

# Grange Park Primary School Newsletter

18 October 2019



#### **Dear Parents**

We are so proud of our Year five and six children who went on their residential trips and were true ambassadors for our school. The children tried out challenging new activities and worked well together to develop their confidence, social skills and independence. They were remarkable at following our school values: respect, co-operation, responsibility and resilience. I know parents will join me in thanking all the staff members who accompanied the children on these.

Thank you to the parents who came along to the GPPSA's AGM on Wednesday evening and to the committee who are already working hard at organising fundraising events this year. Not only does the GPPSA provide a partnership between home and school, bringing all together socially in support of the school, but it also plays a fundamental role in fundraising and this is even more important now that budgets are getting tighter. Please contact the GPPSA if you would like to be a member of the committee or you are able to volunteer at any of the events. This would be greatly appreciated.

Have a restful half term break and we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 28 October 2019.

#### Tijen Hassan Headteacher

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| Date            | Event   | Time and Venue             |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------|
| Tues 29 October | Come Learn with Me                              | 1:45pm -3:10pm             |
| Weds 31 October | Coffee morning for parents of children with ASD | 9am, round hall            |
| Fri 1 Nov       | Rules, routines and boundaries parent workshop  | 9am, round hall            |
| Wed 6 Nov       | SCHOOL CLOSED – Learning conversations          | ALL day                    |
| Tues 12 Nov     | RWI parents workshop (reception)                | 9am & 5pm, round hall      |
| Sun 1 Dec       | GPPSA Christmas fair                            | 11am-2pm                   |
| Tues 10 Dec     | Nursery/reception nativity                      | 9:30am & 2:30pm, main hall |
| Tues 17 Dec     | Y2 Carols from around the world                 | 9:30am & 2:30pm, main hall |
|                 |   |                            |

### TERM DATES, HOLIDAYS AND SCHOOL CLOSURES

AUTUMN TERM First half Wednesday 4 September to Friday 18 October

HALF TERM HOLIDAY Monday 21 October to Friday 25 October

AUTUMN TERM Second half Monday 28 October to Thursday 19 December (school closes at 2pm)

### SCHOOL CLOSED FOR LEARNING CONVERSATIONS Wednesday 6 November

# **CLASS ASSEMBLIES**

1 NovPuma8 NovPicasso15 NovJupiter22 NovLowry29 NovSaturn6 DecButterfly13 DecMercury

Class assemblies take place on Fridays in the round hall, at 9:05am. We look forward to seeing you there.

#### ATTENDANCE

Well done to all children who have attended school every day so far. Congratulations to Grovelands family for having the best attendance during the whole of Autumn 1 of **97.82%!** Each class in Broomfield family have the honour of looking after a Grange Park Attendance Deer with matching green cloak for the remainder of this term!

| W/C        | 30.9.19 | 7.10.19 | 14.10.19 |  |
|------------|---------|---------|----------|--|
| Broomfield | 98.55%  | 97.16%  | 98.32%   |  |
| Grovelands | 97.39%  | 97.50%  | 96.59%   |  |
| Oakwood    | 96.21%  | 97.46%  | 97.03%   |  |
| Trent      | 98.11%  | 97.12%  | 96.79%   |  |

Please support your child's education by ensuring they have the best possible attendance and remind them of just how important being at school every day and on time is!

# **KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE**

**Contact details:** It is essential that we have the most up to date contact details (parents contact numbers and email address, home address and emergency contacts). Please let the office know via email or in person if there are any changes.

**Playground equipment/apparatus:** As the playground equipment and apparatus is not supervised by a member of staff before or after school, please ensure that your children refrain from using it.

**Flu vaccinations:** The flu vaccine helps protect children against flu, which can be a very unpleasant illness and can lead to complications like bronchitis and pneumonia. The Enfield Immunisation Team will be delivering the flu vaccinations in the form of a spray for children in reception-year 6 on Friday 8 November. Please ask the School Office for a consent form if you do not have one.

# PLEASE HELP US TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE IN SCHOOL

# CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

**Nursery - Tax-free childcare:** Grange Park is now registered on the Government website to accept childcare vouchers as payment for the nursery lunchtime charges. If you would like to make a payment, search for Grange Park Primary School using the Unique Reference Number 145207 and our postcode N21 1PP.

**Enrichment clubs:** If you work for a company that provides childcare vouchers and the terms and conditions of the scheme allow for payments to be made for after school clubs using the vouchers, we can now accept these as well. We will require the voucher to be for the exact amount and the voucher number to enable us to process the transaction.

If you have any questions please contact the School Office 0208 360 1001.

### PARENT WORKSHOPS

## Rules, routines and boundaries parent workshop

Struggling to implement and be consistent with rules, routines and boundaries? Need some advice to better manage challenging behaviours? Come along to a parent workshop on **Friday 1 November at 9am-10am** in the round hall to find out more and get some useful strategies to use. Parents from all year groups are welcome.

# **RWI** parent workshop

Are you a parent in reception?

Do you want to find out more about a how we teach phonics at school?

Would you like some practical advice on how to support children learning phonics?

Come along to a parent workshop on Tuesday 12 November at 9am or 5pm in the round hall to find out more.

#### **ENFIELD IN BLOOM WINNERS!**



We are pleased to be awarded gold for our school grounds by Enfield in Bloom!



# HEALTHY SCHOOLS AWARD



We are proud to announce that Grange Park has received the silver Healthy Schools Award. This award recognises our achievements in supporting the health and wellbeing of our children. We will be working on achieving the gold award next!



HEALTHY SCHOOLS LONDON

#### CURRICULUM

Curriculum design and development is a continuous process at Grange Park with staff participating in high quality professional development throughout the year. As partners in your children's education, it is important that we share with you what we intend to achieve through our curriculum, how it is implemented and the impact the curriculum we provide will have on your children.

#### **Curriculum intent**

We view the curriculum as the **totality** of every planned/unplanned experience and interaction that pupils encounter within our school. It informs every aspect of our practice and culture from **academic content** to the **personal development** of characteristics and virtues.

Our curriculum aims to improve the life chances of all pupils by ensuring each child becomes:

- A successful learner who enjoys learning, makes good progress, achieves well and has a clear understanding of how learning happens

- A confident individual with a body of knowledge, which enables them to live a safe, healthy and fulfilling life

- A responsible, respectful and active citizen who is emphatic and has the strength of character to contribute positively to society including on a range of community and global issues

We ensure our pupils experience a broad and balanced curriculum and have a long-term memory of an ambitious body of knowledge. Our coherently planned curriculum uses the National Curriculum as the basis for subject content and expectations. It is planned and sequenced, so that new knowledge and skills build on what has been taught before, towards clearly defined end points. It informs what pupils need to know and be able to do to reach those points. We have structured this through our long term planning documents, criteria for progression, half-termly curriculum connections maps and session planning.

Curriculum content is underpinned by research-based understanding of how pupils learn, in particular the frequent retrieval of previously learned content, making connections to previous knowledge and experiences, in order to strengthen pupils' understanding and knowledge over time. To achieve this, we build in explicit teaching of curriculum connections across and between subjects, as well as flashbacks or retrieval practice.

Our curriculum reflects our school's local context by addressing typical gaps in pupils' knowledge and skills and is designed to give all pupils, particularly disadvantaged pupils and SEND pupils, the cultural capital they need to succeed in life through our Curriculum Drivers of **growth mindset**, **community** and **environment**. These shape every aspect of school life, are embedded in teaching and learning and develop the child as a whole.

#### New this term

#### **Curriculum connections maps**

As a child learns, information is gradually organised, reorganised and restructured into elaborate networks called *schema*. Schema or knowledge bases become more complex over time. Our curriculum connections maps show where there are opportunities to join children's thinking together by linking it to previous learning and experiences. This strengthens understanding and helps build long-term memory. The ability to build long-term memory of a body of knowledge and to apply that knowledge is central to improving learning.

There are half-termly curriculum connections maps for every year group. Please click on the 'Curriculum' tab on our website to view these.

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# **Times Tables Rock Stars**

Having introduced TTRS in September, this carefully sequenced programme of times tables practice has had enormous impact on children's motivation, recall speed and accuracy, as you can see from the data for the past 30 days:

| Year | % Children<br>using TTRS | Average speed per question | % Accuracy |
|------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| 2    | 94                       | 13.9 secs/q                | 83         |
| 3    | 98                       | 11.5 secs/q                | 90         |
| 4    | 99                       | 5.7 secs/q                 | 90         |
| 5    | 99                       | 5.2 secs/q                 | 88         |
| 6    | 99                       | 3.5 secs/q                 | 92         |

### DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

A school priority this year is to develop the innovative use of digital technology to enhance learning. We aim to develop our children's understanding, curiosity and creativity through an exciting curriculum that addresses the challenges that our children will be required to overcome in advancing technology.

We were fortunate enough to have been able to purchase 90 ipads last year, 60 of which were funded by the GPPSA. Ipads are an excellent way of teaching the entire computing curriculum. The children are able to use ipads to create and debug simple programs, solve simple algorithms to code and analyse and present data. Ipads are more cost effective, easier to maintain, portable and readily accessible. This development has resulted in our IT suite becoming obsolete. We intend, therefore, to purchase more portable electronic devices this academic year in order to give children further opportunities to enhance their learning across the curriculum, using the latest technology.

We are also starting a rolling programme across three years to replace the interactive whiteboards with LCD TV screens. These screens are more cost effective and easier to maintain. We are planning on replacing the Interactive White Boards in the year 3 and 4 classrooms with a LCD TV screen next week during half term.

These projects were shared at the GPPSA AGM, as the funds raised by the GPPSA are going to be fundamental in ensuring that we have IT equipment, which is up to date and reliable, as we want to equip our children to thrive in the modern world of technology that is developing all the time. Thank you for your continued support in this.

#### **UPDATE FROM YEAR 3**

Over the last half term, year 3 have been learning about Hinduism. To develop the children's knowledge and understanding of this religion further, we visited Neasden temple. The children prepared questions to ask about the festival of lights, Diwali. They also learned about the ways in which Hindus and Sikhs celebrate Diwali, discussing the stories behind the celebration. Year 3 were amazed by the marble decoration in the Mandir and very impressed to learn that it was built solely by volunteers.





#### UPDATE FROM NURSERY

In Acorn class, we have been busy getting to know each other, following daily routines and learning about the world through play. Our topic this term is 'It's Good to be Me' and we have painted self- portraits and learnt the life cycle of an oak tree. We all really enjoyed our 'Story Café' where our families came into class and listened to us retell the story of The Gruffulo using actions, helped us make Gruffulo Crumble and Gruffulo faces using play-dough.



#### **UPDATE FROM YEAR 6**

Over the last half term, year 6 has been learning about North America in out Learning Quest Topic – Voyage across the North Atlantic. To develop the children's knowledge and understanding of D and T, we researched, designed, made, then evaluated a popular North American export - burgers.

Year 6 enjoyed researching burgers before they then drew an expanded diagram to design what they wanted their burger to be like. Following this, they wrote their recipes and method before cooking them. Finally, they evaluated their end product. It was a topic to savour.

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#### UPDATE FROM YEAR 1

We walked to St Peters Church and learnt about how Christians celebrate Harvest. We decided to donate food towards a food bank to help others.

"Not everyone has food so it's a kind thing to give to others" – Charlie – Dragonfly

"It was nice to see where some people go to pray" – Khadjiah – Butterfly

"Christians believe that its kind to say thank you God for food" – Joshua – Grasshopper



# **GRANGE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (GPPSA) UPDATE**

The GPPSA is a registered charity (No. 0158354) and the **official fundraising arm** of the school. Our function is to bring parents, families, friends, staff and the local community together socially in support of the school.

We offer a **variety of events** in order to raise funds that contribute towards additional equipment and resources. Last year we held the Christmas and Summer Fairs, cake sales, bag2school collections, non-uniform days, a Smarties for Silver challenge and school discos, to name a few. These events funded **60 iPads**, a **visiting author** and a contribution towards **improving the school's outdoor areas**. We also funded **additional items** such as the Year 5 Young Voices t-shirts, Christmas gifts for each class group, more canvasses and the Year 6 leaver refreshments.

# Events that we have planned for 2019/20\* include:

- Wed 30<sup>th</sup> October Bag2School collection
- Thurs 31<sup>st</sup> October Halloween Cake Sale
- Fri 1<sup>st</sup> November Halloween Disco KS2
- Fri 29<sup>th</sup> November Christmas Jumper Day
- Sun 1<sup>st</sup> December Christmas Fayre (11am-2pm)
- Date TBC Valentines or Easter Disco KS1
- Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> April Easter Cake Sale
- Wed 29<sup>th</sup> April Bag2School collection
- May Half Term Smarties for Silver Challenge
- Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July Non-uniform day (Theme TBC)
- Sun 5<sup>th</sup> July Summer Fayre

# Dates subject to change due to availability of venue and volunteers

We are always looking for sponsors, brochure advertisers and donations for our events. **If you can help at all, please let us know**. In addition, please ask your employers if any of them operate match-funding schemes, which allow you to raise money for your chosen charity, e.g. the GPPSA.

This year Tijen has advised that the **school priorities** include a focus on **2 IT projects** (90 electronic portable devices and 8 LCD screens) and **playground markings**. To help fund these we would need to raise approximately **£45,000**.

Following the **AGM** held on the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019, we are pleased to announce that **Sarah Revell** will be staying on and will be working with **Nicola Cable** as Co-Chairs. We would also like to thank Fiona Holden for her contribution as Co-Chair over the past 2 years. We are looking for a **Secretary** and **Communications/Fundraising Officer** to help us this year.

If you are interested in joining us please contact us on gppsa@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you in advance for your support and here's to a successful fundraising year!