



Grove Park Primary School



Newsletter No 31.

22nd May 2009

CHANGE OF HOURS

Please read about the change of hours in the attached letter. The school hours will change from 8.55—3.30 to 8.55—3.15 from 3rd September 2009.

SPORTS DAYS

In the past we have had difficulty with the timing of sports days, which normally fall so close to the end of the school year that, if the weather has been poor and we have to cancel the day, there has been no time to re-schedule events. In an effort to ensure we all enjoy our sports, we have brought this event forward in the school calendar.

After all our fitness training in healthy school week, the children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 are looking forward to their **Sports Day on Friday, 5th June**. The children in Years 2,3,4,5 and 6 have their **Sports Day on Tuesday, 9th June**. For both events, the children need to wear sun-screen, bring a hat and plenty of water. Parents are welcome to come and cheer the children on! All the children need to wear PE kit to match their team colours. All children need to wear trainers (not plimsolls). We need plenty of parent helpers to keep score for the older children and marshal the groups. If you are able to help please tell your class teacher.

Younger Childrens' Sports Day: Events will begin at 9.15 (weather permitting) and end between 10.30 and 11.00 (the rest of the day and collection time will be as normal). Nursery and Reception children will be told their team colour (in a separate letter) and all the children are asked to wear a t-shirt and shorts to match their team colour. There will be a circuit of exciting events and some simple races for the children to which parents are encouraged to come along and cheer!

Year 2-6 Sports Day: Begins at 9.30 am. (weather permitting). Again children should come to school dressed in pe kit in their team colours and parents are encouraged to come along and cheer! The children will be having a picnic lunch. Children who have packed lunch should bring this in as normal and those children who normally have a school lunch will be provided with a picnic, but everyone needs to provide an extra drink for the day. Parents are also invited to bring their own picnic and join the children for lunch. You may take your child home early if you wish, but you **MUST** see your class teacher on the day to sign them out and report you are taking them off the school site.

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Congratulations to Marsha Glean and her amazing team for their hard work and enthusiasm in organizing our very successful football tournament at the weekend. The PTA raised a massive £800—Fantastic! Despite the rain and mud, each team played with excellent sportsmanship. The winners in the morning were SB Utd for Year 4 and 6. The afternoon session were Belmont Utd (Y5) and Belmont Rangers (Y3) But I am very proud to announce that the Grove Park All Stars were runners up in the Y3 competition. Football is a great team game and teaches us to lose well, as well as to win. Every child who participated got a medal.

PARENTS FORUM

The next parent forum is Tuesday, 2nd June at 9.00 in the dining hall. All parents are welcome to join our discussion. If you have an item for the agenda please contact Mrs Mehta (children in Year 2 and 4) I hope all the parents reps will gather the class views and send a representative. Thank you

IT TASTER SESSIONS

Thank you to those who replied to our IT questionnaire. Several different needs were identified. On 3rd June from 12.30–14.30 we offer a free course at Grove Park Primary School in the IT suite. This course is suitable for the complete beginner and will cover basic skills of Word, internet and e-mail. This will be followed by a 4 week free course to gain a Certificate of ICT skills for life, and you will learn to enter and edit text and graphics and improve your internet and email skills. We need 8 people to attend this course to make it viable.

For more advanced users Chiswick Community School has an advanced Excel workshop (C5006DC) on Friday, 5th June from 10.00–14.00 (cost £32) and an Excel workshop "using data options (C5006EC) on Friday, 19th June from 10.00–14.00 (cost £32)

If you would like to attend any of these courses, please get a registration form from Gillian Hodgess in the office. I really hope our beginners' course takes off, as there is a promise of taking this further if our parents demonstrate a need for courses here.

STAFFING NEWS

Heather Robson has been a wonderful Reception teacher, covering Mrs Jackie Sanders' maternity leave for the year. Heather has brought her expertise to support good practice and has helped establish a robust assessment process for our youngest children with the help of Ulrike Chesney and Kate Upsher. Sadly for us, Heather has always known that she is due to return to New Zealand at the end of this academic year and her ticket is booked. Thank you Heather for your calm approach, your care and your teaching at Grove Park Primary School.

Jackie Sanders is loving being with baby Max and has decided not to return to teaching for a while. Jackie was an excellent and talented teacher who we all miss, but I do understand her decision. Grove Park School has appointed **Miss Jade Husted** to join the team in September. Miss Husted has excellent references and will be a valued addition to the staff.

Emma Skelding: As a senior teacher, Emma embraces the creative ethos of our school and models excellent teaching to our students, inexperienced teachers and, of course, parents and children! Trying to enumerate all the tasks she accomplishes is not possible: it is a privilege to have worked with her. However, the natural consequence of such excellence is the drive to achieve, and Emma has been promoted to Deputy Headteacher at the William Hogarth school. I know Emma will enjoy this challenge and we wish her every good fortune.

We have appointed **Miss Aziza Williams**. Miss Williams has excellent references and was highly recommended by my headteacher colleagues. Her confident lesson and interview were supported with a beautiful art portfolio.

Mrs Lucia Reynolds begins her career at Grove Park after half term as the Nursery's Teaching Assistant. Lucia gave an outstanding interview and I hope she enjoys working in our lovely school. I would like to thank Jack Bromfield for his work covering Nursery in the past few weeks. It has been a pleasure to have him working here.

HALF TERM

SCHOOL BEGINS AGAIN AT 8.55 ON MONDAY, 1ST JUNE

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY

THE NEW LIBRARIES ARE BEING INSTALLED DURING HALF TERM

THE PTA RAISED £10,000 TO HELP US COMPLETE THIS PROJECT

WE STILL NEED TO BUY THE 'EXTRAS' BUT LOOK FORWARD TO USING THIS FAB NEW FACILITY.