake sales and £68.00 with the raffle, a total of £183.00 was raised.

We would like to thank N.Serv Ltd who donated a £50 Amazon Voucher and Morrisons in Corringham for donating a hamper.

Of course none of this would have been possible without the support of our parents & staff and of course our PSA. So thank you everyone.



### Thurrock Council Secondary School Admissions

**If your child has just started the last year of primary education (currently in Year 6), you must now apply for a Secondary school place for September 2023.**

Apply online from 1st September at [thurrock.gov.uk/admissions](https://thurrock.gov.uk/admissions)

go to [thurrock.gov.uk/admissions](https://thurrock.gov.uk/admissions) and select 'Secondary school admissions'. You will be able to open an online copy of the prospectus for Thurrock primary schools, booklet called **Secondary Admission Information September 2023**, which you should read carefully before applying.

You must have an email account to apply online. You should also try to join online at one of the briefing sessions before you complete an application.

**Three briefing sessions for parents will be held on Thursday 15 September 2022 via webinar on the council website.**

Go to [thurrock.gov.uk/admissions](https://thurrock.gov.uk/admissions) and select 'Secondary school admissions' to access the webinar.

Offers will be available for applicants via your online account from 12:30am on 1 March 2023.

If you do not complete the application and do not return it by the closing date of 31 October 2022 you may be given a place at the nearest school with a space available, after all on-time applications have been dealt with. If you have any queries please contact [school.admissions@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@thurrock.gov.uk) or phoning on 01375 652 883.

### Fire Escape

We have a new fire escape at the front of the main building at KS2. Additional paving will be added very shortly (this week we hope) to increase the width of the path, we apologise for the inconvenience.



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### Parking

May we remind parents/carers to please consider our neighbours when parking to drop/collect children to school. The yellow zig-zag markings and area in front of the car park gates should also be kept clear to enable any coaches/delivery vehicles to reverse safely through the school gates.

### Safer Schools App.

You will have received information about the Safer Schools app in the latest online safety newsletter. We encourage all parents to download the app as it provides really useful information. If you need further Information, please go onto the Safeguarding & Online Safety section of the school website.



### Twitter



We would like to remind you that Giffards has a Twitter account. We regularly post pictures and updates of the children's day, showing you what they have been doing. The school also regularly posts safeguarding updates on it's twitter feed for you to take a look at and familiarise yourself with the information provided.

If you wish to follow us our username is

**'GiffardsPrimary'**

### Diary Dates

**Fri 21st Oct –**

**INSET DAY/School closed to pupils**

**Mon 24th-Fri. 28th Oct –**

**HALF TERM**

**Mon 31st Oct –**

**INSET DAY/School closed to pupils**

**Tuesday 1st Nov -**

**Pupils return to school**

Friday 4th Nov -

Yrs 3&4 SSP Mixed Football

Thursday 10th Nov -

Year 5 Greenwich Observatory

Wednesday 16th Nov. -

EYFS Gruffalo Trip

Thursday 17th Nov -

Flu Immunisations

Friday 18th Nov -

SSP Boccia/Curling

Monday 21st Nov –

KS2 Parents Evening 3.30 pm - 6.30pm

Tuesday 22nd Nov -

KS1 Parents Evening 3.30 pm - 6.30pm

Wed. 23rd Nov –

KS2 Parents Evening 3.30 pm - 6.30pm

Wed. 23rd Nov -

Year 6 Walk Online Roadshow

Thursday 24th Nov -

KS1 Parents Evening 3.30 pm - 6.30pm

Friday 2nd Dec -

Yrs 5 & 6 SSP Basketball

Friday 9th Dec -

Christmas jumper day

**19th Dec.– 2nd Jan -**

**HALF TERM**

**Tuesday 3rd Jan –**

**Pupils return to school**

**Mon.13th-Fri.17th Feb -**

**HALF TERM**

**Monday 20th Feb -**

**Pupils return to school**

Mon.20th-Thur 23rd Mar. - Parents evening details to follow

**Mon.3rd—14th April –**

**HALF TERM**

**Monday 17th April –**

**Pupils return to school**

### EYFS tours

Is your child due to start reception in September 2023 or do you know someone who has a child who is due to start?

We would like to invite prospective parents/carers to take part in a tour of our amazing school, **pre-booking is essential via the school office.** Tours are led by the Headteacher and last around 1 hour.

Please arrive at the main school office at 9.05am prompt.

### Tour dates and times :

Thursday 3rd November Arrive 9.05am tour starts at 9.10am

Wednesday 9th November Arrive 9.05am tour starts at 9.10am

Tuesday 15th November Arrive 9.05am tour starts at 9.10am

Tuesday 29th November Arrive 9.05am tour starts at 9.10am

Thursday 1st December Arrive 9.05am tour starts at 9.10am

### Breakfast Club

Remember children can just turn up to Breakfast Club any morning from 7.30am for just £3.00 a session. Please however note that we cannot admit anyone after 8.20am.

### School Uniform

Along with Uniform Wise and My Clothing we now have a 3rd uniform supplier, Urban Uniform

Please see contact details below for all suppliers.

### School Uniform:

My Clothing

<https://myclothing.com/#/uniform>

Uniformwise 01375 644744

<https://www.uniformwise.co.uk/shop>

Urban Uniform 01375 767997

<http://www.urbanuniform19@gmail.com>