



Grove Park Primary School



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www.groveparkprimary.co.uk

6th January 2012

Newsletter No 14



Happy New Year!

I would like to wish all our families a Happy 2012! I hope you all had a restful and healthy Christmas break and have returned ready for a busy year ahead. Gillian will be including the diary dates for the term in next week's newsletter. Please remember that from now on our 'extremely popular' newsletter can only be found on our website: www.groveparkprimary.co.uk under 'parents'.



We hope that this will save 'many' trees lives and help the environment at the same time!

Our week has already kicked off with a bang and the buzz in the school is palpable! Look out for those opportunities where parents can help and support in school. You are a crucial part of our learning community and we would like to see even more parental involvement in 2012!



Happy Anniversary Grove Park Primary School!

Tomorrow, 7th January, marks the 60th anniversary of Grove Park Primary School! The school was opened on this day in 1952 and has seen 60 happy years of children, parents and staff! We will be celebrating our anniversary later on in the year, along with the Queen's jubilee, so look out for more details!



Mr Brian Keane

As many of you know, our Year 3 teacher, Brian Keane, will not be returning to Grove Park Primary School. Due to personal family issues, Brian decided that he could no longer continue teaching and tendered his resignation over the Christmas period. I can assure you that it was a very difficult decision for him to make and one that wasn't taken lightly. Brian has only been with us since September, but in that short time he has had a huge impact on the lives and learning of the children in Year 3. We wish him and his family much love and thoughts for 2012 and hope that he will return to visit the school at some point in the future.



The warmest of welcomes!

A new year, with new beginnings and another warm welcome! This week we welcomed the lovely Miss Amanda Amar. She has taken over the role vacated by Marimba Arihi in Year 1 and has already added an extra sparkle in the classroom.

School Admissions

Reception Class Places

If your child was born between 1st September 2007 and 31st August 2008, they will be eligible for a full-time place in a reception class from September 2012. **Applications for Reception class places for September 2012 must be received by your first preference school by next Tuesday, 10th January** or to the civic centre by Friday, 15th January or online applications by midnight on 15th January. If your application is late, you seriously damage your chances of getting your preferred choice of school. If you, or someone you knows, has a child who is eligible and you have not already applied for a place, spare application forms are available from the office.

Nursery Class Places

If your child was born between 1st September 2008 and 31st August 2009, they can be admitted to a nursery class attached to a primary school in September 2012. Application forms and admissions information is now available from the school office. Application forms must be submitted to the school you are applying for by Friday, 4th May 2012 along with a copy of your current council tax bill and your child's birth certificate. We will be holding an open morning for prospective parents on Tuesday, 6th March at 9.15am.

Keep well in 2012!

I don't want to start the New Year off being the harbinger of misery and doom, but I would like to remind parents that if your child is ill (temperature, sickness, diarrhoea etc.) please **DO NOT** send them into school. We recommend 24/48 hours absence and will not allow the 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. I know we grumble about attendance, but their health and wellbeing is more important to us. 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. Good hygiene also goes a long way, so please remind your children to regularly wash their hands with soap and warm water. It is the only way to kill those germs!



Be on time for 5 to 9!

I know you've heard it before ... but ... can I remind all parents that it is **essential** that you get your children here before the school day begins at 8.55am. As you know, if you are late for something, it can take the whole day to get your mojo back on track and children often struggle with both their learning and friendships if they are out of sorts.

We are also obliged to register your child as absent for the entire morning if they arrive after 9.05 am. There is no flexibility in this, it is a requirement that we have no influence over. Can I also say, **PLEASE** book your hols in school holidays. Children get 12 weeks holiday a year and we ask that parents book their leave during those weeks. We always send out the diary dates well in advance, which should help when organising your break. That cheap deal to somewhere exotic with two school days to go, may look tempting, but could land you a fine. **We cannot authorise ANY holiday time during the school term.**

After School Clubs

Our Clubs booklet was sent home before the end of last term for your perusal over the holidays. Please note that **clubs start next week, so you must sign up before they start.** We have added 2 more exciting clubs to our ever growing list ... Ballet and Gardening. Once clubs have started you can no longer register.



Cake Sales

Please make a note of the dates of this term's cake sales!

- 13th January - Years 1 and 5
- 27th January - Reception and Year 4
- 10th February - Nursery and Year 3
- 2nd March - Years 2 and 6
- 16th March - Years 1 and 5

Term Dates

Spring Term 2012	Wednesday, 4th January 2012 – Friday, 30th March 2012
HALF TERM	Monday, 13th February 2012 – Friday, 17th February 2012
* Inset Day	Monday, 20th February 2012
Summer Term 2012	Tuesday, 17th April 2012 – Friday, 20th July 2012
HALF TERM	Monday, 4th June 2012 – Friday, 8th June 2012
* Inset Day	Monday, 16th April 2012
* Bank Holiday	Monday, 7th May 2012
Autumn Term 2012	Wednesday, 5th September – Friday, 21st December 2012
HALF TERM	Monday, 29th October – Friday, 2nd November 2012
* Inset Day	Tuesday, 4th September 2012
* Inset Day	Monday, 5th November 2012
Spring Term 2013	Tuesday, 8th January – Thursday, 28th March 2013
Half Term	Monday, 18th February – Friday, 22nd February 2013
* Inset Day	Monday, 7th January 2013
Summer Term 2013	Tuesday, 16th April – Tuesday, 23rd July 2013
Half Term	Monday, 27th May – Friday, 31st May 2013
* Inset Day	Monday, 15th April 2013
* Inset Day	Monday, 3rd June 2013
* Bank Holiday	Monday, 6th May 2013