

The Grove Primary School's fortnightly Head Teacher Newsletter

 Summer 7: Friday 20th July 2018

High Aspirations; resilience; teamwork; creativity; respect; diversity

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, it's taken a whole term and numerous site visits but we finally have signage outside school which bears our new logo!



During our celebration assembly we have not only congratulated a pleasing number of children with 100% attendance this term, but 38 who have won bronze badges for 100% this year. 5 children have been awarded a silver (2 years 100%) and 2, a gold, for 3 years. Bikal in Year 6 has had an amazing 5 years without a single day's absence which is tremendous. We have shared with all the children that sometimes, we simply can't help being unwell and need to be off school. However, The Grove's attendance is significantly below the national average due to **unauthorised** absences (mostly due to holidays taken in term time). A total of **534 days** were lost due to unauthorised holidays. This is very disappointing, particularly as it is a focus for inspectors and we hope that parents will ensure next year that holidays are confined to out-of-term-time. All INSET closure dates are on the calendar.

We spent a lovely Leavers' Assembly together today, with the school singing their 'Leavers' Song' to Year 6 who were presented with photographic memories books of their time here. We also presented Head Boy, Sam and Head Girl, Tyra with book vouchers as a memory of their role.

I do hope many of you will encourage your families to take part in the County Library's Summer Reading Challenge- and also our own photo competition- 'Where did YOU read this holiday?' The teachers will also be taking part. We would like to encourage even more children to be avid readers and this will continue to be a focus for us in the new academic year.

This afternoon the teachers are saying goodbye to colleagues moving on. I'm sure you will join me in offering best wishes in their new posts to Miss West, Mr Gillick, Miss Lavrich, Miss Thomason, Mrs Durkin and Mrs Cripps.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff at The Grove I would like to wish you all a happy, restful and sunny Summer break and look forward to seeing your children back in school on Wednesday 5th September.

Yours sincerely,

Jo Ibbotson
Head Teacher



Congratulations to Mrs Sowter who gave birth to 7lb 6oz baby boy Harison on Wednesday.

Safeguarding update	
<p>Thank you for bearing with us as we try to ensure greater security around the school site. This is following on from the report following an early Spring term Safeguarding Audit and several unidentified adults found wandering the site this Summer term.</p>	
The Audit said....	We have...
Review entrance/reception area of school to ensure visitors' ID is checked before they have access to the school.	<p>...moved visitor registration to the foyer to ensure they are checked before entering the school building</p> <p>...created sign-in sheets for parents at class events</p> <p>...asked for further identity before allowing doorbell access to school grounds for outdoor events.</p>
Reduce public access to school building from secondary doors when children are in the school building	<p>...asked parents not to cross through school building to exit via main entrance asking them to use external paths instead;</p> <p>subsequently locked the rear access sliding doors at peak times to minimise use in this way.</p> <p>...placed two post boxes at front and back of school to reduce the need to enter the building in school hours.</p>
Ensure that children are not allowed unsupervised on site before duty staff are on the playgrounds	<p>...began the process by locking the side gate to The Club at 8:50am.</p> <p>From September the only access to the site PRIOR TO 8.30am will be via The Club gate at Gorse Road or main front entrance using doorbell for The Club users or Pre-School reading in hall.</p> <p>...duty staff on playground from 8.30am when gates are opened</p>
Develop an Acceptable Use of IT Policy for children	...completed the AUP for children
Update the terms and conditions of hire of the school to include a statement regarding CP policy.	...completed and in place for Autumn 2018.
Continue with efforts to appoint a school crossing officer.	...placed 2 further advertisements with no applications received. Further approaches in progress regarding a signal-controlled crossing.
Increase the emphasis on road safety in PHSCE lessons	...implemented two additional Road Safety projects for KS1 and EYFS this Summer Term with plans for Bikeability for KS2 in 2018-19
Undertake a lockdown practice	<p>...implemented in early May. Highly successful drill (reported in previous Headlines).</p> <p>These will be repeated at different times of day termly.</p>

Making sandwiches

Year 3 had a great time making sandwiches. We tried to include yummy combinations we have never tried before and then we evaluated their taste and appearance. We also made sandwich packaging and it was lots of fun putting our sandwiches into the packaging – some of us had to make a few small changes to allow it to fit though!



Year 6 Performance 'Darwin Rocks!'

On Tuesday, Year 6 performed their end of year musical extravaganza, Darwin Rocks! Both performances went well with all the children taking part. There was amazing singing from the whole year group, as well as some fabulous individual solos. The acting was amazing, it was great to see how the children really got into their roles and confidence blossomed. We are immensely proud of their excellent teamwork and success. Thank you to everyone who provided costumes and props and the whole of the Year 6 teaching team for the vision and pulling it all together.



On Wednesday two children from Year 4 went to Kings International College, along with 6 other Kite school children, to receive a plaque-one for each Kite School, that some of their year 9 students had made as part of their enterprise study. They got to have a look round their workshop and get a little insight into what they can do further down the line in their education.

A wonderful presentation was given and then the children were awarded with medals which the year 9's had also made.

The children then returned to The Grove with the plaque that will be displayed in the front entrance of our school.



A huge thank you...

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in Lana's sponsored walk around the playing field, I counted the money this morning and the children raised £272.47. Wow!

This will be sent to The Brain Tumour Charity and used for much needed research.

Thank you for getting involved, it meant a lot to the girls to know they had extra support from their school and raised awareness.

In addition, it was so kind of Mrs Barnsley, Miss Taylor, Mrs Trendell, Miss Houghton and Miss Parkinson to join our walk around Virginia Waters. The staff have truly gone above and beyond.

Thank you again!!!!!!

Zoë, Andrew, Ophelia, Lana and Honor.

ENRICHMENT CALENDAR 2017-2018

Monday 23rd July

INSET DAY – School Closed to children

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Tuesday 4th September

INSET DAY

Wednesday 5th September

First Day of New School Year for Children

Wednesday 12th September

FOG AGM at 7pm

Friday 23rd November

INSET DAY

Monday 26th November

INSET DAY

SPRING TERM 2019

Friday 4th January

INSET DAY

SUMMER TERM 2019

Monday 3rd June

INSET DAY

Term dates for the Academic Year 2018 / 2019 have now been agreed, these will be available on our website.