



The Grove School Newsletter



Wonder – Explore - Grow

Newsletter 7th December 2018

Volume 1, Issue 4

Headteacher: Ms K Martin

Deputy Headteacher: Miss H Owen

Diary Dates Autumn 2

December

11th 2pm KS1 Nativity
12th 9.30am KS1 Nativity
14th KS2 Carol Service 2pm
17th Christmas Jumper Day
17th Christmas Lunch
18th Pantomime trip
19th 2.15pm School closes for
Christmas holidays

January

3rd & 4th Inset Days
7th – School opens for Spring
Term

February

Half term – 18th – 22nd
25th – School open

*Please visit the website for
the school annual diary*

Attachments

Dear Parents

Christmas has now officially arrived at The Grove. It was fantastic to see so many parents at our Christmas Decoration morning. Over 60 parents came along to make decorations which have now been hung all around the school.

Foundation Stage and KS1 children have been busy rehearsing the songs for their nativity. The stage is now up and the production is beginning to take shape. Do try to come along to one of the two nativity performances.

Our 'Super Singers', the school choir are out and about next week singing to different groups within the local community including The Mills and Reeves Carol Service and at the Arbury Lights switch.

Just a little reminder as the weather has definitely become colder. Please ensure your children have appropriate named clothing for the cold weather and send them in with wellingtons so they can continue to play on the field.

Kind regards

Karen Martin
Headteacher



**School closes for the
Christmas holidays at
2.15pm on
19th December 2018.**

**Pitstop will remain open until
4.15pm.**

**School reopens for
the Spring Term on
Monday, 7th January at 8.45am**

'My Family Reads' reading challenge

Reading is a way to bring families together. The 'My Family Reads' challenge was our first Reading-for-Pleasure home event of the academic year. Parents/carers and children were asked to send in a picture of a family member reading their favourite text; from Pokemon cards, to the Nando's menu, gardening magazines, to 'The Lion Witch and The Wardrobe' (ironically reading *in* the wardrobe by Jamie in Year 4!), it has been an absolute delight for the staff to see the different reading habits of The Grove families. Well done to all those super star families who challenged themselves and entered. Watch this space for the next Reading-for-Pleasure competition and school event coming up in the Spring Term!

**Our Value for this
half term**

RESPECT

**“Treat people the way
you want to be
treated.**

**Talk to people the way
you want to be talked
to.**

**Respect is earned,
not given.”**
Hussein Nishah

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We're on the Web!
www.thegroveschool.net

Peace Child Concert

On Wednesday 5th December the Grove Choir were invited to sing at The Cambridge Science Park as part of their seasonal events which included a presentation by Peace Child International and our children singing songs taken from The Peace Child Musical. It was an uplifting and festive event for the choir to take part in within our community. Invitations were also extended to the families of the choir and we hope that you enjoyed listening as much as we all enjoyed singing!

**Reading-for-pleasure research at the Faculty of Education by
Miss Lee-Fox**

Miss Lee-Fox has been asked to present her research and work on Reading-for-Pleasure (RfP) at the Cambridge University Faculty of Education, at a workshop for other teachers from across the UK last month. She shared her involvement in the family reading picnics, the child and teacher reading challenges (the 100 million minutes Reading Challenge and #ExtremeReading Challenge) and other school based events such as Drop-Everything-and-Read and the buddy-up publishing parties.

The workshop focussed on leading initiatives to build a community of readers. Using reading as a tool to bring families together, encouraging parents/carers, children and staff to work together to share and celebrate reading. We are very proud that we could use examples from our school, to show that reading contributes to bringing communities together. She demonstrated a number of easy, whole-school, research based strategies, activities and events, which have motivated and inspired our children and parent/carers to take pleasure in reading, inside and outside the classroom.

Miss Lee-Fox's input was well received by teachers from other schools who will use the ideas and strategies in their own settings. Thank you to all the parents, children and staff at The Grove who made all of these events a huge success, allowing us to share good practice across the country. Miss Lee-Fox is looking forward in her role as leader of RfP to further promote reading for children of all ages across the school.

CB4 Primary School Sports Festival at NCA

What a fantastic morning Year 2 had at the annual Year 2 Sports Festival!

The children said their morning 'goodbyes' and then found themselves being chivvied into their P.E. kits by an eager Miss Aurelio and excited Miss Lee-Fox. Next thing they knew, they were walking through the 'secret gate' to 'big school', as Elijah put it! As we entered the NCA sports hall, by the expressions on the children's beaming faces, it was as though they had entered a magical kingdom. Before them, laid a variety of colourful balls, oversized hoops and bright red space hoppers.

The children had a chance to meet and greet their CB4 neighbours (Year 2's from Chesterton and Kings Hedges Primary School). Each activity was then explained by an NCA teenager and the motivated teams rotated round the hall every 15 minutes, completing a total of 10 different physical (and challenging!) challenges.

The children (and adults) really enjoyed the morning at NCA and we all look forward to future events hosted by the enthusiastic and motivating NCA students!

Wellington Boots!



Now that winter is definitely upon us - did you know that if your child brings a pair of wellington boots into school they can use the school field during break times and lunchtimes?

School Meals

Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a universal free school meal.

Year 3 – 6 meals cost £2.25 per day.

Children can have soup and then choose from two main courses, a jacket potato/pasta. A dessert, fruit, yoghurt and cheese and biscuits are available each day.

Please encourage your child to have one of our delicious lunches

Sporting Competitions

KS1 Gymnastics Competition

Some of our Year 2 children were selected to take part in the KS1 Gymnastics schools competition held at NCA. This was the first time we had taken a team to the event and we were very proud! They had to learn a synchronised routine to music, which was a minute long, and perform a vault jump with precision technique. The routine performance in particular was superb and needless to say they all absolutely loved it!

KS2 Cross Country

It was that time of year again for the annual schools cross country event, and we took a large team of 25 KS2 children to run the 1500m course at Netherhall School. There was a boys and girls race in each year group, with around 100 runners in every race, so it was a tough competition! The weather was kind and everyone really enjoyed the day, we finished with a wide range of places throughout, but importantly no one gave up; the determination and resilience shown was outstanding and a brilliant representation of our Grove School. Well Done!

CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!



11th December – Arbury Court Lights switch on
11th December – KS1 Nativity
12th December – KS1 Nativity

14th December – KS2 – Christmas Carol Service
17th December – Christmas Jumper Day
17th December – Christmas Lunch
18th December – Panto trip

SNAPSHOTS OF THE GROVE



Safeguarding

Ms Martin is the designated lead for child protection and safeguarding at The Grove.

There are 3 deputy leads for child protection – they are: Mrs Hardy, Miss Owen and Mrs Courtney.

Please speak to any of these people if you have any concerns.