

Grove Park Primary School

Newsletter No 27

7th May 2010



HAVE YOUR SAY

The governors would love to hear your views on our school. We hope to hear from as many of you as possible and you can access this questionnaire through the following link.

<http://surveys.cocentra.com/index.php?sid=23523>

The questions have been designed to gather your views on a wide range of topics and there is a space for you to make any other points you would like. If you cannot access this online survey—or if you would prefer to complete a paper one, we have paper copies available from the office. You may feel if you have more than one child that your opinions vary and consequently we have asked you to identify the year group you are responding to. This will help us with our analysis. You may complete one questionnaire per child if you wish.

We will also survey the children to gather their opinions on Grove Park. Once the information is gathered, Concentra will compile the results and we will report back to you. Please return your completed surveys by Friday, 21st May. Thank you.

HEALTHY SCHOOL!

Grove Park has a tradition of enjoying a Healthy School week every summer. This has been so successful that this year we are having a fortnight to be healthy. From 17th May, there will be a full timetable of events as you can see below. Thank you to Amanda Letch for organising this exciting fortnight. I am sure we will all feel much better after all this exercise!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Walk to school Aerobics Cheerleading Years N, R, 3 and 5 Road Safety	Walk to school Aerobics Skipping work- shop Junior Bike day	Walk to school Aerobics KS1 healthy eat- ing workshop Sports psycholo- gist	Walk to school Breakfast club Aerobics Football day	Walk to school Singing assembly Aerobics Skipathon Infant bike day Year 3 and 4 sleepover
Aerobics Cheerleading Years 1,2,4 and 6 E-safety	Aerobics Junior bike day	Aerobics Will to Win Ten- nis	Aerobics Dance day	Good work as- sembly Aerobics Infant bike day Cake/ healthy snack sale

KS1 TOILETS

I am sure you will agree that our toilets for Years 1 and 2 are not up to our overall standard! Having consulted with parents on our vision for Grove Park through the Parents' Forum and again through the coffee morning last week, I am confident that we need to do something!. The plan is to turn the existing girls' toilet into a unisex toilet with specific cubicles for boys and girls, but shared hand washing facilities. The room will have new floors, cubicles, ceilings, lights, walls, tiles, toilets and wash basins and we hope to buy the new Dyson hand dryers. I am now going to work with the school council on the colours etc. The children were very helpful when we were re-designing the KS2 toilets.

This plan leaves us with a 'spare' room—a highly prized commodity at Grove Park! We would like to totally upgrade this too and turn it into a multi-function room. We are desperate for a space when external agencies come to see the children e.g. speech and language therapists, so they could work here. The teaching assistants are always looking for a quiet space for reading and maths work. The parents may also wish to have a space for a meeting. Most excitingly, the school council wondered if we might use this space for a children's kitchen so we could extend our cookery lessons.

All this could be achieved! So we are currently costing the solutions and discussing the best way forward. Watch this space!

COFFEE MORNING DATES

Coffee Mornings: Friday after assembly in the dining hall

14th May: Sam Birnage on Assessment. What happens in Grove Park?

21st May: First Aid—a provisional booking with St John's Ambulance to offer this talk

28th May: Provisional booking with School Nurse on healthy lifestyles, including cookery for children

ASSESSMENT WEEK AND SATS

Children from Years 2—5 will have standard assessments next week. This helps us to moderate our teachers assessments that are made every day. Assessment is reported to you through your child's end of year report, which will come home on Thursday, 8th July.

You may remember that I had announced my intension of boycotting the Year 6 SATS this year. However, there has been considerable pressure placed on our governing body to ensure their legal obligation to ensure the school completes these tests. I believe this to be unacceptable and detrimental to the current excellent relationship we enjoy with our governors. In respect to them, I have decided to go ahead with the 2010 tests in the normal way. The children have been following the usual, impressive preparation period at school and the change will not affect them in any way. The school will benefit from having its achievements recorded and validated.

CHEQUES

We have recently changed our accounting systems. Please make sure that from now on all cheques are made payable to the **LONDON BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW** to facilitate this. Thank you.