

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to write to you after such a successful first half term back at Grovelands following what has been a tough year. There have been many challenges we've overcome and I also know many more still lay ahead but it is absolutely worth it to see the pupils thrive and enjoy their learning. Thank you for all of your support throughout this half term.

The children have bounced back remarkably well, rising to the challenge with excellent behaviour and a great attitude to learning. As we to move through the school year, we will continue to work hard on recovery and also reflect on what is working really well and worth retaining when we reach the other side of this pandemic, instead of returning to the status quo!

Well done to our children in Vipers class this week, who have been learning from home, as directed by Public Health England, after a confirmed case. They have been fantastic and have really engaged well with the home learning. I will be sending Vipers children and parents a survey asking for important feedback on what worked really well and what could be improved on. It is really important that we continue to refine and enhance our offer; but I do want to give Miss Dandie a huge shout out for making it run so smoothly this week and again - well done Vipers class.

I would like to briefly update you around homework. Based on parental feedback, at the start of this term we took the decision to retire the self-selection 'Nandos' grids and to hold fire on setting homework for the first part of the term. This successfully enabled children to focus on reintegrating during the school day and to rebuild their stamina. It has also allowed us to carefully consider our new approach which will, instead, be focused on consolidating key skills that have been taught in class, as we know that additional deliberate and independent practise will help them ensure that these skills become automatic. We will begin this next half term and I will fully communicate how this will work as we restart after the break.

The children looked brilliant dressed up for our Halloween-themed 'break the rules' day today. Thank you so much to Frogs for organising this event and to parents for contributing towards this. We really hope that the children enjoyed the day.

Finally, we are running a great competition for the children over the half-term holiday and beyond. We would like the children to select one of our school values to represent with an A4 picture. The list of values, which were chosen by the children and staff over the last year, can be found on the flyer later in the newsletter. We are looking to turn the winning designs into a 2021 calendar with the aim of giving a copy to all our school families. We are also looking to turn the designs into 'praise cards' for posting to pupils' houses when they go above and beyond and display one of our values. I really hope this competition inspires lots of pupils and I am really looking forward to seeing their entries.

Best wishes and enjoy the half term break.

Mr Daniel Tuck
Headteacher

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Web: www.grovelands.surrey.sch.uk

Please do not visit the office unless it is urgent— all enquiries should be made by phone or email.

Diary Dates

31st Oct	YR6 Secondary School applications close
2nd Nov	Children return to school
2nd Nov	Primary school applications open
2nd Nov	YR3 Hobgoblin Theatre Visit
3rd Nov	Parent/Teacher Meetings Session 1
4th Nov	Parent/Teacher Meetings Session 2
5th Nov	Parent/Teacher Meetings Session 3
18th Dec	Break up for Christmas
4th Jan	Inset Day
5th Jan	Children return to school
15th Jan	Primary school applications close
12th Feb	Break up for Half Term
22nd Feb	Children return to school
31st Mar	Break up for Easter
1st Apr	Inset Day
19th Apr	Children return to school
1st May	Bank holiday
28th May	Break up for half term
21st July	Break up for Summer

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about a child who attends the school, it is important you inform a DSL staff member immediately. Please contact us at: dsl@grovelands.surrey.sch.uk.

Alternatively, you can pass any concerns to Children's Services directly on: 0300 470 9100.

In class this week...

NURSERY

This week in Bears we have been learning the song '5 Little Speckled Frogs'. We are all now very good at counting together and jumping into the pool like frogs! We loved decorating our biscuits and making a frog face with green icing and raisins. Lots of us are now beginning to recognise our name and this week we have worked on tracing patterns as well as our names.

RECEPTION

This week we have been following the book 'Dear Zoo', we made our own lift the flap character in our literacy books and wrote a couple of descriptions to help people guess the animal hidden behind the flap. In maths we have been investigating 2D shapes, drawing round them, naming them and creating different pictures with them. We have embraced the autumn and explored pumpkins and have been using golf tees and hammers to help our fine motor skills. In phonics we have learnt: **g, h, d, e, f**. It has been a fantastic first half term in reception, and we hope you all have a lovely restful week!

YEAR 1

This week in year 1 we have been completing our super write using the story 'Whatever Next' as our stimulus. We have tried so hard to use adjectives to describe and to write independently. In maths we have been focussing on addition using part part whole models and tens frames. We have also tried to use number bonds to solve word problems and missing numbers. We have been mega creative this week and completed our DT learning using the skills of designing, creating and assembling and evaluating and have produced AMAZING alien puppets. Happy half term and please keep reading!!

YEAR 2

It's been another busy week for year 2 - we're definitely ready for a relaxing half-term break! This week in maths we've continued our work on place value by learning to add and subtract using sticks and dots. We've even learnt how to cross a ten! In English we've continued to use adjectives to describe and we've started thinking about different ways to start our sentences in order to make them more interesting. Science this week has had us exploring more about the properties of materials - we looked at how we can change materials by bending, squashing, twisting and stretching them.

YEAR 3

Year 3 have reached the climax of a fabulous topic - 'Scrumdiddlyumptious'. The children have been able to use all their senses to create their own fantastic poem, based on Michael Rosen's narrative poem, 'Chocolate Cake' - which they all enjoyed reading during Whole Class Reading and also when watching it being performed by the poet. In maths, we have been able to solve addition and subtraction problems through investigating with concrete equipment; including Diennes, counters and place value grids. During science, we carried out an enquiry and used our prediction skills, when finding out how our muscles work. We have also found out about rivers and seas in geography.

YEAR 4

Year 4 have been working hard to show off their figurative language this week whilst writing poems from the perspective of a Roman slave or soldier. In maths they have been working on consolidating the skills they have learnt this half term through fun activities and games. This week they also finished off their foil sculptures of Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni tribe. In science they have been experimenting with insulating materials to stop sound travelling, so no more excuses for noisy bedrooms from year 4 anymore!

YEAR 5

This week in English we have been writing a letter to Henry VIII as Anne Boleyn, begging him to save our life. In maths we have been revising all of the topics we have learnt this half term, including place value, rounding and reading data. We have covered a lot so far. In history we have compared maps of London in Tudor times and modern times and plotted where familiar places such as the Tower of London are. In French we have started to learn how to tell the time and say when school subjects start and finish. We have been extremely busy and now we are looking forward to a rest over half term before we begin our new topic of Stargazers.

YEAR 6

Year six have had another week of three thirds: some of us smashed our mock exams (Cobras); some of us have been rocking home learning (Vipers); and the rest of us have been writing monologues, building Anderson Shelters, and learning road safety on our bikes (Pythons). We have all learned about factors, multiples and order of operation. Bring on half term!

CERTIFICATES



Class	Behaviour	Achievement	Writer
Otters	Noah	Isabella	
Squirrels	Santiago	Trey	
Flamingos	Isabelle	Ava	Amelie
Penguins	Bella	Amelia	Iyla
Dolphins	Nicholas	Henry	Dominic V
Seals	Amelia	Fynn	Jacob
Antelopes	Evie	Amel	Sami
Giraffes	Isla	Emily	Tilly
Zebras	Poppy	George	Roan
Leopards	Poppy	Theo	Evie
Panthers	Lilly	Harry	Hope
Falcons	Kacey	Whole Class	Scarlett-Rose K
Kestrels	Sam D	Madoc	Scarlett
Cobras	Beau	Arjun	Millie
Pythons	Lily	Emily	Martyn/Muhammed
Vipers		Whole Class	

WELL DONE EVERYONE



Online Safety

It is important that we understand enough about the Internet to keep our children safe from harm, but it is equally important that we equip our children with the skills they need to keep themselves safe so they can experience the Internet positively and responsibly. Each week we will share a different online safety guide.

This weeks online safety link is a guide to a app called 'Tellonym' which some children may use:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/tellonym>

For further information regarding internet safety, please see our website which provides a host of useful links.

Secondary School Application Deadline

Please ensure that you have applied to Surrey County Council at:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary> by

31 OCTOBER 2019

If you submit your application or make any changes to your preferences without a good reason after the deadline, your application will be treated as late. **Late applications will be dealt with after on-time applications**, and this may affect the chances of your child being offered a place at one of your preferred schools.

Parent/Carer Teacher Meetings

A reminder that the online booking system for the above meetings is now open, so please ensure you make your appointment to speak to your child's class teacher.



We have organised our annual event with Usborne Books virtually this year.

The book fair starts **today** and will run for 2 weeks (until 5 November). Perfect for Christmas gifts!

The link to the fair is <https://fb.me/e/1dLFLP7bc> and full instructions on how to order books will be on the event page.

Please remember that the school will receive up to 60% in free books from sales. Books ordered will be delivered to the school.

Thank you.



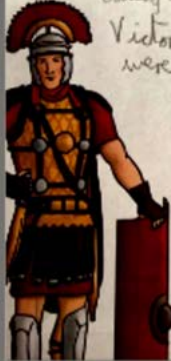
Leopards wanted to show off two of their Roman poems that they have been working hard on. There were so many amazing poems written, it's a shame we can't show you them all. Can you spot their examples of similes, metaphors and personification?

Well done Freddie the Roman soldier and Piriyanika the Roman slave!

I am a Roman soldier and I'm fighting on a hard, dusty track far from home. Slaves I ~~captured~~ captured like butterflies in a net, tears of sorrow drip down their face like rain drops. Courage shines with glory to win. My heart is crying since got those I killed. Our shields stood rigid, this good ground sacrificing his big, massive life for mine. Boom CLASH BANG! Swords clashing together like symbols, Bows and arrows were heard springing rain. Our helmets were as shiny as a bright star. Fear was calling down my spine, my horse was calling me back. Victory was calling our names cause we're gear fighters!

I am a Roman soldier.


By Freddie



Slave Poem

I am a slave
I am unknown by those who once respected me,
Now who am I? - someone who I used to be
My heart sobs inside me like a crying baby wanting good, but nobody realises,
Sniff Sniff everynight huge waves of sadness splash over me, but no one sees me cry,
I work through day quickly like a busy bee- my fierce spirit shattered like broken glass,
Can you hear me? Release me please,
My heart was shouting at me to set it free,
I was free once, but now...
I am a slave

Piriyanika



Leopards class also wanted to wish everyone a very haunting Happy Halloween!




ART COMPETITION

Grovelands School are designing their very own 2021
Values Calendar and we need your help!

What do our school values mean to you?

Our 6 school values are:

*Determination, Friendship, Kindness, Respect,
Trust & Uniqueness.*

We would like you to draw a bright, colourful picture
representing 1 of our school values.

If your drawing is chosen, your drawing will be printed
onto our school calendar which will then be printed and
distributed to every family in our school.

Competition Rules

1. Your detailed picture should have no words.
2. It should be on A4 paper (portrait)
3. There should be no white on the paper when finished!
4. It should clearly represent the 'value' you are drawing.
5. You can enter more than once but not with the same value.
6. Entries must in for judging by Monday November 16th 2020.

