



# GIFFARDS PRIMARY

## APRIL NEWSLETTER



### New Menu

We have a new Menu which will start on Monday 17th April (Week 1). A copy of the menu is on our website and on our school notice boards both in KS1 & KS2, if you require a hard copy of the Nutrition & Allergy lists please contact the school office.

### Mobile Phone/Smart Watches

A reminder please - ideally, pupils should 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 brought in.



### Year 3 had a visit from the Romans

@LondonRainbow.

The children learnt about how the Romans built straight roads, how the Roman army used shields and about a tasty snack of crunchy dead mice coated in honey!

Photo's of the children on the day are on our twitter page.



Dear Parents /Carers,

It has been a busy few weeks. With lots of trips, visitors and exciting activities happening in school. Many thanks to all the parents/carers that attended Parents evening and review meetings. The children have been working hard and it's always lovely to be able to share their progress and achievements with you. Many thanks also to the PSA for running the end of term discos, great fun was had by the children and our lovely helpers were seen throwing a few shapes too!

As we end this term we have some sad goodbyes to make. We 'd like to thank Mrs McKenzie, Miss Butcher, Miss Randall, Mrs Street and Mrs Stubbings for their hard work over the years and wish them all good luck as they move on to pastures new.

We welcome Miss Hills to yr1, Mrs Lethby to the admin team, Miss Russell to yr3 & Mrs Hazelton to yr 4. On behalf of everyone at Giffards, I wish everyone a very Happy Easter, hopefully the weather will warm up and the sun will eventually come out! We look forward to seeing the children back on Monday 17th April.

### World Book Day

Well done to everyone who took part designing a potato book character. We loved seeing and sharing all your wonderful creations as part of our World Book Day activities. Also Congratulation to all our competition winners, you created some brilliant book characters! Photo's are on our twitter page

### Year 2 Braintree District Museum

Our Year 2 children had a wonderful time dressing up in Victorian clothes and experiencing a day as a child in Victorian times.

A good time was had by all.

### Year 5 Workshop

Year 5 had Lucy from @HistoricWksp in to teach the children more about the Maya civilisation. The children sketched artefacts, created masks and performed a traditional dance.

Photo's of the children enjoying their day are our on twitter page.

### Year 1 History

In Year 1, the children enjoyed bringing their favourite toy in and comparing these to toys from the past. The children explored old toys and discussed how they have changed.

Once again photo's can be found on our twitter page.



### Do you want to be a teacher?

Training with us could not be easier! We are currently training around 100 teachers a year in our dynamic partnership of schools.

Our school is proud to work in partnership with Essex and Thames SCITT, one of the country's leading providers of initial teacher training. Providing teacher training for almost 25 years and working in partnership with Anglia Ruskin University, the courses offer excellent value for money and an opportunity to train with some of the very best teachers in the area.

Visit [www.etpscitt.co.uk](http://www.etpscitt.co.uk) for details of all our courses. We'd love to welcome you to our partnership to begin your new career. Just get in touch with us to discuss your options.

Email us at [saffron@ete.org.uk](mailto:saffron@ete.org.uk) or ring us on 01268 988580. Or apply [here](#).

We look forward to hearing from you.



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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

- Monday 3rd - Friday 14th April - HALF TERM**
- Monday 17th April - Pupils return to school**
- Thursday 20th April - Year 6 Warner Bros. Trip
- Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday**
- Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday**
- Tues 9th - Fri. 12th May - KS2 SATS**
- Monday 15th May - Year 1 Inhouse RC Exotics
- Friday 19th May - Class/Team Photo's
- Thursday 25th May - Last Day of Term
- Monday 29th - Friday 2nd June HALF TERM**
- Monday 5th June - Pupils return to school**



### Late Arrivals

If your child is going to be late for school, please contact the office in advance to inform them and give them your child's dinner choice.

We would also like to remind you that your child needs to be escorted to the school office and not to walk in on their own.

### **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.

Giffards Primary School term and holiday dates for academic year 2023/24

September 2023					October 2023					November 2023					December 2023					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
			1	2					1			1	2	3				1	2	
4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	
11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	
18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	
25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29		
					30	31														
January 2024					February 2024					March 2024					April 2024					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
1	2	3	4	5				1	2			1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	
15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	
22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	
29	30	31			26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30			
May 2024					June 2024					July 2024					August 2024					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
			1	2				1	2			1	2	3				1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30			

☐ = School days ☐ = Weekends ☐ = School holidays ☐ = Bank holidays

In addition, schools allocate 5 non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions. These days for Giffards are Monday & Tuesday 4th & 5th September, Monday & Tuesday 30th & 31st October 2023 and Friday 24th May 2024, as highlighted in yellow.

Term	Start Date	End Date	Days
Autumn term	Monday 4 September 2023	Wednesday 20 December 2023	73 days
	Half term -	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October	
Spring term	Thursday 4 January 2024	Thursday 28 March 2024	56 days
	Half term -	Monday 19 February to Friday 23 February	
Summer term	Monday 15 April 2024	Tuesday 23 July 2024	66 days
	Half term -	Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May	
Early May holiday	Monday 6 May 2024		195 days

The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially foundation, voluntary-aided schools and academies. We strongly advise that you check if you have children in other schools before making any holiday plans or other commitments.