

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start by saying thank you for your kind donations towards the 'Christmas in a bubble' that Frogs are organising. We think this is a great idea and one the children will really enjoy. Whilst Christmas in school will be a little different this year, we will certainly do our best to bring some festive fun throughout December. We are also planning a little Christmas surprise to replace our usual performances so watch this space!

Again, a range of impressive and exciting learning has taken place across the school this week. Our nursery pupils enjoyed receiving a letter following an extra-terrestrial visit and our Year 5 pupils have also been learning about space, with a focus on Tim Peake's journey to the International Space Station a few years ago and I look forward to reading their diary entries. I was also really impressed with our Year 6 pupils, who have been using the book 'Carrie's War' as a springboard for their writing. From reading their diaries, it was clear that they were really able to empathise with Carrie and that they had enjoyed the book immensely.

As you know, we have really focused on reading for pleasure this year and it's been great to see the children using the library to find their next fantastic read. In our reading assembly for KS2 this week, I was able to get into character as the 'Demon Headmaster', explaining to the children that I chose the book because I have so much in common with him! I remember enjoying this book as a child and it is one I would definitely recommend for KS2 children.

It is difficult to believe that we are nearing the end of our Autumn term and time has really flown past — a sure sign that we have all enjoyed the full return to school. We have been able to achieve so much, having started with the completion of the new reception playground. This new equipment and has continued with brand new approaches to teaching phonics and reading across the school and a number of other new initiatives and changes such as the 'Pupil Passports' for children with SEN, which we think is great way to track their personal targets and progress.

A reminder that I am running a webinar on **Tuesday December 1st at 9:45am**, which will be all about the Grovelands values and behaviour policy. I will record the webinar for those that are unable to attend at this particular time. Further details can be found in the flyer within the newsletter.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Mr Daniel Tuck
Headteacher

Office: 01932 227816 (8.30am—3.30pm)
Email: info@grovelands.surrey.sch.uk
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

1 Dec	Parent/Carer School Values Webinar— 9.45am
11 Dec	Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day
18 Dec	Break up for Christmas
4 Jan	Inset Day
5 Jan	Children return to school
15 Jan	Primary school applications close
12 Feb	Break up for Half Term
22 Feb	Children return to school
10-12 Mar	YR5 Marchants Hill Residential
17-19 Mar	YR4 Marchants Hill Residential
31 Mar	Break up for Easter
1 Apr	Inset Day
19 Apr	Children return to school
3 May	Bank holiday
6 May	Inset Day
24-28 May	YR6 Land and Wave Residential
28 May	Break up for half term

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.

Attendance Matters

If your child is unable to attend school, you must phone the school office before 09.30am on the day of the absence, providing specific details for the reason of absence. If no message is left in the office, your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. The Headteacher should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.

Parents/Carers are reminded that if you take their children out of school without authority, you will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices.

In class this week...

NURSERY

This week in Bears we have been learning about Space! Last Friday, the aliens came to visit our classroom and left us a letter. We followed the alien footprints around the school and found a delicious surprise! We have written thank you letters to the aliens and drawn alien hunt maps. We have also been singing '5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer'. What an exciting week!

RECEPTION

This week in Reception we have been reading and writing about 'Stickman' and his adventure to return to the family tree. We have written a caption about the story and made books and speech bubbles about him. In maths we have been discussing periods of time and the order in which we do things. We talked about our morning routines and explained the things we do first, next and last before coming to school. We visited the library and learnt all about the rules we follow while we are in there. The children are bringing home a library book this week which needs to be returned each Friday to be changed.

YEAR 1

This week Year 1 has been learning how to write an invitation. After reading the story 'Kipper's Birthday' we talked about what important information needs to be included and we wrote our own version. In maths we have been learning to name 3-D shapes and identify their properties using the language of faces, vertices and edges. In science we have been learning about the structure of plants and in art we have looked at texture and shade by doing leaf rubbings.

YEAR 2

Year 2 has had a really exciting week - we went on a treasure hunt! We were sent a video from Blackbeard saying that his treasure was hidden in our school, but when we went to look for it we discovered that it had been stolen by the scallywag Hattie the Heartless! We had to write a letter to Blackbeard explaining that his booty was gone and we suggested how he might catch that scoundrel. We've continued learning about money in maths - we've looked at how to make and compare different amounts of money, it's been a tricky week! We learnt lots in science about plastic and how to reduce our plastic wastage.

YEAR 3

In English the children have planned and written a letter to King Minos from Crete using persuasive language. They have been recapping on their 2 and 5 times multiplication tables in maths. We have been finding out about the different stages of the life cycle of a flowering plant in science; as well as recording results of their own plants growing in school. In P.E., the children have had lots of fun and exploration, practising different ways of jumping and landing. And in groups they have come up with their own creative combinations.

YEAR 4

In year 4 this week we have been writing diary entries in character as a Roman slave, focusing on including emotions and descriptive language. In maths we have been multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. We have also been researching the similarities and differences between Italy and the UK in geography and have finished making our Roman necklaces in art.

YEAR 5

This week in Year 5, we have been researching all about the astronaut Tim Peake, ready to write a diary about his journey into space to work on the ISS. In maths we are learning about perimeter and the area of shapes. DT sees us continuing to make our moon buggies, and in PSHE we have been thinking about what makes us happy and what is important. In computing we are creating a game using coding skills

YEAR 6

Year 6 have been writing diaries in role as characters from 'Carrie's War', and reading about Voytek, the Polish bear who helped the Allies to victory in the Second World War! In maths, we have been multiplying and dividing fractions, and in RE, we have considered how the 'Big Three' monotheistic faiths view Jesus. We've also been looking at Anne Frank's experience during WWII through the online interactive Secret Annexe, and hot seating.

CERTIFICATES



Class	Behaviour	Achievement	Writer
Otters	Alys	Leonardo	Dylan
Squirrels	Lukas	Sullivan	Daniel
Flamingos	Martin & Oscar	Wissal	Alyssa
Penguins	Amelia	Nevaeh	Darcy
Dolphins	Erin	Ella	Henry
Seals	Kate	Ahmad	Alex
Antelopes	Jack	Mahnaz	Evie
Giraffes	Kai	Harry	Emma
Zebras	Thomas	Evie	Dominik
Leopards	Sara	Grace	Ben
Panthers	Ethan	Harry	Oscar
Falcons	Whole Class	Ayeza	Eli
Kestrels	Paige	Harley	Zach
Cobras	Marnie	Ethan	Frank
Pythons	Whole Class	Scarlett	Maya
Vipers	James	Arabella	Jensen



Harry R	(Antelopes)	Marnie	(Cobras)
Isabella	(Antelopes)	Martyn	(Pythons)
Thomas	(Giraffes)	Jake	(Vipers)
Zain	(Panthers)	Julian	(Vipers)
Belal	(Falcons)		
Muhannad	(Kestrels)		

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 week's free online safety guide focuses on PlayStation 5. The PlayStation 5 is the next-generation video game console for Sony. The guide takes a look at how to tackle a range of potential risks such as spending money, age-inappropriate content and strangers online. Please click on the link below.

<https://www.playstation.com/en-us/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/>

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

Anti-Bullying VR Workshops - 16th and 17th November 2020

To mark Anti-Bullying Day on 16th November 2020, all KS2 classes attended an interactive virtual reality session on 16th and 17th November in the main hall. They watched 2-3 scenarios on their individual headsets and then discussed whether the behaviour displayed by the person was **1) physical abuse, 2) verbal abuse, or 3) online abuse**. They talked in detail about the actions of perpetrators and victims of abuse and explored the language associated with bullying too.

The children and adults thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and the discussions had in each session embedded the Anti-Bullying statement Groveland upholds daily throughout the school year:

Grovelands Primary School believes that all bullying behaviour is unacceptable. This includes physical, verbal, relational and online bullying, whether at home or school. For children and young people, providing safe and happy places to learn is essential to achieving school improvement, raising achievement and attendance, promoting equality and diversity and ensuring the safety and well-being of the school community.





A HELPING HAND

We know these are challenging times. If you, or a family you know, have been affected by the Coronavirus crisis, help is at hand.

From emergency food parcels to financial assistance, benefits advice and more, there are lots of organisations across Elmbridge who can help you get the support you need.

To find details of your closest Foodbank, Citizens Advice, Family Centre and other services, or to see how Walton Charity can help, visit

waltoncharity.org.uk/familysupport



waltoncharity
on thames

Working to build a fairer
community in Elmbridge



CAN YOU LEND A HAND?

Help us help our local community

Many families across Elmbridge have been hit hard by the Coronavirus crisis. Help us support those most in need this winter.

Donate today to our Covid-19 Response Fund and we promise to match every donation – pound for pound – with all funds going directly to local charities and families in crisis.

To donate, visit

waltoncharity.org.uk/coronavirus

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