



Grove Park Primary School

www.groveparkprimary.co.uk



9th September 2011

Newsletter No 1

Welcome Back Everybody!

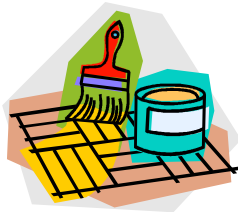
What a fantastic start we have had here at Grove Park Primary School this week! Thank you to all those families who have welcomed me into the school community, I am extremely excited about leading the school forward and building on the inspirational work that Mrs Lee started.

I have also been most impressed by the quality of learning and overall enthusiasm of the children this week, well done all of you!

If you would like to discuss any matters, big or small, please do come and see me or one of my team. Remember you can come in and talk to your Class Teacher, Teaching Assistant, Victoria Retallack, our Deputy Head, Kate Upsher, our Assistant Deputy Head, Amanda Letch, our Senco or myself. We genuinely appreciate your comments so please feel free to share them with us.

This newsletter is written every week on a Friday, so please check your child's book bag (for siblings it will be sent with your oldest child).

Today's newsletter is going to be a long one, so I apologise in advance for its length and content...



Thank you Mr Hardman!

I hope you've all seen how fantastic the main corridor looks with its new flooring and fire doors! The floors have been in a terrible state for a long time and we are delighted to have been able to get them sorted.

Gillian and Joanne are delighted with their smart new office, which now gives a far more comfortable and user-friendly working space. Mr Hardman worked tirelessly through the holidays to make sure these (and many other) projects were achieved before we all came back to school and the school looks great.

Power of Reading

As always at Grove Park, we like to start our term with a bang! Over the past few years we have been involved with an extremely successful project called 'the power of reading'. We have found that it not only improves the children's literacy skills, but considerably raises the level of their writing. Our intention this term is to raise the bar even more by introducing mini workshops, theatre companies and outdoor learning to support and stimulate ideas. We intend to have another book swap day, which has been very popular in the past. Please bring in a book that your child has grown out of or has lost interest in and we will add it to the mix.



Meet the Teacher

During this time of the year you will have the opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and find out about what is happening and what you can do to support their learning. At the end of the meeting you will be given a comprehensive curriculum sheet that will detail the various areas to be covered. All the meetings are at 3.15 and dates are as follows:



Monday, 12th September: Year One
Tuesday, 13th September: Year Two
Wednesday, 14th September: Year Three
Thursday, 15th September: Year Four
Monday, 19th September: Year Five
Tuesday, 20th September: Year Six

Eid Celebrations

I hope you were able to join us for the Eid celebrations in assembly today. The hall looked fantastic! Thank you to all the parents who came in yesterday and decorated the hall and provided all the delicious cakes and goodies for our coffee morning, it was a thoroughly enjoyable event.

Secondary School Information

Today Year 6 parents will receive 'Secondary Transfer' information. Please apply online if you can and let Gillian or Joanne in the office know when you've done it. If you are completing a paper application form, please make sure you return it to the school office by the deadline with a copy of your Council Tax Bill. Jo Lovatt (our fantastic Parent liaison officer) has organised a meeting for parents who would like to meet Tony Ryan, Headteacher of Chiswick Community School. He will be coming to Grove Park to give a talk on 21st September at 7pm. Please do come along and hear what Tony has to say, I know parents who listened to his talk last year were most impressed and found the experience invaluable.

Library

At Grove Park we are extremely fortunate to have two fantastic libraries, which are the best I have seen for a very long time. However we need your help to maintain and keep them tidy. If you have 10 minutes spare after dropping off your child, please feel free to go and put a few books back on the shelf. This is only a temporary measure and I would love to see regular faces helping out and keeping order. Our 'library guru', Margaret Mott, has put a form in the office for parents who would like to sign up for library service. Thank you.



Lost Property

Gillian tells me there is a MOUNTAIN of clothes, bits and bats in the lost property box. Uniforms and kit can be very expensive these days, so if your child has lost something, do have a look in the box. This is also a good time of the year to remind parents to label all clothing. We cannot return lost items if we do not know who they belong to.

Year 6 BAA Project

Last term, Miss Taylor and Year 6 won a competition to take part in a hugely exciting project run by BAA. However ...for this they need newspapers, and lots of them. Please send them in with your child. We will accept broad sheets, tabloids and freebies. We will keep you informed about what they are going to do with them

Uniform

If you have ordered school uniform online, but have not yet received it, we are promised a delivery very soon from School Trends, our new uniform supplier. I understand there have been some teething problems with the new system, but am assured that these will be ironed out as soon as possible. We still have some uniform in school for sale on a Friday morning at 9.00, with plenty of T-shirts and polo shirts available, although we are very short of sweatshirts (we are also awaiting a delivery!). Book bags, PE bags and music bags are available from the office as usual.

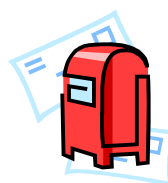


After School Clubs

Details of all the after school activities are coming home today, please sign up and bring your permission slips and payments in on Monday in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class clearly marked on the envelope. Unfortunately there will not be a Kung Fu club this term as the teacher has had to have an operation, but hopefully this will be up and running again for next term—we'll keep you posted. Don't forget, you can always post items into the red post box just outside the staff area in the foyer.

Next Friday, second hand uniform will also be on sale. We have quite a lot of second hand items in very good condition at bargain prices.

Payments



All cheques should be made payable to the London Borough of Hounslow (and not the school) and PLEASE remember to put your child's name and class on the back. Please put any payments or permission slips in the post box.

P.E Kits

All children's P.E kit should be kept in school at all times. **The kit should consist of black shorts and a white T-shirt.**



Allergies

Just to remind you that we have a strict NO NUTS, PINEAPPLE OR KIWI policy in school. We have some pupils and adults with extremely severe allergies.



After School Care

We have had some enquiries regarding Imaginations after school child care. Imaginations run both wrap-around (i.e. after Nursery) and after school child care at the Methodist Church on Sutton Court Road. Although Imaginations is independent of the school, they will collect children from our Nursery at midday and older children at 3.15 and take them to Imaginations to be cared for. The wrap-around service will start picking up some of our little ones when they start in the Nursery over the next couple of weeks, but sadly, it has had to temporarily close its doors for after school care due to lack of numbers.

We are obviously keen to support parents who need this kind of child care, but equally understand that it has to be viable. Imaginations need to have a minimum of eight to ten children every day to cover its costs. If we can guarantee these numbers, they are more than willing to re-open their doors.

If you are interested in after school care, please complete and return the slip below to indicate how many afternoons you would require. We can then pass this information onto Imaginations for their consideration and hopefully enable them to open their doors to our children again.

By completing the form below you are not committing yourself to anything, but it will enable to Imaginations to contact you, should there be enough interest to reopen. Thank you!

IMAGINATIONS AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Name of child: Year:

- I would be interested in my child being collected from school at 3.15 and cared for by Imaginations.
- I would be interested in child care for ONE day a week
- I would be interested in child care for TWO days a week
- I would be interested in child care for THREE days a week
- I would be interested in child care for FOUR days a week
- I would be interested in child care for FIVE days a week

Name of parent / carer: (please print)

Contact telephone number/s:

Signed: Date: