



**INSPIRE
CHALLENGE
ACHIEVE**

Griffithstown Primary School Gazette

**Friday 6 February 2026
Dydd Gwener 6 Chwefror 2026**

www.griffithstown-primary.co.uk
email: head.griffithstownprimary@torfaen.gov.uk

Monthly Snapshot

Parents in Partnership

It was wonderful to welcome so many parents into school last month. Whether you joined us to learn more about our new Little Wandle phonics scheme or met individually with class teachers to discuss your child's progress, your involvement makes a real difference. We truly value your continued support. At its heart, school is a partnership, and when parents and teachers work together, we create the strongest foundation for every child to thrive. Diolch!

Fluoride Application

Our Nursery and Reception pupils received their fluoride varnish application earlier in the month. Fluoride varnish is a quick, safe, and effective way to strengthen children's teeth and protect them against tooth decay, giving them a healthier start as their smiles grow. Thank you for helping us to promote good oral health and ensuring the very best for our youngest learners.

Teachers Go Back to School

Our third INSET day involved staff taking part in a range of valuable professional development, including training on equality and anti-racism, Spectrum training on healthy relationships, and exploring the growing role of artificial intelligence in education. These sessions help us strengthen the inclusive, supportive and forward-thinking environment we aim to provide for every child.

Big Foot Workshops

Pupils in years 1,2 & 3 took part in Mabinogion - themed storytelling workshops delivered by Bigfoot Wales. An aspect of Welsh mythology was brought to life through drama, storytelling, and creative engagement.



World Cancer Day 4.2.26

Thanks to everyone who collected sponsorship for our school Relay. We raised an incredible £1115! The annual Relay For Life, in support of Cancer Research UK, will take place in Pontypool Park on 4th July.



F.O.G.S.

The girls have been at it again! Their sale of donuts & milkshake put an incredible £267.68 into the fundraising pot. Thanks to all who supported this event.

Up & Coming

- 10.2.26 Reception trip to Raglan Farm
- 11.2.26 F.O.G.S. Neon disco: Nurs/Rec/Y1 2:30 - 3:20,
Y2/Y3 3:20 - 4:30, Y4/5/6 4:45 - 6:15
- 13.2.26 Half term
- 2.3.26 Y6 Gilwern trip - final payment due
- 3.3.26 Eisteddfod
- 5.3.26 World Book Day

Seren Yr Wythnos

15th, 23rd & 30th Jan.

Mr Pembrey	Ruby H, Daisy D, Rameen A
Miss Thomas	Clarabel B, Ava B, Erin Y
Mrs Jordan	Raer R, Rory Y, Jessica J
Miss Baxter	Evelyn L, Madison O, Tyler A
Mr McDonnell	Dhyan VR, Isla M, Savannah WT
Miss Charles	Harrison R, Amelia H, Harry MJ
Mr Blackmore	Toby G, Harper P, Jared N
Miss Evans	Emily B, Erin R, Edie S
Mrs Hawksworth	Leo P, Lily B, Jenson R
Miss Murphy	Alfie D, Mollie H, Jaxen K
Mrs Jones/Ms C-Brown	Lyra C, Noah A, Lola C
Miss Lloyd	Albie M, Oliver A, Mainosh A



**INSPIRE
CHALLENGE
ACHIEVE**

Griffithstown Primary School Gazette

Friday 6 February 2026
Dydd Gwener 6 Chwefror 2026

www.griffithstown-primary.co.uk
email: head.griffithstownprimary@torfaen.gov.uk

Sharing Success Outside School Llongyfarchiadau!



Jacob (Y4) has moved up to Nofio Wave 2 after achieving Wave 1 recently.



Clarabel (Y5) has passed her Grade 1 cornet exam with a merit and her Grade 3 in Musical Theatre examination with a distinction.



Noah (Y4) has achieved Wave 4 recently.



Rex (Rec) has received gymnast of the day.



Harley (Rec) is a regular at Junior Park Run. This month she was presented with her marathon certificate. She has dedicated her Sunday mornings to PR and has run the equivalent of 26.2 miles! Rhyfeddol!



Evelyn (Y2) has passed Level 1 with Cardiff City Rollers Club AND Wave 6 with Halo Swim Club.



Lyra & Lornna-Rose (Rec) achieved their first dancing certificate for ballet recently - a certificate of achievement from Gemini School of Dance.





**INSPIRE
CHALLENGE
ACHIEVE**

Griffithstown Primary School Gazette

Friday 6 February 2026
Dydd Gwener 6 Chwefror 2026

www.griffithstown-primary.co.uk
email: head.griffithstownprimary@torfaen.gov.uk

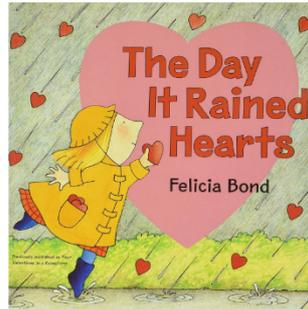
Book Worms

Coming Soon: World Book Day Day 2026

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

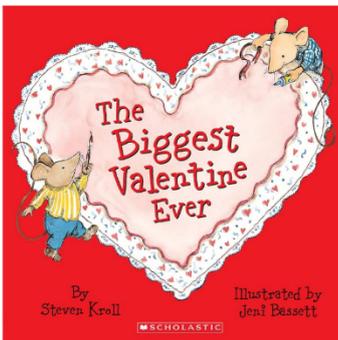
The Day It Rained Hearts by Felicia Bond
Age 3-5

The Day It Rained Hearts by Felicia Bond is a sweet and simple story about a girl who collects hearts that fall from the sky and turns them into thoughtful valentines for her friends. It's a lovely read for young children because it encourages kindness, creativity, and thinking about others, making it a perfect choice for Valentine's season.



The Biggest Valentine Ever by Steven Kroll
Age 6-8

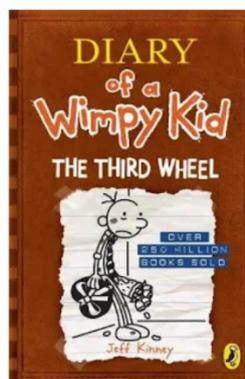
In this fun and heart-warming story, two mice, Clayton and Desmond, set out to make the perfect valentine, but end up arguing and going their separate ways. When they realise that working together produces something far better than working alone, they team up again to create the biggest and most impressive valentine ever. This book is ideal for ages 6-8 as it highlights teamwork, friendship, and resolving disagreements, all within a charming Valentine's Day setting.



Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Third Wheel (Book no.7) by Jeff Kinney

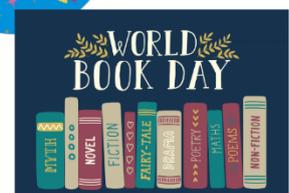
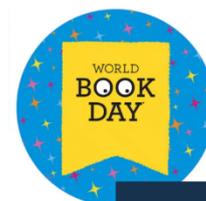
Age 9-11

In this hilarious instalment of the Wimpy Kid series, Greg Heffley finds himself swept up in the chaos of Valentine's Day at school, from awkward crushes to the pressure of finding a date for the big dance. As always, things don't go quite as planned, leading to plenty of cringe-worthy moments and laugh-out-loud disasters. This book is a great pick for ages 9-11 because it captures the humour, friendship dynamics, and relatable worries of upper-primary pupils!



When? Thursday 5th March 2026

World Book Day is fast approaching at the start of next month, and we can't wait to celebrate the joy of reading across the school! Pupils are invited to come dressed as a character from their favourite book, but we encourage families not to buy new costumes. Instead, we'd love to see children get creative by making their own outfits using things they already have at home: old Halloween costumes, recycled materials, or a clever mix-and-match of everyday clothing. There will be prizes for the most imaginative and inventive costumes, so pupils should start thinking about which book they'd like to celebrate and who they want to come as. On World Book Day, we'll enjoy a whole-school assembly where children can proudly show off their creations, along with exciting activities and celebrations in classrooms throughout the day. It's going to be a fantastic event! At the end of the day pupils will go home with a voucher which will entitle them to a





**INSPIRE
CHALLENGE
ACHIEVE**

Griffithstown Primary School Gazette

Friday 6 February 2026
Dydd Gwener 6 Chwefror 2026

www.griffithstown-primary.co.uk
email: head.griffithstownprimary@torfaen.gov.uk



Criw Cymraeg



Tocyn Cymraeg Loyalty Scheme Activated!!



Yr wythnos diwethaf (last week) Criw Cymraeg a Miss Thomas launched the Tocyn Cymraeg newydd (new) loyalty scheme. Every pupil from Y2-6 was provided with a loyalty card designed by pupils in blwyddyn pump a chwech. Bob dydd (every day) pupils get the opportunity to collect a "stamp" for their card when they have demonstrated excellent use of Welsh!



How pupils can achieve a stamp for their loyalty card:



- Use Welsh consistently all day! This can be through:
 - Using 'Cymraeg Bob Dydd' questions and responses
 - Using questions and responses from the placemats
 - Using Wenglish (a mixture of Welsh and English) when talking.



Examples

- "Ga i... os gwelwch yn dda?" (Can I have please?)
- "Beth sy'n bod? Mae ... tost arna i" (what's the matter? + answer)
- "Sut wyt ti? Dwi'n hapus/ofnadwy/wedi blino" (How are you? I'm happy/sad/tired)
- "Dwi'n mynd" (I am going...)
- "Dyma ti" (Here you go)



Prizes/Rewards for stamps

Here are the list of rewards and prizes you can redeem when you start to collect stamps:



20 stamps: non-uniform for a week and head teacher's wall of fame

15 stamps: non-uniform for a day

10 stamps: Welsh stationary: Welsh rubbers, pencils, snap bands etc.

5 stamps: Extra play



Don't forget...



Nursery, Reception and Year one still have the opportunity to earn lots of dojo points from using Cymraeg gret (great welsh)!

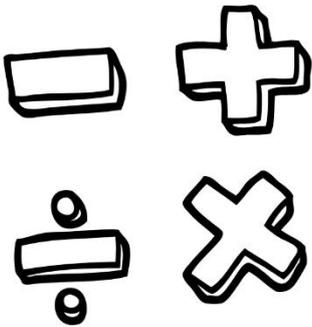


**INSPIRE
CHALLENGE
ACHIEVE**

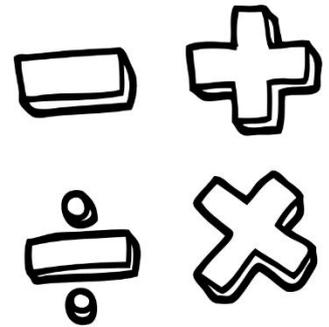
Griffithstown Primary School Gazette

Friday 6 February 2026
Dydd Gwener 6 Chwefror 2026

www.griffithstown-primary.co.uk
email: head.griffithstownprimary@torfaen.gov.uk



Maths Minions



Activities to try at home

This month, pupils can try our Valentine's Maths Challenges at home! Start by folding a piece of paper and cutting out heart shapes to create symmetrical designs. Then complete the tasks below:

Task 1: Symmetry & Shape

Identify and draw the lines of symmetry on each heart. Check whether any shapes also show rotational symmetry. Compare two different hearts: which has more symmetry and why?

Task 2: Perimeter & Estimation

Estimate the perimeter of one heart shape. Use string or wool to measure around the edge, then measure the string with a ruler. Work out the difference between the estimate and the actual measurement.

Task 3: Valentine Word Values

Use the code A=1, B=2, C=3...

Find the total value of Valentine-themed words such as LOVE, HEART, FRIEND, or KINDNESS. Which word has the highest value? What number patterns can you spot?



Younger learners

Valentines Counting and Sorting Challenge

Children can collect a small group of objects at home like cereal pieces, buttons, or paper hearts, and sort them into groups by colour or size. Then they can count each group, decide which has more or fewer, and try a simple number sentence such as "I have 5 red hearts and 3 pink hearts, so $5 + 3 = 8$." A quick, fun way to practise early counting and comparing!

Magic Number

14	Valentine's Day!
29	In astrophysics, Saturn takes 29 (earth) years to orbit our Sun.

Please look out for the Magic Number videos on Class Dojo. A huge thank you to those who have sent in their activities.

Mathematician of the Month

Ada Lovelace: The First Computer Programmer

Ada Lovelace (1815–1852) was a remarkable mathematician from England who loved numbers, inventions, and imagining new possibilities. As a young girl, she enjoyed designing flying machines and solving tricky maths puzzles. When she grew older, Ada worked with an inventor named Charles Babbage, who created plans for a mechanical computer. Ada wrote detailed notes explaining how this machine could follow steps and instructions, making her the world's first computer programmer long before computers even existed!

Ada showed that maths can be creative, imaginative, and full of exciting ideas. Her work reminds us that thinking boldly and asking "What if?" can lead to discoveries that change the world.



DON'T FORGET TO SHARE THE MATHS CHALLENGES WITH YOUR TEACHER IF YOU COMPLETE SO WE CAN CELEBRATE AND SHARE ON DOJO!!