



Grove Park Primary School

www.groveparkprimary.co.uk



16th December 2011

Newsletter No 13

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

If you were fortunate enough to see one, or both of our productions, you will know that the 'Grove Park Players' excelled this year! The Wiggly Nativity was truly wonderful and there wasn't a dry eye in the house, particularly when the nursery got going! If you didn't feel Christmassy before I defy anybody not to feel it now after that heart-warming production! And, as if things couldn't get any better, the KS2 children raised the roof with carols and modern interpretations of favourite Christmas songs! The feedback so far has been quite astonishing, and it made me feel very proud to be Head of such a special and inspiring school. Well done to all the children, teachers and teaching assistants who made it possible!



All the Fun of the Fair!



Talking of inspiring ... if you came to the Christmas Fair, you will have been 'wowed' by the wonderful stalls and the army of people who turned up. I honestly can't remember ever attending such a happy, bustling Christmas Fair! I would like to thank the fantastic PTA who planned, prepared and ran the event, particularly the lovely Andrea, who co-ordinated the whole show and ensured that it was, once again, a huge success. It is events like this that say more about our fabulous community than anything else. Thank you.

How to have a Greener Christmas!



The JRSOs and Bike Marshalls teamed up together on Saturday to run the Sustainability stall at the Fair. They gave out information, maps and leaflets on how to cycle more in London. A big thank you to Yasmin, Ben B, Harper, Rosie, Emmanuel, Matthew F and Maks for doing such a great job. Sustrans sponsored a free raffle which was very popular. The 3 winners took home fluorescent bags with bike related prizes!! Congratulations Josie for winning 2nd prize!



This term we sadly say goodbye to two valued members of the team, Nevin Fahmy and Marimba Arihi. Marimba has been a familiar face at Grove Park for 7 years and has worked in both key stages. I know those children who have been fortunate enough to have Ms Arihi work with them will miss her warm smile and positive nature. Nevin has only been at Grove Park for a year, but has had a huge impact supporting our children at lunchtimes. We wish her the best of luck in her new job and look forward to hearing all about her future adventures!



Yesterday our 'Craft Queens', Miss Upsher and Mrs Mott, led a wonderful workshop that resulted in some beautiful cards. We are so lucky to have these 2 talented gals sharing their skills with our community. Thank you to all who attended and gave such positive comments! I can't wait for the book to come out in 2012.





30 Day Bike It Champions CONGRATULATIONS

to Abra , Johaan, Ryan and Harper who are the first Grove Park students to complete the 30

day bike challenge. They have cycled to school every day since the challenge began, rain or shine!!

Thank you to the Bike Marshalls, especially Yasmin for doing such a great job and to the children's parents for supporting their cycling!



WOW

The Bike Marshalls and the JRSOs have been busy helping to count up the children who have achieved **WOW** during the month of November – this meant that they **Walked** to school at least **Once** a **Week**. Each child who managed to do this was rewarded with a **WOW** badge. They also had to work out the percentage of children who achieved **WOW** from each class to decide who November's **WOW** champion would be. Well Done YEAR 1 !!! Keep walking, cycling and scootering to school!



Where's Wally?! He's behind you...

This week we welcomed a surprise guest to Grove Park!

Wally (from the famous and popular children's book, 'Where's Wally') visited our school and took part in a 'live' hide and seek session! It turned out that he was actually none other than roving reporter 'Alex Riley' from the BBC's ONE SHOW. As well as hiding amongst the trees, in the train and other leafy spots, he also found time to interview some of our talented Year 6 children. The response from the BBC was genuinely impressive, stating that our children were 'a credit to the school' and 'the most articulate' they had interviewed. Well done to all those children who took part in the event! If you would like to watch the episode, please go onto the 'ONE SHOW' home-page and search for the episode dated 15.12.11.

After School Clubs

Our 'Clubs' booklet will be sent home before the end of term for your perusal over the holidays. Please note that you **cannot sign up for a club before the 4th January**. We are also adding 2 more exciting clubs to our ever growing list...Ballet and Gardening. I am personally tempted by both and I know Mrs Cornelius would love to see me paying more attention to our garden at home! We have also had many requests for these activities in recent months, please note that they will be very popular clubs so please sign up as soon as possible!

Coughs, colds and other Yucky Things!

Yes, it's that time of the year when Christmas cheer is challenged by Mr Flu and Little Miss Norovirus. Please can I remind parents that if your child is ill, (temperature, sickness, diarrhoea etc.) do not send them into school. We have had a small tsunami of illnesses this week, where children have either come to school in a poorly state or returned to school too early, after being ill. There is no hard and fast rule about when your child should return, (we recommend 24/48 hours after sickness or diarrhoea) but we will not allow children to settle back into their learning unless we feel they are 100%. If your child has a temperature we will send them home immediately, as it is usually a good indicator that all is not well. Our 'duty of care' is to all the children and bugs spread very easily so please help us fight them by respecting our decision and thinking of others.



Time for the tinternet

Sadly (although I know many trees in the Amazon will be thanking us for this ...) our popular newsletter will now be exclusively moving to the website. Please do come and see us if you do not have access to the internet and we will provide a paper copy for you and spare copies will always be kept in the foyer.

You should have signed up for milk, meals and music by now in order for us to organise these for the new term You need to inform the office if you wish to change meal types, otherwise we will assume that you are carrying on as you are and will expect school meals to be paid for **in advance** (£1.80 a day, £9.00 a week, first half of term £50.40, second half of term £52.20 or complete term £102.60).

Merry Christmas!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support and kindness this term. I am having the most wonderful time at Grove Park, thanks to the children, parents and wider community, and am looking forward to what 2012 brings. When Mrs Lee told me that this was a truly special place she wasn't wrong!

**I would like to wish all our families a safe and restful Christmas and a healthy and joyous New Year!
See you in 2012!!**

