



Grove Road Primary School

Growing and Achieving Together
Community Respect Self-Belief Ambition

Newsletter 5

January 2017



Community Hero

The sign above reads: "Hello! Please don't throw rubbish on my school path"

Finlay started reception last September and like many of you, he noticed the rubbish on his walk to school. Instead of just looking at it, he went the next step asking his Mum if they could do something about it. "Let's pick it all up mum. We need to look after the world and the animals."

This isn't the first time Finlay has taken the time to improve his environment. A year ago he went round the neighbourhood and onto a field opposite the school and picked up two bin bags of rubbish. Lets hope Finlay's efforts inspire others and even better still, prompt people to take their litter home rather than discard it!



Grove Road pupils taking the initiative!

Grove Road Swimming Team

The Grove Road swimming team are next due to compete on March 10th in the East of England Swimming Gala. Isabella Dolton in Year 5 has taken the initiative and designed swimming hats for her team mates to spur them on to even greater success. The hats are currently being made, the cost having been donated by Pro4Solutions

A huge thanks to Isabella for her creativity and initiative in getting this organised.

- 6/2 Young Voices at the O2
- 7/2 Closing date for Parent Governor election
- 13/2 HALF TERM
- 23/2 KS2 Family Learning
- 27/2 On-line bookings open for Parent Consultations
- 28/2 1CL class assembly
- 2/3 World Book Day
- 7/3 1TM Class assembly
- 14/3 2FM Class assembly
- 20/3 Y3/4 performance
- 21/3 Y3/4 performance
- 24/3 Red Nose Day & Talent show auditions
- 24/3 KS2 Disco
- 28/3 Parent Consultations
- 30/3 Parent Consultations
- 31/3 Talent Show Final
- 31/3 End of Spring term
- 18/4 Summer term begins
- 27/4 Bags 2 Schools collection day
- 4/5 Polling Day
- 8/5 Y6 SATs week
- 26/5 INSET Day

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2017/18 term dates on the back page.

Year 5 have been using figurative language to write poems about the changing seasons. We thought you might like to see what Alice and Amelia wrote together.

Beaming down on the world,
The sun is a mother who cuddles the earth, it is her baby.
Haunted by a deepening gloom, the glittering sun is frightened away.
The scowling clouds are the demons of death,
Cackling wickedly while they chase the sun into the deeps.

Smooth blankets of cool air rush the clouds away into the sea of sinister lightning.
The lightning strikes. It is a torrent of evil, plunging into the depths.
Lakes of fog slowly fade into winter,
The snow is a swan spreading its pearl white feathers for the crystals to dance upon.

When the sun hears the merriment, she too comes to play,
She is a layer of warmth changing the seasons into sunny souls.
She is a friend of heaven, helping out the angels and doing her good deeds.
Summer's arrival is full of merriment.
It is earth's joy, raining its happiness down.



30 hours Free Nursery Provision from September 2017

This is a new entitlement for working parents of 3 and 4 year old children which will be introduced in some Nursery settings from September 2017. This is an extra 15 hours per week provision in addition to the child's existing 15 hour free early education place.

This whole new entitlement of 30 hours free childcare can be offered term time only (over 38 weeks) or can be stretched across the whole year to meet parental needs, in one setting or split between different Early Years providers, including Child Minders.

Who is eligible for 30 Hours Free Childcare?

- All parents in the household work at least 16 hours a week and earn at least £107 per week up to a maximum salary of £100,000 per parent in the household.
- Self employed parents and parents on zero-hours contracts will be eligible if they meet the average earnings criteria.
- 1 parent is employed and 1 parent is disabled or incapacitated, based on receipt of specific benefits 1 parent is employed and 1 parent has substantial caring responsibilities, based on specific benefits received for caring.
- Both parents are employed but 1 or both parents are temporarily away from the workplace on parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave.
- Both parents are employed but 1 or both parents are temporarily away from the workplace on statutory sick pay.

For up to date information on eligibility please visit

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/parents

From September 2017, Grove Road Nursery will be offering a limited number of 30 hour funded places in Nursery in addition to the standard 15 hours and our Flexi-Provision. If you are thinking about Nursery admissions and would like to register your interest in this scheme, please contact Sharon Wheeler (Nursery Administrator). We are keen to reach families who already have siblings in school, who may not be planning to come and look around as part of the Nursery admissions process, which closes on 17th March 2017. It's really important that we talk to any parents who wish to take advantage of this new opportunity to gauge interest in order to determine how many places to allocate.



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**

**Remaining
dates for this
school year
2016/2017**

Calculation Progression Guidance for Parents and Pupils

If you are unsure of some of the calculation methods your children are using in school, we have some resources to help you! Vicky Hillier, with the help of children from Reception to Year 6 have produced video tutorials to explain how addition, subtraction, multiplication and division are taught across the school. By watching the clips from Y1 to Y6 you will see how methods progress and develop to support calculation across the school. Addition and subtraction tutorials are available now at the link below, with multiplication and division to follow later this term.



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

Term Time & Holiday Dates for 2016/17

- 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/schliffe/termdates

World Book Day this year takes place on Thursday 2nd March. Our theme is going to be Bedtime Stories. Full details will follow shortly but in the meantime get your Onesies and Pyjamas ready! Children could also dress as their favourite book character if they prefer.

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.

