



# Miss Shaw's Newsletter

Dear parents and carers,

With just 14 school days to go, there seems to be a lot still to cover in school before we finish for the summer break. I am ever hopeful that, despite the rising COVID 19 infection numbers, that we will be able to move towards a more "normal" school. The Government will be publishing their expectations for how school will operate on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Once this information is in, we will review it and make our plans for September. I will write to you as soon as these plans are sorted. Of course, as we have learnt from this year, things can change quickly so, if I need to, I will write to you all during the summer break with any updates.

A few tweaks for the weeks ahead. In order to give us lots of time and space to maintain our bubbles, we are going to run our Sports' Day across two days. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will have their Sports' Day on the morning of Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July and Years 3 – 6 will have theirs on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July. As per usual, there will be a round robin of activities as well as some races. Everything will be in line with our COVID 19 mitigations. I am sad that we cannot ask you to join us but we will try to take some photographs to share the excitement with you.

The children will meet their new teacher on the morning of the 15<sup>th</sup> July – weather allowing! If rain is forecast, then we will move the date. They will meet as their new classes out on the field in the fresh air and spend around 40 minutes together.

At this time of year, you prepare to say some goodbyes. We will be saying cheerio to a few children, who are moving away, as well as to all of our Year 6. Alongside that, sadly, we will be saying goodbye to some staff. As the school gets smaller, we need to reduce our classes to just 7 so this inevitably means that staff have to move on to pastures new.

This year we have been immensely lucky to have been part of the beginning of the teaching journey for four teachers. Miss Sheriff, Miss Hayhurst, Miss Wade and Mr Simkin have survived their NQT year and have been amazing members of our team. We are incredibly sad to see them go. Miss Sheriff is off to a large primary school in London; Miss Wade is off to a large primary school near Huntingdon; Mr Simkin is heading to the other side of the county and Miss Hayhurst is joining a local primary school. We would like to thank them for choosing the Grove to start their careers and wish them the very best for their futures.

We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Wells, at the end of the term. She has been at the Grove for a number of years and taught mainly in Early Years and Key Stage 1. She is moving to a school which is local to her home whilst her children are still at a very young age. I know she will be very much missed by The Grove community and I am sure you will join with me in wishing her the very best in her new school.

Finally, Mrs Morris will be retiring at the end of this term. Mrs Morris came to The Grove Team to support the improvements in SEND provision in the school. She has certainly met her objective! We shall miss her advice and experience but, again, I am sure that you will join me in wishing her a very happy (and well deserved) retirement.

Of course, as we say good bye we also have the opportunity to say hello. Mrs Rice will be joining our Teaching Assistant Team and Miss Walker will be joining our teaching team. We are thrilled they are part of the team and hope that they enjoy their time with us.

You are now probably asking who is going to be in which class! That is still yet to be confirmed. What I can tell you is that our structure will be:

*1 x Reception Class (Gosling)*

*1 x Year 1 (Wren)*

*3 x Year 2/3 (Ostrich, Flamingo, Kookaburra)*

*1 x Year 4 (Woodpecker)*

*2 x Year 5/6 (Toucan and Hummingbird)*

*Aviary*



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We have to create these mixed classes to cater for the strange numbers we have across the school and to ensure that we do not have more than 30 children in a Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 class. Our numbers range from 24 to 42 in a year group! From September 2021, we will only be taking 30 children into Reception which means in 7 years time, we will have 1 class in each year group.

Lots of schools have mixed aged classes and they work really well. It does not affect the education your child gets as there is little difference in the range of attainment between a mixed class and a single year group class. Of course, many of you have had experience of our Reception/Year 1 classes and Year 5/6 classes over the last couple of years. If you have any questions, please let us know and we will get in touch with you or create a list of frequently asked questions.

The mixed year group classes will be based on friendship groups. Each child will be asked for 6 children they would like to be with and the guarantee is that they will be with at least 1 child off their list. We will then look at the classes to make sure that they are even in their makeup – for example to make sure we haven't got one female heavy class.

I am hoping to let you know who your child's class teacher will be in the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> July.

Stay safe.

Miss Shaw

## Arrival and Collection times

Please stick to the allocated times so we can keep ourselves safe.

Bubble	Arrival (all days)	Leaving (all days)
Y5/6	8.45	3.10 – 3.15
Y4		
Y3	8.55	3.05 – 3.10
Y2		2.55 – 3.05
Y1	9.05	2.45 – 2.55
YR/1		
Aviary	As per year groups	

Please note – the doors will be closed at 9.10. After that, please sign your child in at the office as our registers close at that time.

Children in Year 5 and 6 must not arrive at school before 8.40 am please.



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Please remember.

## STEP 3

At least five weeks after Step 2, no earlier than 17 May.



Indoor entertainment and attractions.



30 person limit outdoors.  
Rule of 6 or two households indoors (subject to review).



Domestic overnight stays.



Organised indoor adult sport.



Most significant life events (30).



Remaining outdoor entertainment (including performances).



Remaining accommodation.



Some large events (except for pilots) - capacity limits apply.  
Indoor events: 1,000 or 50%.  
Outdoor other events: 4,000 or 50%.  
Outdoor seated events: 10,000 or 25%.



International travel - subject to review.



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## Dates for your diaries

Date	Time	Activity
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Morning	KS1 (R – Yr2) Sports' Day
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Morning	KS2 (Years 3-6) Sports' Day
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Children's reports sent home to parents and carers
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	During school day	Children and new class teachers meet (on the school field for 30-45 minutes)
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30	Year 5/6 End of Year Celebration Awards Ceremony
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30	Year 2 End of Year Celebration Awards Ceremony
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	14:00	Reception and Year 1 End of Year Celebration Awards Ceremony
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30	Year 3 End of Year Celebration Awards Ceremony
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30	Aviary End of Year Celebration Awards Ceremony
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	9:30	Year 4 End of Year Celebration Awards Ceremony
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	9:30	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	14:00	School closes for the summer break
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	16:00	The Orchard closes for the summer break

## Dates for September 2021

Date	Activity
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	INSET Day
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	All children return to school.



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Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

Rosettes this week have been presented to:

Kestrel: Lucy, Mustafa

Eagle: Luke, Julia

Kingfisher: Jordon, Alice

Woodpecker: Evelyn, Jack

Kiwi: Trim, Joshua

Ostrich: Bella, Alisha

Flamingo: George, Laksham

Wren: Lia, Izzy

Gosling: Michai, Aalimah

Duckling: Duru, Ollie

The Aviary: Braden, Michael