



The Grove School Newsletter



Wonder – Explore - Grow

Newsletter 11th September 2018

Volume 1, Issue 1

Headteacher: Ms K Martin

Deputy Headteacher: Miss H Owen

Diary Dates for Autumn

September

- 14th- 2.00pm EYFS picnic
- 17th – 2.40pm –Reading Picnic Year 2 & 5
- 28th – 3.30pm PTFA Autumn Fete

October

- 22nd-26th-Half Term
- 29th- School Closed Inset Day

November

- 14th – Flu Vaccinations Rec- Year 5

December

- 19th-2.15pm School closes for Christmas holidays

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the start of the new academic year – I hope you enjoyed the summer.

We would like to say a very warm welcome back. We are all looking forward to the new academic year. We would also like to extend our warm welcome to new members of staff, new children who have arrived from other schools and all our new reception children who will be starting with us full-time from Wednesday.

The start of term is always exciting and sometimes nerve wracking. It is to be expected that some children will be feeling anxious about being in a new year group.

The first few days and weeks are very much about establishing new routines

and ways of doing things (all teachers do things slightly differently). Once these become embedded you will find that your child should feel a little more comfortable and settled.

All of our staff are very happy to discuss any aspect of your child's education. The mornings tend to be very busy so we ask that you arrange to chat to meet with your child's teacher after school. Teachers are at their classroom doors in the morning if you need to ask them any brief questions. Alternatively, myself and other members of the school's leadership team are often in the playground each morning where we will be more than happy to have conversations with you.

Start of Term information and Reminders

Please visit the website for the school annual diary

Regular attendance at school is crucial. Fairly recently it was decided that a child with attendance of below 90% at any point in the academic year was said to be 'persistently' absent.

We monitor attendance closely, and will call you in for a meeting should your child's attendance dip below this figure. Following a change in legislation in 2013, Headteachers are not permitted to authorise term time holiday requests. We ask that where possible you arrange any medical appointments outside of school hours

There are times, of course, when a child is not well enough to attend school. Should this be the case, we ask that you contact school to let us know.

Our office is staffed from 8.30am. You can call before, though, leaving a voicemail to let us know why your child will not be attending school. It is very important that children arrive promptly each morning.

When a child is late it can be hard for them to 'pick up the thread' of the learning which their classmates are undertaking. If child arrives after registration has 'closed' they are recorded as absent from the entire morning session which will impact on their overall attendance figure.

There are instances, such as traffic congestion, which mean that a child is running late. Should this occur we ask that you call the office on 01223 577017 to let us know.

Attachments

Curriculum Map for Autumn 1

Homework Menu for Autumn 1

Meet the Teacher letter

Our Value for this half term COMPASSION

**“If you want others to
be happy, practice
compassion.**

**If you want to be
happy, practice
compassion”.**

Dalai Lama

Contact Details

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We're on the Web!

www.thegroveschool.net

Meet the Teacher Sessions

Next week there is an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher. These sessions are a chance to hear about the year ahead, ask questions and spend a little time in the classroom.

Don't worry if for some reason you are unable to join us, trying to find a time that is suitable for all is not always possible. You can always ring the office and ask for a follow up phone call/meeting.

Year 1 Monday 17th September
8.45 or 2.50pm

Year 2 Tuesday 18th September
8.45 or 2.50pm

Year 3/4 Wednesday 19th September
8.45 or 2.50pm

Year 5 Thursday 20th September
8.45 or 2.50pm

Year 6 Friday 21st September
8.45 or 2.50pm

PTFA Autumn Fair

FRIDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 15:15 – 17:30

There will be Bouncy Castles....

Tombola....Raffle....Games and Competitions....Second
Hand School Uniform Sale....BBQ.... Music....and more!

This is going to be a fantastic family event. The sun WILL shine so bring your children, relatives, friends and spare change and join us for a fun-filled afternoon!

Visit by the Mayor

On Monday the Mayor visited the school to re-open the swimming pool following the work we have done to enhance the changing rooms. We received some funding from Sport England to put towards making the changing rooms better for our children and our community group users. We now have lockers, infant seats and baby changing units in the changing rooms and storage benches in the pool area.



How to earn while volunteering at The Grove

We will soon be launching the Time Credits scheme in school. For every hour you spend volunteering in school you will earn a Time Credit. Time credits can then be exchanged for a variety of things, from swimming to cinema tickets to clip 'n climb. More information to follow shortly.



CIRCUS SKILLS



On Monday 10th we had a visitor who shared her many circus skills with the children in assembly.

There will be a taster session for children to try it out for themselves.

If there is interest, Right Side Up Circus will be able to run an after school club.

Please look in your child's book bag tomorrow for further details.

School Meals

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

**Year3 – 6 meals cost
£2.25 per day.**

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

Please encourage your child to have one of our delicious lunches

Pupil Premium

Pupil premium is a government grant which is allocated to schools based on the number of children eligible for free school meals and the number of looked after children.

Schools are entitled to spend their allocated Pupil Premium grant in a way they think will best support the raising of attainment and achievement of these children.

We go to great lengths to ensure that no child eligible for pupil premium funding is "singled out". Other pupils in the school are completely unaware of who receives this extra funding.

Please note, this is different to universal free school meals which all children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 are entitled to.

If your child does not have free school meals but may be eligible because of your family's income level, please contact our school office (in confidence) to register them. Even if you do not wish for them to have the meals, this would mean that the school still receives funding which will be used to help your child.

Thank you in advance for registering your child.

Uniform Reminder

Our school uniform consists of a Grove green sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo, and white polo shirt. You may choose to purchase a green sweatshirt/cardigan or white polo shirt from shops and supermarkets as part of a 'school-wear' range. Hoodies are not permitted. Trousers, shorts and skirts should be dark grey or black. We thank you for your support in adhering to this policy.

Snapshots of the first Week



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.