



Grove Road Primary School

Growing and Achieving Together
Community Respect Self-Belief Ambition

Newsletter 3

November 2016

News & Updates

Christmas Plans & Events



I am told the Christmas holiday is only 17 school get ups away! Festive plans are well underway, so we wanted to let you know that:

- The Christmas Fair takes place on Saturday 3rd December. Please bring friends and family to support this festive fundraiser. (11am-2pm)
- Family Christmas Carols at St Peter & St Pauls on Wednesday 7th December at 6pm
- The Festive Post Box opens on Monday 5th December for Grove Road Christmas Cards. Please ensure full names and class numbers are on the front of every envelope.
- Nursery & Reception Nativity performances are on Thursday 8th (morning) and Friday 9th December (afternoon). Details to follow.
- Christmas Lunch is on Wednesday 14th December. If your child has packed lunch, you are welcome to send them in with a Christmas themed packed lunch.
- Y1-Y6 Christmas parties will take place on Monday 19th December (Christmas Jumper Day).
- Reception Christmas party will take place on Wednesday 14th December
- Christmas Jumper Day Monday 19th December—letter to follow from House Captains
- Nursery Party day will be on Tuesday 20th December.

We don't ask you to provide any party food but instead ask for a donation of £1.00 from each child towards the cost of party food, Christmas crackers and party game prizes.

Don't forget we are closed on Friday 25th November!



- 3/12 Christmas Fair
- 5/12 Post Box opens
- 7/12 Carol Concert 6pm
- 8/12 Early Years' Nativity am
- 9/12 Early Years' Nativity pm
- 14/12 Christmas Lunch & Reception party day
- 15/12 Music Recital;
- 19/12 Y1-Y6 Christmas party Day
- 20/12 Nursery party day
- 21/12 End of Autumn Term
- 5/1/17 Term resumes
- 12/1 KS2 Family Learning
- 15/1 Primary admissions deadline
- 27/1 KS2 Disco
- 20/3 Y3/4 performance
- 21/3 Y3/4 performance
- 24/3 Red Nose Day
- 24/3 KS2 Disco
- 28/3 Parent Consultations
- 30/3 Parent Consultations
- 31/3 End of Spring term

Curriculum Enrichment Newsletter

Keep your eyes peeled for the new termly Curriculum Newsletter that is due home on 13th December, with updates on all the exciting events from this term.

Staffing

At the end of this term we are saying farewell to Mrs Vicky Williams and Mr Mike Comer.

Vicky is leaving after many years in different roles at Grove Road, to embark on an Early Years project.

Mike Comer, as some of you may know, has been unwell this term and has made the decision not to return. Suzanne Brannigan will be working with the Year5 team for the rest of the year.

We wish them well with their future plans and will miss them very much.

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2017/18 term dates on the back page.

New Emergency School Closure Notification System (You need to register!)



The weather is really starting to show signs that winter knocking at the door! As such, we want to remind you of what happens in the event of a broken boiler or such heavy snow that we have to close the school or delay the start time. Obviously school closure is the very last resort, but if a decision is made to close we will notify you via this new County message board which enables us to contact all parents, staff and governors as well as local radio and the wider school community, via a single update so it is likely to be the first alert you will get. School email and Facebook alerts will then follow. We aim to confirm a decision to close by 7:30am on the day.

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 school 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 your child’s school. This includes Tring School.

Our Severe Weather Emergency Closure policy guidance is available on the school website.

Class Attendance

A huge well done to class 2SO for their fabulous attendance this year so far! Nearly every class has attendance above the national average of 97% Well done!

- RKC: 96.4%
- RLB: 94.7%
- 1CL: 98.5%
- 1TM: 98.3%
- 2FM: 98.8%
- 2SO: 99.5%**
- 3KC: 97.2%
- 3CR: 98.4%
- 4KC: 96.7%
- 4VH: 98.8%
- 5LF: 98.6%
- 5CM: 98.8%
- 6MT: 95.6%
- 6EC: 98.5%

Say NO to Bullying: A handbook for parents

As part of our Staying Safe theme, we have found an information handbook for parents that you may find useful. The handbook outlines what bullying is and the signs that might indicate if your child is being affected; what our roles are as teachers and parents and strategies on how we can work together to support your child/ren.

If you feel that this handbook would be useful, you can purchase one via the on-line payment system: **(www.schoolgateway.com) for £1.** Orders need to be placed by **Friday 9th December**

A second publication also recommended by a parent for older girls is :
<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Queen-Bees-Wannabes-Boyfriends-Realities/dp/0307454444>

The Giving Machine

Don't forget you can do your on-line Christmas shopping at hundreds of outlets via the Giving Machine and trigger automatic donations to school funds at no cost to you.

www.thegivingmachine.co.uk



Advance Notice of 2017/18 Calendar dates

- INSET Day - Friday 1st September 2017 (school closed for staff training)
- Autumn term begins Monday 4th September 2017
- 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 at 1:30pm 2018

**Dates for the
next school
year
2017/2018**

**Dates for the
this school
year
2016/2017**



Children In Need

Grove Road and the House Captains did a great job this year with their fundraising for Children In Need. The children looked great in all their spots! The dressing up/non-uniform raised £420.53 and the Cake Sale (well done Y6 bakers!) raised £127.00

**So a grand total of
£547.53**

Term Time & Holiday Dates for 2016/17

- Occasional Day - Friday 25th November 2016
- Term finishes at 1:30pm on Wednesday 21st December 2016.
- Christmas Holiday - Thursday 22nd December to Wednesday 4th January
- Spring Term begins - Thursday 5th January 2017
- Half Term Holiday - Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2017
- Spring Term finishes at 1:30pm on Friday 31st March 2017
- Summer Term begins Tuesday 18th April 2017
- Bank Holiday - Monday 1st May 2017
- INSET Day - Friday 26th May (school closed for staff training)
- Half Term Holiday - Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2017
- Summer Term finishes on Friday 21st July at 1:30pm

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/schlfe/termdates

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.

