



Grove Park Primary School

www.groveparkprimary.co.uk

Newsletter No 7

15th October 2010



MOVING ON

I hope you will have read my letter this week, praising Grove Park Primary School as a wonderful place to work and learn. We have so many excellent colleagues—teachers, teaching assistants, lunchtime supervisors, admin staff, site manager, cleaners, cook and her assistants—governors, parents and particularly children! That makes it very difficult to tell you that I intend to retire at the end of the school year, in July 2011. The governors have already begun the process of recruitment and we have plenty of time to choose just the right person as headteacher. It feels rather strange to contemplate this level of change, but I can assure you that the governors are very clear about our strengths and the values we are determined to keep. I have had many, kind comments already and I promise I am not going anywhere yet and business is as usual! We continue to move onward and upward!

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS



Thank you to everyone who collected Sainsbury vouchers recently. Some parents reminded me that it might be interesting to see what we have been able to get with them. Here goes:

5 Gamester perforated balls, 8 gloves, an inflator, 4 cricket bats, a parachute, 3 boccia sets, 4 sets of wooden cooking utensils, 3 ring streamers, 2 different kind of cricket bats, 8 trowels, 3 action trainers, 3 pom-poms, 4 CD players, 5 speed hurdles, 2 brushes, 3 runner torches, 3 bun trays, 2 sequencing spots, 36 coloured bean bags, 4 tennis balls, 15 soft footballs, 1 kettle, 6 shuttlecocks, 2 dodge balls, and 5 spatulas. (The last few bits haven't arrived yet) So you can see we got a load of wonderful goodies—for free—for our sports, cooking and allotments.



Thank you!

BUSY PLAYING!

Have you ever walked by our playground when the children are out at play? It's interesting to watch! Sometimes you see great games, lots of active, happy children and hear lots of excited squeals. Occasionally you might see an argument, or a dispute in a team game. You might even see your own child!

It may be tempting to call over your son or daughter for a chat through the railings, but our SMSA (lunchtime staff) are asked to intervene when anyone calls to the children from outside. This is to protect the children from strangers and also prevents a few of our children from a second batch of homesick feelings when you go on your way. To see that your friend's family has come to visit might be enough to set off some rather lonely feelings which you had just got control of!



Please do not try to talk to the children through the fence at break or lunchtimes. Thank you.



WRAPPING PAPER

Don't forget to buy your gift wrapping paper and gift bags from Northbrook and you will also be raising money for the school—every item raises at least 66p! Orders must be handed into the office by half term.

COFFEE MORNINGS

22/10/10	9.30 am	Book swap	Jo Lovatt
5/11/10	9.30 am	Early Years learning through play	To be confirmed
12/11/10	9.30 am	Handwriting	Margaret Mott
19/11/10	9.30 am	Progress child's reading	Alice Moulton
26/11/10	9.30 am	Learning styles (VAK)	Sam Birnage

END OF THE DAY

Lots of our children look forward to the end of the day. They have worked hard, they look forward to seeing their family again and they want to go home! We have noticed that many families are very late collecting their children recently and this is causing the children to feel sad. Please be on time—3.15pm Thank you

BRING A BLOKE TO SCHOOL

Following our very successful 'Bring a Bloke to School' last year, we invite dads, uncles, granddads and male friends and relations to come and be a **reading hero!** Please read with our children on Wednesday, 20th October at 9.00. Thank you

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parent Consultation appointments are being held next Thursday, 21st October from 2.40 until 7.50. Appointments are for ten minutes only to discuss your child's start to the year. Timetables are up outside classrooms now, so please sign up for an appointment time to suit you.

IMAGINATIONS

Imaginations childcare facility will be open from 9.00 am to 6.00 pm on the school Inset day, Monday, 1st November. The day will be split into 3 slots - 9.00 - 12.00, 12.00 - 3.00 and 3.00 - 6.00 pm, each slot costing £7 per child for children already attending the after school club and £8 per child for new children.

To book the hours you need, please telephone on 020 8742 1658. Spaces are limited so please book early to be sure of a place. Thank you.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS—THE DEADLINE APPROACHES!

Don't forget that Year 6 children need to apply for their secondary school by **22nd October**. PLEASE let the office know even if you are applying online or direct to the civic centre so Gillian does not feel she needs to chase you for your own good! If you do not get your application in by the deadline your child will not be dealt with until ALL the other children have been given a place!

JUNIOR ROAD SAFETY OFFICERS

The JRSOs are a huge help to the Road Safety Officer for the local area, they help to promote road safety issues within the school and the local community. We have five children from Year 5, William E, Rebecca, Clara, Tobin and Louis taking on this important role. The first event they are getting involved with will be working with the Bike It Crew to promote cycling and walking to school during Walk to School Week starting on Monday, 8th November.

HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

With the family

FREE ACTIVITIES:

Fri 22nd – Sat 23rd Oct "The Big Draw" between London Bridge and Tower Bridge. 30 activities at 8 venues for all ages, 11am-6pm. Explore architecture; drawing; crafts; Storytelling; Newspaper cartoonists compete to make the funniest banner.

Sat 23rd Oct, 2-4pm at Kingston museum, "The Big Draw". Be part of creating the largest Comic Film Strip and then make moving puppets.

Wed 27th Oct, 10.30am-4pm at the Museum of London. Various drawing and making activities with workshops for families, including building a giant model of London.

Tues-Thurs 26th-28th Oct at the National Gallery, "The Big Draw". Two workshops for the family; 11am-1pm 5-11 year olds and 2-4pm 12-17 year olds.

Sunday 31st Oct, 2-4pm at Orleans House Gallery, Twickenham. Help paint, using a variety of methods, on a giant sail!

Monday 25th- Sat 30th Oct, "The Big Draw" at the Museum of London Docklands.

The "Big Draw" is an annual event that takes place at this time every year and has been growing ever bigger. It's very well supported and more details can be found on the website www.visitlondon.com.

PAID ACTIVITIES

New Chiswick Pools: Inflatable Pirate Ship on Thurs 28th, 10.30am-12pm, 8-14 years, £1.90 per child.

Aqua Extreme (Scuba diving and Water Polo) on Mon, Wed, Fri; 2-3.30pm, 8-14 years, £3.50 per child.

Junior Gym, Mon-Fri 10.30am-12pm, 12-15 years, £3 per child. MUST pre-book.

Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre: Usual swimming and football lessons. Plus Animal Encounters on Thursday 28th, 2-3pm, £6 per child. A number of animals including snakes, spiders etc where children can touch and hear about all sorts of exotic animals.

For more information, please contact either leisure centre on 0845 456 6675.

If your child has been inspired by watching the Commonwealth Games and would like to have a go at Diving, Putney Leisure Centre has 3 diving boards, at 2, 5 and 10 metre heights. These are available at certain times so please call them on 020 8785 0388 for more details. Please note that children must be able to swim to be allowed to use the diving pool area.

LATER DATES!

Sat 6th Nov at 1pm **Hula Hoop Hop!** In the Clore Ballroom at the South Bank Centre. From Beginners to experts, join in workshops, watch their techniques and see performances from world class acts, with music from vintage to Hip-Hop party tunes. Hula Hoops provided, but limited so it would be good to bring your own if you have one.

For more information, please search on the link below, or call 020 7960 4200.

<http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/find/dance-performance/tickets/the-hula-hoop-hop-55498>

Sat 13th November **Lord Mayors Fireworks**, starting at 11am with a flypast and a 3 mile procession starting from Mansion House and finishing at St.Pauls Cathedral with the spectacular finale of Fireworks at 5pm, being launched from a barge on the Thames in front of the South Bank Centre. FREE for all the family. This is a great day and evening out for all the family but beware of the crowds – it does get busy.

For more information, please search on this link:-

www.lordmayorsshow.org/visitors/fireworks

Sat 27th Nov, 10am-6pm **Traffic Free Shopping in Oxford and Regent Streets**. Might be your idea of hell or a chance to take the children to look at the window displays and shop in (relative) ease.