

Grove Park Primary School

www.groveparkprimary.co.uk

Newsletter No 37

8th July 2011



Our PTA

There is no doubt that Grove Park Primary School is a very special place! There are many aspects which contribute to that quality: a creative buzz about learning; an excellent teaching team; wonderful children who love their experience of a wide range of learning opportunities AND the sense of community which pervades all aspects of the school.

Our PTA is a very important part of that community. Without the PTA the school would be unable to offer such an exciting range of activities and resources. This academic year the PTA offered the school £18,000. Here is a list of the additional things we were able to purchase that Grove Park would NOT have had if parents had not worked with the PTA.

£500 each term to support activities and focus weeks. This money enriches our curriculum, it pays for some of our 'free' visitors, and subsidises class trips so we can keep the price below £10

£50 for each class to buy reward stickers, cookery ingredients, incentives for the class and all the little things that teachers love to buy for their class and could not without this money.

£2000 for books. This enhances our library stock, keeping it fresh and, more importantly this year, refreshes our reading scheme books to take home. Who wants to learn from a tatty book?

£10,700 for IT equipment. Laptop trolley for each KS2 classroom with a stock of laptops, which children can access each day, when required. This was something that children requested, backed by teachers to enhance their use of IT.

£150 for each class to subsidise the cost of a coach for a trip. Coaches are incredibly expensive and we simply could not go on so many exciting experiences with the children without this contribution.

£500 towards the elderly neighbours Christmas tea, hosted by Year 6 and the children's Christmas presents.

£500 towards music: this money was spent on 2 CD players, a keyboard and a projector

£800 for listening centres, which are used throughout the school so children can listen to music and stories.

£500 for sports activities in Healthy School week—tennis coaching etc.

That is an amazing contribution of over £18,000!

Without these contributions your child's education would be the poorer; less exciting and with fewer 'memorable' moments! Once again this year, the PTA has raised in the region of a further £18,000.

We've had a great year with two football tournaments, two quiz nights, a sponsored walk in the grounds of Chiswick House and of course the Christmas and Summer Fairs. Our final figures will be presented at the PTA AGM in the Autumn Term, when hopefully our new Headteacher will talk through his wish list for where this money can be best spent.

We rely on class reps who galvanise parents in their class to organise an event or an aspect of an event. We need a few brave people who are prepared to liaise with class reps and make sure bases are covered so we can continue to have Fairs, football tournaments and fun activities for our families.

We Need You!

I would like to thank our tiny committee: Andrea, Rebecca, Gary and Marsha. You've all worked so hard and achieved so much for the school. Please do not feel that this huge task is best managed by one or two people, our PTA is in danger of failing completely because we lack volunteers who say they will do their bit. It really is a great way to support your child's learning, to get to know the school and to have some fun—exhausting fun perhaps but with a positive outcome.

Thank you for all your support, a committee, class rep or occasional stall holder!

TAKE CARE WHEN YOU ARE OUT AND ABOUT

Although we have been unable to verify the following, there was a report on a local website that, on Wednesday, at the vicarage garden at Michael's Church, Barnes, there was an attempted abduction of a child. The child concerned managed to escape and was unharmed, though very frightened. The police were apparently involved, but unfortunately the person got away and there was not a clear sighting of him (the child was pulled from behind). Please remember to exercise increased vigilance with regards to the whereabouts of your children following this incident.

NURSERY RECEPTION AND YEAR 1 FUN SPORTS MORNING

On Friday, 15th July, our younger children will have a fun sports morning. Please make sure the children are wearing their sports kit with suitable shoes. Whenever the children are out for a period of time we ask parents to apply long lasting sun lotion before coming to school. Parents are invited to watch and I am sure teachers will be grateful for your support.

ALL READING SCHEME AND LIBRARY BOOKS MUST BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL BY 15TH JULY

THEN NO MORE BOOKS WILL BE ISSUED. ANY BOOKS DATED FROM 27TH APRIL ONWARDS
AND NOT RETURNED WILL BE CHARGED FOR.

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

KS2 children are looking forward to their production on 13th and 14th July at 6pm. Have you got your tickets (two per family)? If not please see Gillian in the office. The tickets are free, but we will be holding a collection on the night to help try and cover the substantial costs of putting on the production, so your generosity would be very gratefully received.

CIRCUS SKILLS

All our children will have the opportunity to learn some circus skills in a free workshop on Tuesday, 19th July. Let's hope they don't all start juggling with your plates at home!

LEAVING ASSEMBLIES

9.00 Wednesday, 20th July—Y6 parents are invited to celebrate their children's time at Grove Park Primary School in our special leavers assembly

9.00 Thursday, 21st July—All parents are invited to say 'good-bye and good luck' to our teachers and teaching assistants who leave us at the end of this year.

1.30pm Thursday, 21st July—All parents are invited to say good bye and happy retirement to Marion Lee.

2.15pm Thursday, 21st July-school breaks up for summer holidays

Don't forget Marion Lee invites you to a special picnic on Monday, 18th July. I do hope the weather allows us to meet at Chiswick Park where all our families can relax together and enjoy the picnic which each family is asked to bring along. Please remember that parents are responsible for their own children on this occasion.