



Grove Road Primary School

Growing and Achieving Together
Community Respect Self-Belief Ambition

Newsletter 2

October 2017

Email updates are now on our website

With the amount of electronic information coming out to you from school increasing, we have added a page to the website that stores a summary of the parent email updates that are sent out every Tuesday and Thursday. In this way, if you delete an email by mistake or simply can't find the one you are looking for, they can now be found by clicking the email icon on the letters page of the website. These weekly updates will be stored for one term and then deleted. All other letters and attachments are available as before. If for any reason you do not receive a Tuesday or Thursday email you can use this link to check whether you have missed anything.



After school safety

Please can we remind you to keep a close eye on your children after school. The children have been told that they are not allowed onto any of the apparatus or the mound after school. It would help us enormously if you could also help us reinforce this expectation. The risk assessments for these areas are based on adult supervision. These areas are not available to the children after school. Children not being collected by an adult are told they must go straight home. Please also encourage the children to show consideration to others by dismounting from their bikes and scooters once on the school premises.

Parent View

Our school inspection window has opened again. Whilst we do not know when our next inspection will take place, it is likely to be in the next 18 months. Ofsted are seeking your views via the Parent View website. This feedback facility is available all year so please make use of it if you would like to register your views on the school and how it runs day to day. It is a really useful reference point for us as well.



- 13/10 School photographs (14/10 Family Photo sessions)
- 17/10 Parent Consultations 4–6:30pm
- 18/10 2DH assembly 9:10
- 19/10 Parent Consultations 5-7:00pm
- 20/10 Bags 2 School collection
- 20/10 Y2 Cake Sale
- 23/10 Half Term & 30/10 INSET Day
- 31/10 Secondary transfer deadline
- 2/11 KS2 Family Learning
- 2/11 Building Blocks workshop for Reception parents
- 6/11 FOG meeting 8pm
- 8/11 1FM Class Assembly 9:10am
- 9/11 Building Blocks workshop for Reception parents
- 15/11 1TM Class Assembly 9:10am
- 17/11 Children in Need & KS2 Discos
- 21/11 Y6 Work Shadowing evening at Tring School (7-9pm)
- 24/11 Occasional Day (School closed)
- 27/11 FOG meeting 8pm
- 4/12 Nativity pm
- 5/12 Nativity am
- 6/12 Carol Concert at the church
- 9/12 Christmas Fair
- 13/12 Christmas Lunch & parties
- 15/12 Music Recital (3:30-5pm)
- 19/12 Term finishes at 1:30pm

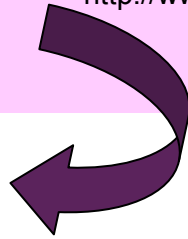
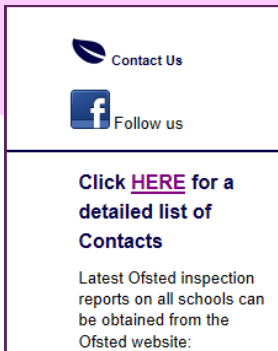


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How and Who to Contact

We know as a large school it can sometimes be difficult to know how best to contact the person you need to speak to, or even know who that is. If you navigate to the "Contact Us" page on our website, you can click on the link pictured below, (that you will find in the top right of the page) and it will take you to a useful summary guide of who is who and how to best make contact.

http://www.groveroad.herts.sch.uk/contact_us/contact_us.html



Attendance - In School Every Day and on Time!

Congratulations to 2DH, 3CL and 4SM for having the best class attendance figures in the school for the month of September. Regular and punctual attendance is the best way to support your child's learning journey through school.

RKC 95.5% RLB 95.4% 1TM 96.8% 1FM 97.6% 2SO 97.3% **2DH 99.5%** **3CL 99.6%** 3MM 96.5%
4VH 97% **4SM 98.3%** 5LF 97.5% 5RT 96.7% 6MT 97.6% 6EC 96.0%

Across the school, 49 days (98 sessions) of learning have been lost as a result of unauthorised absences and term time holidays so far this school year. That's a lot of missed learning!

Please be aware that we expect attendance for all children to be above 95%. If it drops below this figure you will be contacted to discuss any unauthorised absences. Attendance that falls below 90% will be tracked by the Attendance Improvement Officer and may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice. Our school attendance policy is on the website so please take a look. In the meantime, help us help your children to learn by getting them to school every day on time.

Music Recital

We will be hosting a music recital on 15th December between 3:30 and 5:00pm in the KS2 hall. This is a great opportunity for the musicians at Grove Road to show case their talents and celebrate their dedication and hard work.

If your child plays an instrument, please talk to them about whether they would like to take part so they can start thinking about what they might like to play.

A letter will be sent home after half term but we wanted you all to save the date in your diary.



Lunchboxes

It's a while since we reminded you that we have some guidelines for packed lunches and playtime snacks. These guidelines are to promote healthy lifestyles and ensure fair expectations for all.

Firstly, please remember we are a nut free school, this includes products such as Nutella. I know it's easy to forget but we have children in school with very serious nut allergies. Please also remember that children in KS2 can bring a cereal bar or fruit for morning break time. The children are not allowed to bring crisps or sweets.

We also encourage parents to avoid sending in chocolate bars and sugary snacks at lunchtime. Lunchtime staff will talk to children if they feel they have the wrong items in their lunchboxes because they are trying to follow school policy. So please help us by sending your child to school with a healthy and balanced lunchbox. It will help them stay focused in the afternoon and access their learning more effectively.



Everbridge—Emergency Closure Notification System

In the event of unscheduled school closure we aim to inform you as quickly as possible. Hertfordshire offer a county wide system called Everbridge. To receive these alerts by SMS and or email you will need to register with the Everbridge School Closure Notification System. Please use the link below to access the registration page.

member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489

This link will direct you to the “**Sign Up**” page where you should click on the “sign up” button located at the top right hand side of the page on the grey strip and from there follow the instructions. It should take no more than 5 minutes to register and you can edit your information at any time should you change your mobile number or email address.

Each contact within the system can have 2 devices added for each communication type – this means that in addition to adding your own mobile number and email address, you could include the mobile number and email address of a partner or a grandparent as part of the registration process. They too will then receive any messages in relation to the school’s closure. Alternatively, interested parties could register themselves separately. If as a parent / guardian you have children at more than one Hertfordshire school you can register for those schools too in a single registration process by selecting all schools you have children at. Once signed up you will receive any messages relating to the status of the schools you have signed up to receive alerts from.

Whilst we will aim to email as usual, the Everbridge system is likely to be your first notification. Please take the opportunity now to check your registration details before the weather starts to get colder! We will send a test message next week, so please get signed up now, rather than wait until it’s urgent. Full details of emergency closure protocols and procedures (due to snow or any other unexpected event) can be found on the school website under policies and guidance (see link below)

<http://www.groveroad.herts.sch.uk/documents/Snow%20Protocols%20December%202016.pdf>



The school year consists of 195 days, of which, 5 are training days (INSET) when the school is closed to the children. Term dates for future years are available on the Herts Grid at:
www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/schlife/termdates

Term Time & Holiday Dates for 2017/18

- Half Term Holiday - Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October 2017
- INSET Day - Monday 30th October 2017 (school closed for staff training)
- Occasional Day - Friday 24th November 2017
- Term finishes at 1:30pm on Tuesday 19th December 2017
- Christmas Holiday - Wednesday 20th December to Tuesday 2nd January 2018
- INSET Day - Wednesday 3rd January 2018 (school closed for staff training)
- Spring Term begins - Thursday 4th January 2018
- Half Term Holiday - Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February
- Spring Term finishes at 1:30pm on Thursday 29th March 2018
- Easter Holiday– Friday 30th March to Friday 13th April 2018
- Summer Term begins Monday 16th April 2018
- Bank Holiday - Monday 7th May 2018
- Half Term Holiday - Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June 2018
- INSET Days - Monday 4th **and** Tuesday 5th June 2018 (school closed for staff training)
- Children return Wednesday 6th June 2018
- Summer Term finishes on Tuesday 24th July 2018 at 1:30pm

Don't forget that a full set of dates, policies and school information are available on our website.

www.groveroad.herts.sch.uk

You can also follow us on Facebook to get regular updates and last minute information sent to you. Just click the link on our website.