



Grove Park Primary School

Newsletter No 34.

19th June 2009



FREE WORKSHOPS AND GOODY BAGS FOR PARENTS WITH YOUNGER CHILDREN

Come along to our exciting sessions that will engage you in new ways to get more out of books for your babies and very young children and help you understand your child's creative development. The **Early Literacy Workshop** is on Friday, 26th June (after Year 1's assembly) from 9.30—11.00 there is a great opportunity to learn about early literacy skills. Find out ways to encourage your child's thinking skills and share experiences with other mums. Everyone will receive a fantastic **free goody bag** with a new book to share when you get home.

The **Learning Through Play workshop** is on Tuesday, 30th June from 9.00—11.00. This is a session to help you get the most out of speaking and listening and find out how playing games can encourage learning. We find at school that children with strong speaking and listening skills achieve well at school. Everyone who attends will receive a **free goody bag** containing games and toys.

Pre-school and early school experiences have a profound affect on a child's development and we hope to extend these workshops into a series of free discussions and workshops throughout next year. Aimed at all levels of Primary Education, these will acknowledge the important partnership we feel we have with all parents.

If there is a subject you would like to see included in next year's schedule, please drop your suggestion into the suggestion box by Gillian's office. Thank you

I do hope many of you can attend these exciting free workshops.

EXTENDED SCHOOLS—WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

Our new Extended Schools' Area Coordinators are Liz Gers and Claire Collison. Together they work with all the schools in the Brentford and Chiswick area to provide families and children with support in child care, after school and holiday activities, parents' information about childhood obesity and healthy lifestyles and supporting parents who want to improve their own skills and to re-train for the job market. Based at William Hogarth and Dukes Meadow (at Cavendish school) children's centres, the concept is to transform provision and offer some exciting activities and workshops. The Early Literacy and Learning Through Play workshops are organised by this team. In the autumn they will also offer early numeracy workshops, they hope we can use our own IT suite to offer free taster sessions for absolute beginners as well as signposting courses at Chiswick Community School which will update your IT skills. There is a flier attached about sessions aimed to support transition to secondary school for Year 6 parents called 'Moving On!'. Sessions will be held on Wednesday, 24th June at 6.30pm at Chiswick Town Hall or Thursday, 25th June at 9.30am at St. Paul's Church, Brentford. They are keen to hear from parents about their interests and suggestions for further activities; please put your suggestions in the box outside Gillian's office.

CLIMBING FRAME SAFETY

If your child enjoys using our climbing frames early in the morning, please do NOT forget to supervise them. The school accepts no responsibility for the safety of the children before 8.55 and parents and carers are required to watch their children. Thank you

BUY4SCHOOL AND PARENT MAIL

Time and again we find ParentMail has helped us keep in touch with parents through email and text. When the Year 6 trip to 'Wicked' was held up in terrible traffic, we texted those parents on our system to inform them and they were able to wait in the comfort of their own homes until we were able to text again and let them know the children were back and ready to be collected! When Year 1 needed support with a project, the class teacher emailed the Y1 parents and explained what was required—and the response was fantastic. The PTA uses it to remind you of events. There is a diary reminder facility so we can remind you when things should be in. If you have not yet signed up for ParentMail, please take a leaflet. We can even send you this newsletter by email, so you never have to search your child's book bag again—if you think this is a good idea! If you haven't signed up for ParentMail, but would like to, please ask for information in the school office. Thank you.

When you receive a communication from ParentMail, there is a Buy4School icon where you can sign up to buy over the secure internet connection from a range of popular shops. Each purchase offers a discount which can either be shared between you and the school, or you can decide to donate the whole amount directly to the school. This is a great way for us to raise money and gives you the opportunity to earn a little for yourself as well. You can also encourage friends and family to do any on-line shopping through Buy4Schools, just by logging onto www.buy4schools.com you can make savings purchasing items from a huge range of retailers such as Boots, Tesco's, Asda, HMV, Carphone Warehouse and many, many more.

SUMMER FAIR

SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH 11.00—2.30

Come along and join the excitement!

There are many stalls and activities for you and your children. I would like to thank the PTA for their huge energy and efforts in organising this wonderful event, which I know many of our neighbours and past pupils also look forward to attending. Miss Arihi our Yr 4 TA and Homeopath is offering free homeopathic consultations, including free remedies (subject to availability) to all at a stall tomorrow so bring your coughs, colds and headaches, she will be pleased to advise!!

AND WHILST ON THE SUBJECT...

Please remember to let us know if your child is ill and away from school. It is very important at the moment that we keep a record of all illnesses, so we need to know **WHAT** is the matter with your child, so when you leave your message, please leave your child's name, class **AND** their symptoms.

Thank you.

Dukes' Meadow Childminders

On Monday, 22 July between 10.00am-11.00am, Dukes Meadows Children's Centre will be holding a 'Meet the Childminder' event in partnership with the Hounslow branch of the National Childminding Association. At this event you will be able to find out more about using a childminder as a childcare option. They will also have details of Chiswick childminders with vacancies (these are also on our notice board and you are welcome to come and look at these at any time).

If you are thinking about becoming a registered childminder yourself and would like to find out more about how to do this, you can also meet a representative from the National Childminding Association, who will explain the registration process and the support that the organisation can provide. Dukes Meadows Children's Centre is located underneath Cavendish Primary School in Edensor Road, Chiswick. For more information, please call the Centre on 020 8995 6175.



SWIMMING GALA RESULTS

Grove Park attended the Year 6 swimming gala at Chiswick Pool on Thursday, 18th June 09. The morning was extremely exciting with 4 schools taking part. Grove Park came 2nd overall and won an amazing 18 medals in total! All the children who took part won a medal. How proud we all are!

Girls' Events:

50 m freestyle—Annabel 3rd place bronze

50 m backstroke—Jessica 3rd place bronze

50 m breaststroke—Serena 1st place gold

Relay

Girls' freestyle relay—Annabel, Daisy, Jessica—3rd place bronze

Girls' 3x25 m medley relay—Serena, Martha, Jessica 2nd place silver

Boys' Events

Individual races

50 m freestyle—Thomas 2nd place Silver

50 m backstroke Peter 2nd place Silver

50 m breaststroke Joe 2nd place silver

3x25 m freestyle relay—Sonny, Nick, Jamie 2nd place silver

3x25 m medley relay—Thomas, Peter, Joe—1st place gold



CHISWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO THEIR

SUMMER ARTS' FESTIVAL

FEATURING THE BEST CREATIVE TALENT FROM ACROSS THE
SCHOOL

Steel Pans: Orchestra: Choir: Solos and ensembles:

6th Form Photography exhibition: Drama pieces

Tickets includes one selection from the Pissaro BBQ plus salad



On Monday the children looked at live webcam pictures of an Osprey in Scotland and its chicks. Many children have asked for the link so they can continue to look at the nest and watch the chicks developing, this can be viewed by logging onto:
<http://www.thewebbroadcastingcorporation.com/swt/swt.php>