



Grove Road Primary School

Growing and Achieving Together
Community Respect Self-Belief Ambition

Newsletter 7 March 2017

House Rules Day

The House Captains in partnership with FOG have organised a House Rules fundraising event on Friday 31st March. The children at House Forums have suggested and agreed a set of alternative rules for the school on that Friday! The rules are as follows:

- Wear what you like
- Eat your lunch in the order you choose Eg pudding first (hot lunches)
- Eat your packed lunch outdoors
- Extra break-time for everyone
- No formal lessons allowed
- Sit where you want in class



The House Rules apply for one day only! To take part the children simply need to donate £1.00, Wish us luck!!

Dates for the Diary:

- 24/3 Red Nose Day
- 24/3 KS2 Disco
- 28/3 2SO Class Assembly
- 28/3 Parent Consultations
- 30/3 Parent Consultations
- 31/3 House Rules Day
- 31/3 End of Spring term
- 18/4 Summer term begins
- 27/4 Bags 2 Schools collection day
- 27/4 KS2 Family Learning
- 4/5 Polling Day
- 8/5 Y6 SATs week
- 26/5 INSET Day
- 29/5 HALF TERM
- 6/6 Class photos
- 8/6 KS2 Family Learning
- 21/6 Totally Unplugged Day
- 29/6 Open Evening
- 3/7 Tring Transition Open Evening
- 4/7 & 6/7 Y5/6 performance
- 13/7 Early Years Sports
- 14/7 Sports Day
- 17/7 & 18/7 Y6 to Tring School
- 21/7 Term finishes

New Gates and Site Security

Over Easter, the school will be having new gates and fencing installed. Following on-going issues with unsafe pedestrian access through the front vehicle gates (despite signs and reminders), cars blocking and dropping at the front gate and ongoing trespass during out of school hours, we have made the decision to install higher fences and gates around the perimeter of the school. We are also going to take the opportunity to re-work the pathway and gates to the front of the Early Years' building on Grove Road, so that the footway will no longer cross the Reception playground.

From the start of the summer term, pedestrian access to the school between 9:00am and 3:00pm will be restricted to the pedestrian gate at the front of school. The gates from Beacon Way(Chiltern Way), Bunyan Close and Verney Close will all be locked between 9:00am and 3:00pm.

Vehicle access will be restricted and the front gates will be closed from 8:15am until 4:00pm, to maximise pupil safety. Parents with disability access permits and children arriving by bicycle will be able to request access on arrival. Parents collecting from Owls Club after 4:00pm will be able to do so as the gates will be open again from 4:00pm until 6:00pm.

This also means that there will be no access for Tring Tornadoes via the school site on a Sunday. Tornadoes' Saturday access will need to adhere to the one-way traffic circulation system, using Beacon Way for exit only. Whilst we all re-adjust and get used to the new systems, please remember that the changes are being made to enhance the safety of your children.

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Red Nose Day

Don't forget that this Friday (24th March) is Red Nose Day. As well as the Talent Show auditions, children can come to school dressed in red for the day or wearing their red noses.



Holiday Competition Activity "Make Someone Smile"

Pupils in Y4 have devised a holiday task for all the family. Following on from the Soap Carving workshops earlier this term, run by the Hospice in Berkhamsted, Molly H, Molly M, Rose and Maltilda have devised a task to bring a smile to the faces of patients at the local hospice in Berkhamsted.

The girls would like children from every year group to design a piece of artwork on A4 paper that will cheer the spirits of patients at the hospice. They have discussed in assembly adding a quote or words to add inspiration or comfort. You can use any medium you wish, just make it bright,

cheerful and engaging to the eye. Most importantly the art work needs to be something that will make people smile.

To enter the competition will cost £1.00 and the funds raised will go to Cancer Research, while all the entries will go to the hospice. There will be prizes for the best entries.

The closing date for all entries will be Friday 21st April, so you have the whole of the Easter holidays to get creative.



Farewells

We are wishing farewell to Claire Hatch and Rebecca Spencer this term. Both are off to pastures new and we will miss them very much. Claire and Rebecca have done the most fabulous job of providing classroom support in Y5 and Y6. Both incredibly talented and able to turn their hand to most things they have been an invaluable support to the Grove Road team as well as the children in their care. We wish them every success for the future!

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations will take place in the Key Stage 2 hall on **Tuesday 28th March** between 4:00pm and 6:30pm and on **Thursday 30th March** between 5:00pm and 7:30pm. If you have not booked an appointment to talk to your child's class teacher please contact the school office to see which time slots are still available.

The focus for this term will be to share the progress your child has made and what their next steps will be. For some children it will be to discuss barriers to learning and how to help. For others it will be what comes next and how you can help at home. Teachers have prepared a booklet that is designed to help you understand curriculum content for the year group and what age related expectations look like in reading, writing and maths. The teachers will outline aspects covered, next steps and how to help at home.

Consultations are 10 minutes long and we do our very best to keep to time. Please don't be offended if we ask you to conclude the discussion as the 10 minutes draws to a close. This is a very general update session and for those of you who need a longer consultation, teachers will make arrangements to talk to you at another time. In this way we hope that nobody has to wait for too long. Several families have multiple siblings, so keeping to time is essential to avoid a cascade of delays. If parents are delayed, teachers may well change the order of appointments in order to keep to time. It's worth remembering that if each consultation over runs by just 2 minutes, that adds a 30 minute overrun by the end of an evening.

You will also know that Kara Collins is away at the moment. Shannon Collins has kindly agreed to lead the consultations for 4KC so that parents have the opportunity to come and share the books to see the work that has been done this year. Shannon Collins has worked very closely with Vicky Hillier to plan and evaluate the learning and teaching for 4KC, but has obviously only been with the class since half term. Shannon has got to know the class very quickly, but will be focusing her discussions on current attainment rather than progress across the year to date for obvious reasons.

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

Curriculum Evening

Every term we try to offer something to help parents support their children. Parental engagement levels at Grove Road are outstanding and have a wonderful impact on the learning and progress of the children here. We strive to meet demand through a range of opportunities and visiting speakers. A local organisation called "Supporting Links" has agreed to provide sessions at Grove Road on 2nd and 9th May **to help you support your children to develop the skills of resilience and motivation.** A fabulous opportunity and fully funded by the school for your benefit. You should already have received full details of how to apply for places. Please contact the school office or check the school website if you missed this letter. Places will be limited and priority will go to those parents able to attend both sessions. The workshops come highly recommended and will be invaluable for parents of children from 3-18 years. Don't miss this excellent opportunity to give your child a head start.



Term Time & Holiday Dates for 2016/17

- 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/schlife/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.



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