

**Grange Park Primary School Newsletter** 

13 September 2019



#### **Dear Parents**

Welcome back to school everyone. We hope you had a great holiday and that the children have recharged their batteries ready for the new academic year and all it has to offer! We would also like to extend a warm welcome our new staff and families; we know you will make them feel part of our community. Some of the children from our first ever nursery class started this week. They have enjoyed getting to know each other and have settled in really well! We are looking forward to another successful and exciting year at Grange Park.

#### **Tijen Hassan**

Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY		
Date	Event	Time and Venue
Tues 17 Sept	Times Table Rock Stars parent workshop	9am & 5:30pm, round hall
Weds 18 Sept	Volunteers coffee morning	9am, reading hub
Mon 23 Sept	Attendance parent workshop	9am, round hall
Tues 24 Sept	Y6 Secondary transfer meeting	5:30pm, round hall
Mon 30 Sept-Fri 4 Oct	Y6 Residential	
Tues 1 Oct	Reception maths home learning workshop	9am & 5:30pm, round hall
Tues 8 October	School photographs- all day	
Thurs 10 October	Nursery and reception story café	9am, classrooms (nursery AM and
		reception)
		12:30pm, classrooms (nursery PM only)
Thu 17-Fri 18 Oct	Y5 Residential	
Thu 17 Oct	Coffee morning for parents of children with ASD	9am, round hall
Tues 29 October	Come Learn with Me	1:45pm -3:15pm
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 meeting (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
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#### **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**

27 Sept	Kandinsky
4 Oct	Ash
11 Oct	Cedar
18 Oct	Jaguar
1 Nov	Puma
8 Nov	Picasso
15 Nov	Jupiter
22 Nov	Lowry
29 Nov	Saturn
6 Dec	Butterfly
13 Dec	Mercury

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

#### **UPDATE ON SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKS**

Over the summer holidays we have continued the improvements to our school environment. Playgrounds have been resurfaced and new turf has been laid. Please support us in ensuring the children do not use the newly turfed areas as a pathway. The Music Hub has now been moved to the main school building, making space for Snowdrop classroom (reception) that has been redecorated. We hope you will agree that the school is looking great!



#### ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

In order for your child to get the most out of their time in school, they must be here every day. Time lost from school is not easy to make up and there is a clear correlation between good attendance and attainment. Of course, we don't want you to send your child to school if they are really unwell – sickness and diarrhoea bugs for example spread through the school rapidly resulting in both staff and pupil having to miss school. However, please start this year with good habits and aim to get your child to school every day and of course on time. **Our target is 97% again this year – we know we can make it and even exceed it with your help and support.** 



### SCHOOL UNIFORM

Everyone looked so smart in their school uniform this week. You can find the school uniform list on the website. Here are just a few reminders:

- Labels: Put your child's name in their clothes it makes them so much easier to find when they are mislaid!
- School shoes: Ensure your child wears appropriate shoes at school. They should be sturdy enough for all weathers. Ballet pumps that do not fasten onto feet are inappropriate for school.
- Hairbands/ribbons/bobbles: these should be purple, white, black, grey (small).
- For health and safety reasons no jewellery should be worn with the exception of religious items, stud earrings and watches. Children must remove all earrings and watches before PE and games lessons. Make-up and nail polish are not permitted.

### **KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE**

Ensuring your children are safe at school is central to all we do and, it is perhaps timely at the beginning of the year to remind you of how we can work together to keep children safe:

At the start and end of the day: the school day starts at 8:55 with children entering the building from 8:45. Please do not leave children unaccompanied in the school grounds before 8:45. Most children are collected by an adult at the end of the day. If there are any changes to the adult who usually picks up, please inform the school office before 2:45 if possible. It is acceptable for children in Years 5 and 6 to walk home on their own. If you would like your child to do this, please email the school office to give your written permission.

**Staff on duty:** members of staff are on duty at the beginning of the day in various spaces. Please speak to them if you need help or would like a message passed onto the class teacher. In addition, teachers will accompany those children who exit via the playgrounds or the front path and will remain on duty until 3:20pm each day.

Toilets: please remember that you should not accompany children if they are using the school toilets.

**Children with allergies:** we have an increasing number of children with food allergies in school, some of which are very severe and could cause serious harm should they be triggered. We ask that you do not send food with nuts in as this is the most common allergy children experience and for some, even the smell of nuts on another person's breath can trigger a reaction.

**Entering the school:** All parents and visitors to the school should enter via the front office and, if they have a meeting, sign in, before being accompanied through the school. If there are any times when this arrangement changes, we will let you know.

After school clubs: we are pleased to be able to offer a range of after school clubs this year. Parents should wait at the meeting point near the school gate to collect their children from the adult running the club.

**Parking:** around the school continues to be a limited but please remember to park responsibly and not to drop your child at the crossing. This is a dangerous place for them to get out of your car. Please also avoid reversing into neighbours drives; we have received numerous complaints regarding this.

### PLEASE HELP US TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE IN SCHOOL

### **BIRTHDAY BOOKS**

Please remember to donate a book to the class rather than sending sweets on your child's birthday. Last year children throughout the school enjoyed reading the books and having them read to them. Please continue to support us in this way again this year.



#### **MEET THE ACHIEVEMENT LEADERS**

Each year group has an achievement leader who have responsibility for the general day to day work of the year group including ensuring planning is completed to a high standard, monitoring the progress and attainment of children and supporting children in making positive decisions about their behaviour. If you have any concerns about your child, or questions about the curriculum, the Achievement Leader will be happy to meet you alongside the class teacher. Our Achievement Leaders are:

Verity Over (nursery and reception), Amanda Wanniarachchi (Y1), Lynsey Jennings (Y2), Ernest Pawlowski (Y3), Lloyd Newey (Y4), Suzanne Wynne (Y5) and Tracy Murray (Y6)

Full staffing list is on the school website.

## PLAYGROUND TOYS

Please remind your child that if they bring toys to play with at break time they should be small enough to fit into their pockets. This is to ensure that children can carry their food and the toy without dropping them or taking too much space up on the dining room tables and in their lockers. Remember to not bring anything valuable to school.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO**

**OLIVIA PENFOLD** (Snowdrop class teacher) who got married over the summer holidays.

### SECONDARY TRANSFER MEETING

There will be a Secondary Transfer Meeting for **Year 6** on **Tuesday 24 September at 5:30pm** in the round hall. Look out for updates regarding secondary transfers on the school website under the Secondary Transfer 2020 tab.

# **VOLUNTEERS COFFEE MORNING**

Can you volunteer some of your time to: read with children? Do a spot of gardening? Support a class in our reading Hub? If so please come along to the Volunteers Coffee morning to find out how you can help. It's on **Wednesday 18 September at 9am** in the reading hub. If you cannot attend this morning but would like to volunteer, please pick up an application form and online DBS application guidance from the school office.

# CHANGE OF MEAL ARRANGEMENTS

Please remember that a weeks notice is required if you would like your child to change from school dinners to packed lunch or vice versa. The change can only take effect from the Monday. A form needs to be completed which can be found on the school website or from the school office.





join here: www.enfieldveg.co.uk/join

# ENFIELD VEG CO.

Enfield Veg co. are a local, organic veg bag delivery scheme run by Forty Hall Farm. You can sign up to become a member, and receive a weekly supply of fresh seasonal vegetables. The veg bags contain produce grown on the farm, which means vegetables direct from the producer, which reduces costs and carbon emissions. It's organic and certified by the Soil Association. Simply choose what size bag you want from the three sizes available: small (£7 per week), medium (£10 per week) or large (£13 per week).

# What's in the bags?

The contents of the bags vary every week depending on what is in season but usually include a mix of more everyday veg (things like potatoes, carrots and onions) with seasonal treats. In the summer, this includes salad items such as tomatoes, mixed salad bags, courgettes and cucumbers. In the winter, expect to see veg like pumpkins, beetroot, wintergreens and root veg. Everything is organic and locally grown.

### How does it work?

The bags are packed on a Wednesday morning and are available to collect from Grange Park Primary School from 3pm the same Wednesday. The pick-up points are self-service so you can collect your bag whenever suits you, up until Thursday evening.

For more information and to sign up to receive the veg bags, visit the website <u>www.enfieldveg.co.uk</u> or contact <u>enfieldveg@fortyhallfarm.org.uk</u>

#### YEAR ONE

Year 1 spent this week settling in to their classes. We were taken on a tour around our new playground and were given the opportunity to get used to our new surroundings. We also learnt about our class animal and created artwork for our display.

- "I love this new class!" Sinead from Grasshopper Class
- "I like our new playground!" Kye from Butterfly Class
- "I loved the singing assembly!" Margot from Dragonfly Class



### YEAR 3

We thoroughly enjoyed our visit to Woodcroft Wildspace. It deepened our understanding of our Science topic on Plants. We explored the wildlife that inhabits different habitats, such as ponds. We enjoyed pond dipping and identifying a variety of plants.

"We identified lots of different creatures in the pond. My favourite was the water boatman and water scorpion"

"We learnt about different plants. We found out that not all plants need soil!"



# YEAR 6

What an amazing show! Young Shakespeare Company visited Year 6 to perform Shakespeare's mesmerizing story of ambition, guilt and revenge in an interactive production of Macbeth. The play was brought vividly to life around and among the children, at times even including the whole audience to create dramatic scenes. Throughout the workshop, the children were encouraged to explore the motives, thoughts and feelings of the characters.

"I really enjoyed the final battle at the end where Macbeth was defeated by Macduff." Polina

"My favourite part was the royal banquet when Macbeth sees a ghost!" Kenzie



