



# RACE LEYS JUNIOR NEWSLETTER



December 2023

Welcome to our Autumn 2 Newsletter. It has been a busy and exciting half term during the run up to Christmas with lots of different events celebrated.

Our half term began with all Griffins taking part in Bollywood Dance Workshops as part of our learning about Diwali. As a school, we pride ourselves on ensuring our Griffins learn about other cultures and this was a fun and interactive event that was positively received by all.

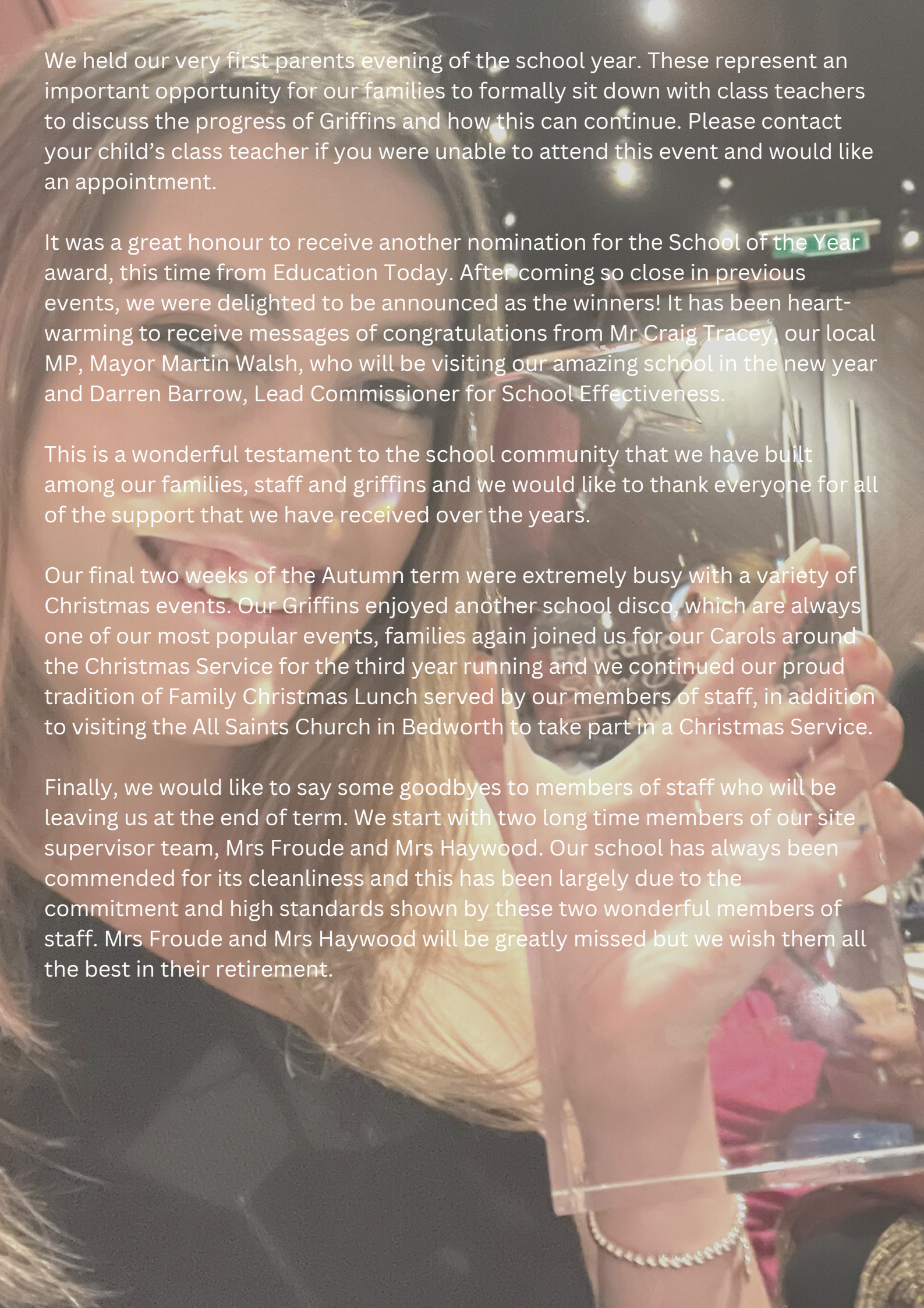
In addition to the above, we have now introduced a new weekly assembly, held each Tuesday, which focuses on raising awareness of current events or important dates around the world. So far, our Griffins have explored the importance of Road Safety Week, learnt about different disabilities as part of UK Disability Awareness Month and looked at how Christmas is celebrated in Germany, including the celebration of Krampusnacht.

Our Griffins continue to take centre stage, with subject ambassadors leading their own assemblies. This half term has seen some excellent examples from the anti-bullying, humanities, RE and PHSE ambassadors as they raised awareness of how their subject is taught across the school.

We also held our very first parents evening of the school year. These represent an important opportunity for our families to formally sit down with class teachers to discuss the progress of Griffins and how this can continue. Please contact your child's class teacher if you were unable to attend this event and would like an appointment.

The end of November brought the beginning of our Christmas celebrations across the school. In what has become an important proud tradition, our Head Griffins travelled to Friezeland Christmas Tree Farm to select our Christmas Tree, which is now proudly displayed in our Great Hall. We were also delighted to welcome our families into school as part of our Christmas workshop afternoon. It is always a pleasure to see our families working together with our Griffins as they made a variety of different decorations.



A woman with blonde hair is smiling and holding a large, clear glass award trophy. The trophy has a rectangular base and a tall, narrow column with a circular ring at the top. The background is dark and out of focus, with some lights visible.

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It was a great honour to receive another nomination for the School of the Year award, this time from Education Today. After coming so close in previous events, we were delighted to be announced as the winners! It has been heart-warming to receive messages of congratulations from Mr Craig Tracey, our local MP, Mayor Martin Walsh, who will be visiting our amazing school in the new year and Darren Barrow, Lead Commissioner for School Effectiveness.

This is a wonderful testament to the school community that we have built among our families, staff and griffins and we would like to thank everyone for all of the support that we have received over the years.

Our final two weeks of the Autumn term were extremely busy with a variety of Christmas events. Our Griffins enjoyed another school disco, which are always one of our most popular events, families again joined us for our Carols around the Christmas Service for the third year running and we continued our proud tradition of Family Christmas Lunch served by our members of staff, in addition to visiting the All Saints Church in Bedworth to take part in a Christmas Service.

Finally, we would like to say some goodbyes to members of staff who will be leaving us at the end of term. We start with two long time members of our site supervisor team, Mrs Froude and Mrs Haywood. Our school has always been commended for its cleanliness and this has been largely due to the commitment and high standards shown by these two wonderful members of staff. Mrs Froude and Mrs Haywood will be greatly missed but we wish them all the best in their retirement.



Mrs Trickett will also be leaving us at the end of December to pursue a new role out of education. Mrs Trickett is renowned for her enthusiasm and positivity and not only does a wonderful job supporting in class but also leads our hugely successful breakfast club. We are sure that Mrs Trickett will continue to excel in her new career and wish her the best of luck.

Our last goodbye goes to Mr Stewart, who has done an amazing job over the past two years, firstly as our PE apprentice before becoming a PE assistant to Mrs Austin. Mr Stewart is a popular member of staff who has regularly given up his own time to support our Griffins during their afterschool sports activities. We are sorry to see him go and are sure that he will be a real asset to his next employers.

We look forward to welcoming Mrs Gilbride and Miss Burgess to our support staff team as well as Mrs Lessels and Mrs Hopkins who are joining our site supervisor team

Please can we wish our entire school community a very Merry Christmas and prosperous new year and we look forward to welcoming our Griffins back to school in 2024 on Monday, 8th January.

Best wishes

Mrs Lamb  
Head of School

Here are some useful numbers if you are worried about a child over the Christmas Holidays:

Race Leys Safeguarding Phone 07707 487029

Police 999 or 101

NSPCC 0800 800 5000

Children & Families Front Door 01926 414144

-Out of hours 01926 886922

Family Support Helpline 01926 412412

Family Information Service 0800 408 1558

CAB 0808 250 5715

