



Grove Road Primary School

Growing and Achieving Together
Community Respect Self-Belief Ambition

Newsletter 3

November 2017

Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

This year we have decided to support the Salvation Army's Christmas Present appeal. They will be talking to the children in assembly on 13th November to explain that any boxes we collect will be donated to local children in need of support at Christmas. We will be asking the children to work as a family or with friends to cover a shoe box with wrapping paper, covering the lid separately so that it can be opened easily to check the contents. Then fill the box with a gift, or several small gifts to be given to a child on Christmas Day. We will be talking to the children about the sort of things they like to receive and what makes a gift special.

The families at Grove Road are always very generous and we hope that some of you will support our Christmas Present appeal. We know that Christmas is an expensive time and there are lots of demands upon you all. The appeal is optional and we will be talking to the children about working together on their boxes. It's not a competition for how many we can collect, but helping to make Christmas special for children who might not otherwise have anything under the tree on Christmas morning. Our hope is that the children at Grove develop empathy and a better understanding of the challenges facing other children. Thank you in advance for your help and support with this.

Any boxes need to be in school by **1st December**,
Suggestions include:

- **0-3 years:** dolls, teddy bears, cot mobiles, baby clothes, bath toys, CDs of suitable music and nursery rhymes, puzzles
- **3-5:** dolls and action figures, cars, lorries, DVDs and CDs (music and nursery rhymes), colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles
- **5-9:** educational games & toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), CDs & family friendly DVDs, books, puzzles



Dates for the Diary:

- 6/11 Primary Admissions open
- 8/11 1FM Class Assembly 9:10am
- 9/11 Building Blocks workshop II 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
- 5/2 Nursery applications open

2018/19 term dates are now available on the final page of this letter

Health & Wellbeing

We wanted to recommend an excellent website for children and parents offering help, advice and activities on staying healthy. Simply use the links below to access this fabulous free resource.

<https://www.healthforkids.co.uk/>
<https://www.healthforkids.co.uk/parents/>



Grove Road,
Tring,
Herts. HP23 5PD
Phone: 01442 822056
www.groveroad.herts.sch.uk
E-mail: admin@groveroad.herts.sch.uk

Here's how your parents can find local information

PARENTS/CARERS

Early Years Appeal -VOTE TODAY!

Friends of Grove have applied on our behalf for a £20,000 grant for a new shelter in Reception. All you need to do is click and vote! Feel free to get family and friends to vote too. We need 18,000 votes! Each person gets 10 votes and we need all 10 of your votes to win. Your vote is incredibly important! If every person at school donates their 10 VOTES and then gets five others to vote by asking friends & family to vote WE CAN WIN! Tring School are also publicising our appeal. Please use the link below to vote. You can also read about our project, see our photos and even watch the promo video made by the clever and talented members of FOG!

<https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-6128>

Alternatively, go to www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk and search for our project **Friends of Grove** in the project title, then register, vote and share the link.

Please share the link with family and friends and ask them to vote for Friends of Grove.

We already have over 3,500 votes but have a long way to



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. 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.

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 has been sent home this week, so save the date in your diary.



Children from across the school did really well in the recent **Tring Cross Country** event, competing with children from Goldfield, Bishop Wood, Long Marston, Aldbury, Brookmead and Dundale. All who took part did an amazing job and were rightly very proud of their endeavours.

Sports Captains Edie and Isabella were excellent role models and there were several comments about the excellent conduct of our runners.

The Grove Road team came 2nd in the Year 1&2 race and 1st in the Y5&6 race. Malachi in Y2 was awarded a gold medal for his impressive performance in the Y1&2 race.

Other medal winners included: Poppy Stacey, Jake Mitchell, James Merlino, Ben O'Keefe, Ronnie Coburn, Thomas Hawkins & Isabella Dolton. Well Done!!



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 have sent a test message, so please get signed up now if you didn't receive it, 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>

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



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

2018/19 term dates are now available on the final page of this letter

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.

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 (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

Staffing Updates

Miss Reeve and Miss Meedin begin their Maternity Leave on Monday 13th November. We wish them well for their new arrivals due at the end of that week!

Sadder news is that **Mrs Gifford**, who has been unwell for some time, has decided to take early retirement. Nicky Gifford has been an invaluable member of the Grove Road team and the local community for many years and she will be much missed by her colleagues here at Grove. We would like to wish her all the best and say a huge thank you to Nicky for all her hard work and dedication to the school.

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.



Reception Admissions

Monday 6th November 2017 - The process for applying to primary, junior and middle schools goes live.

Please remember that even if your child has a place in our Nursery, you must apply for a Reception place.

Monday 15 January 2018 - Statutory deadline for application. Parents should apply online at:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Under 11s 2018 leaflets were posted on 30th October 2017 to families of reception age children in Hertfordshire applying for primary schools or academies for September 2018

Full information about the admissions processes is available at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

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

Where possible we have worked to align our dates with Tring School. The only date that differs in 2018/19 will be our INSET after October half term. Tring have a mid-week INSET in September which we just didn't feel suited a our curriculum timetables. Other than that, holidays, INSET and Occasional Days, dates all align.



Term Time & Holiday Dates for 2018/19

- **Autumn term begins -Tuesday 4th September 2018**
- Half Term Holiday - Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November
- INSET Day - Monday 5th November (school closed for staff training)
- Occasional Day - Friday 30th November 2018 School closed
- Term finishes at 1:30pm on Friday 21st December 2018
- Christmas Holiday - Monday 24th December to Friday 4th January 2019
- **Spring Term begins - Monday 7th January 2019**
- Half Term Holiday - Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February
- Spring Term finishes at 1:30pm on Friday 5th April 2019
- Easter Holiday. Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April 2019
- **Summer Term begins Tuesday 23rd April 2019**
- Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May 2019
- Half Term Holiday - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2019
- Children return Monday 3rd June 2019
- Summer Term finishes at 1:30pm on Friday 19th July 2019