



# Grove Park Primary School

www.groveparkprimary.co.uk



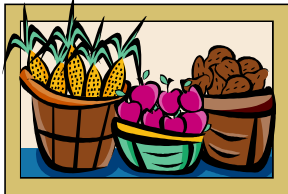
## 23rd September 2011

## Newsletter No 3

### Harvest Festival

Next Friday we celebrate 'Harvest' with an assembly dedicated to the festival. We will be holding a

'**Harvest Bread Making Competition**', so if you have a budding Miss Warburton or Master Hovis in your family get them in the kitchen and on the go! We will also be asking for non-perishable items, which will go to 'The Upper Room', a local registered charity that works specifically with homeless, vulnerable and socially disadvantaged people. Please



bring in your non-perishable donations by the end of the day on **Thursday** and your bread competition entries on **Friday** morning. Thank you. There will be prizes for the best bakes!

### Be a Reading Hero!

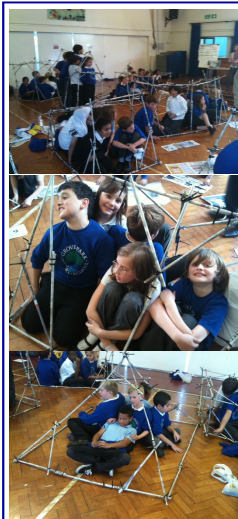
On Tuesday we are holding a 'Dads' Reading Hero's Day'. If you are able to take part and come in and read with some children for a short while, please see your child's class teacher for more details. This has been one of the most popular events we hold in school and we would love to see dads and granddads, uncles and brothers taking part so if you have time please join us.

### The Power of Reading

Our fantastic project on 'The Power of Reading' has gone from strength over the past few weeks thanks to the enthusiasm of both our children and teachers. We have had the chance to share our favourite titles with others and develop our understanding of these books by using performance and drama, music and debate. Well done to everybody so far, we have much more to come so keep an eye out for future activities!

Thank you to all those parents who attended our curriculum group talks. We had a great response this year and had some lovely, positive feedback.

On Thursday we had the Go!Go!Go! theatre company in performing for the children. They loved it! And so did the teachers! This has been the second time they have visited Grove Park and many of the teachers and children are keen for them to come again in the future. This interactive production was full of dance, fun and humour and left the school feeling energised and buzzing.



Our successful bid for the BAA Stixx event provided Year 5 and 6 with an afternoon full of excitement and fun. All children had the opportunity to design and build structures of varying sizes. They spent a very busy afternoon creating fantastic models and structures—all out of newspaper! They learnt valuable lessons about using sustainable materials to create these structures and had a great time!

I have been so proud of our new recruits to Grove Park! The Nursery and Reception children have settled in beautifully. Well done to all of those involved, it has been a great success and I look forward to watching them flourish as the year continues.

Last year Chiswick Community College achieved the accolade of being the most successful secondary school in Chiswick. Their results at GCSE level were truly impressive. On Wednesday night Tony Ryan, Headteacher of CCC came and shared with parents of Grove Park his recipe for success. It was both entertaining and thought provoking and helped many parents understand the steps CCC takes to endure a smooth transition from primary to secondary school.

### After School Child Care

Thank you to those of you who responded to Imaginations' questionnaire regarding the demand for after school child care. As you may be aware, Imaginations (which is entirely independent of the school) used to collect children from Grove Park Primary School at the end of the day and take them to Imaginations, although they still do this for Nursery wrap-around, the demand for after school care diminished drastically and they were unable to open again this term. Unfortunately we only received seven responses in total and most of those only required one or two days care at the most. Clearly it would not be financially viable for Imaginations to continue with only this number of children and regrettably, they have decided that they will not be able to continue to offer childcare after school.

We will continue to investigate alternatives for those that do need after school child care provision, but at the moment are sadly unable to.

On Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> October we will be holding our first **Parents' Forum** of the academic year. We normally hold the meeting on the first Thursday of the month, but for the first event, were unable to do this. Please join us in the dining room at 9.00am prompt. If you would like to add something to the agenda, please email the lovely Tamara [tamamehta@hotmail.com] who compiles the agenda and chairs the meeting.

### Volunteers Wanted for Home Start

Home Start is the UK's leading family support charity. They are currently recruiting for volunteers to provide regular, practical and emotional support to local families with young children. So, if you have parenting experience, like working with children and have two or three hours to spare a week and would like to get involved, please contact Home Start Hounslow on 020 8577 9552 or email home-start\_hounslow@yahoo.co.uk

### PTA News

It's a new year of PTA fund raising!

Thanks again for all the wonderful support we received last year ... and welcome to new families to the school.

Over £18,000 was raised last year, which is fantastic for a school of our size, and we hope this year will be just as successful, but with several members of the PTA standing down we are looking for new support, including a new Co-Chair and Secretary.

Our AGM is being held in the school hall on Tuesday, 4th October from 7.30pm, but we'll be there from 7.00, so please come for an informal chat to find out more about what we do and how you might be able to help this year.

At the AGM we'll be voting on Mr Cornelius' "wish list", so if you have an opinion about how you would like last year's money spent, please do come along!

In the meantime, feel free to contact us:

Andrealazenby@aol.com or lucy\_c\_barrett@mac.com.

We hope to see you at the AGM!

Andrea and Lucy

### Cake sale dates for this term are as follows:

30th September	-	Years 6 and 2
14th October	-	Years 5 and 1
4th November	-	Years 4 and Reception
18th November	-	Years 3 and Nursery
9th December	-	Years 6 and 2

