

Grove Park Primary School

Newsletter No 29.

8th May 2009



GOVERNOR ELECTION RESULTS

A second parent governor position became available during our election and we had two nominees from the election. Unless there are any objections, these 2 nominees will be pronounced our new parent governors. Please let us know by Thursday, 14th May if you have any objections. We will update you in next week's newsletter. Thank you.

CHANGE OF SCHOOL HOURS CONSULTATION

Thank you to the parents who came in to discuss this issue at any of our consultation meetings. *This is the final week for you to make your comments.* Next week the final decision will be taken. Through the consultations that have taken place to date, a few minor alterations are now proposed.



Afternoon play will not occur next year for KS2 Junior children.

Younger children will get an afternoon break at a time that suits their learning.

Children from Nursery to Year 2 will get a 15 minute fruit break in the morning in addition to their break in the playground.

The school will close at 3.15

These proposals have evolved through detailed discussions centred on children's learning patterns. The parents' forum suggested we look into a paid care system for any parents who are not able to make the additional 15 minutes and we are currently looking into this possibility.

They exceed government regulations about minimum learning hours per week.

The children are currently being consulted through class and school council.

If you have any further comments, negative or positive, please send them by email to mlee.313@lgflmail.org or phone the school, or drop a note into the office, or speak to me in person by **Friday, 15th May at the latest.**

Jane Hanna is an LA governor at our school and attended the evening consultation. She writes, "As Governor, I attended the parent consultation meeting on Wednesday, 29th April regarding the changes in school hours. Mrs Lee has had other consultation meetings with the parents, children and staff. Mrs Lee explained the impact of the afternoon break on the children and teachers, and that the changes in the timetable will be better for both the children and teachers. The school is also looking at after school care and clubs to support this transition."

If you prefer to give Jane Hanna your opinions please email her on jah@allclear.co.uk

FOOTBALL KIT AND SOCKS

Does anyone have our school football kit at home? We are 8 pairs of socks short and our team have searched high and low so they could play at the Thursday's match. Whilst on the subject of football... good luck to our teams who have signed up for the football tournament on Sunday, 17th May at Chiswick Community School. I hope Years 4 and 6 get their teams in on time. Contact Marsha Glean on groveparktournament@hotmail.co.uk if you have any last minute questions. Thank you Marsha and all your wonderful team for organising this huge event.





NEW FUND RAISING OPPORTUNITY

ParentMail have arranged for Grove Park to use a new shopping browser which also raises funds for the school. At the bottom of each email from ParentMail a link will appear "Buy4Schools". Click on this and a wide range of familiar shopping names such as Tesco, Asda, Opoda, Butlins, HMV, Boots, PC World, British Gas and BT offer a wide range of things from buying a new tv, book or insurance. Parents are rewarded for using this browser with discounts. Every parent who sets up an account with Buy4Schools is offered a £5 welcome bonus. These cash back bonuses can then be split 50/50 between you and the school or you can opt to send 100% to the school. The promotion information suggests that schools can boost their fundraising by upwards of £3,000 per year and clearly the more parents use the scheme the more funds you raise. If you are not part of the ParentMail scheme which enables the school to send you email or text alerts about important events at school, please see Gillian Hodgess in the office and ask for a form. It's free, it's e-safe and it is really helping us keep you informed about life at Grove Park. Thank you.

ASSESSMENT WEEK

Next week our Year 6 children sit their important SAT tests. The children in Years 3,4 and 5 will support them by sitting internal assessments themselves. We hope to encourage a studious, quiet and calm atmosphere throughout the school. You can help by ensuring the children have plenty of sleep, get to school on time and eat a good breakfast. If your child shows any signs of undue stress, please consult your class teacher. We know many children experience nerves through assessments. We hold formal assessments twice a year from Year 3 to help the children overcome these worries and teach them exam techniques. Working within a set time limit is often more difficult for children, some thrive on the silence which aids their concentration, while others cannot understand why adults, who have been so helpful in other lessons, will not assist their thinking! You will be informed of the results in the annual written report at the end of the year. These reports come out on 1st July, the same day the children will meet their new teachers.

OPEN MORNING

Monday, 6th July is our wonderful open morning—please put the date in your diary now and invite your friends and relatives to join you. Our children will be proud to show you round their school, sharing their books, displays and some special activities with you. After your tour, the children will be happy to offer you a cup of tea or coffee while they enjoy a drink and a biscuit.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday, 26th June This is Year 1's assembly date and Year 1 and 2 parents are invited to a work shop to support literacy skills, commencing at 9.30 - 11.30. Come and enjoy a coffee!

Tuesday, 30th June Coffee morning for Nursery and Reception parents with a great workshop, "Learning through Play". This was very well received last time, so come along and find out more about your child's learning.