

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a really fun week in many ways, particularly with the snowy start that we had. It definitely brought a smile to our faces and it was lovely to see pictures of Year 3 children enjoying themselves in the snow as part of our achievement assembly.

We also had the news that schools may begin to return from 8th March. Clearly, this is entirely dependent on infection rates continuing to decline and this date is not set in stone but it's definitely helpful to have something to work towards. I really hope it's not too long before we can fully reopen as we really miss the children who are not here.

Having said that, we remain incredibly impressed by the home learning that we are seeing through Tapestry and Google Classroom, as well as the completed hard copy packs that are being brought back in. It is very clear the children are accessing the content to successfully continue their learning. It's also been great to see a few more children joining the live daily Meets. Please do encourage them to join these for any reason, as it is a great opportunity to access live support from the teacher in order to check their understanding and make sure they are on track.

Thank you to the parents who attended Mrs Anning's webinar earlier this week 'supporting children with writing at home'. We are about to share a range of resources that were discussed in this session and we hope you will find these helpful. As well as this, you will get a recording of the webinar so if you missed the live session, you can still catch up.

Next week, we will be taking a full part in Children's Mental Health Week, which starts next Monday. Mental Health and Wellbeing is really important to us at Grovelands and never more so than right now. We have planned a range of daily activities around the theme of 'Express Yourself' - I have had a bit of a sneak peak and I can see that you'll be having plenty of fun. We will also be 'dressing to express' on Friday, which I am definitely looking forward to. The week kicks off with a special live assembly from Oak National Academy, which features a number of people that the children might recognise from TV shows such as Blue Peter and we'll certainly be watching in school. You can find the link for this assembly and more about next week later in the newsletter.

Have a really good weekend.

Best wishes,

Mr Daniel Tuck  
Headteacher

Office: 01932 227816 (8.30am—3.30pm)  
Email: [info@grovelands.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@grovelands.surrey.sch.uk)  
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**Please do not visit the office unless it is urgent – all enquiries should be made by phone or email.**

## Diary Dates

1 Feb	Inclusion Coffee Morning—Emotion Coaching and Zones of Regulation—9.30am
1 Feb	Children's Mental Health Week
5 Feb	Dress to Express Day
8 Feb	Inclusion Coffee Morning—How to support your child with maths at home—9.30am
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
9-11 Jun	YR5 Marchants Hill Residential
23-25 Jun	YR4 Marchants Hill Residential

## 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](mailto:dsl@grovelands.surrey.sch.uk).

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



This week we would like to share safety tips for what parents and carers need to know about 'WeChat'. This is in poster form later within the newsletter.

Please let us know if you need any specific online safety help or advice.

Thank you.

# In class this week...

## NURSERY

This week in Nursery we have been learning about 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We have been very busy making and tasting porridge, yummy! In maths we have been talking about size. We have measured, compared, and ordered different objects by size throughout the week. We have also been acting out the story of Goldilocks and trying to remember the correct sequence, the main characters and the repeating language. We can even now sing the story too!

## RECEPTION

This week in Reception we have been reading the story 'Night Monkey Day Monkey' and discussing what happened in the story. We looked at nocturnal and diurnal animals linked to the story and researched where rainforests are in the world. In maths we have been learning to tell the time to o'clock and half past and discussing our daily routines linked to time. We made our own clocks to help us with this and played 'What's the Time Mr Wolf?'. We also looked at 3D shapes discussing their names and properties and looked around the house for 3D shapes to built different things with.

## YEAR 1

We have had a busy time in school and at home school week and all the year 1 team have been so impressed with the children's learning. We have seen some fabulous writing of our own 'Tiger Who Came to Tea' stories and have been pleased to see improved handwriting, use of sounds to spell and of course interesting adjectives. In maths we have still been focussing on subtraction, fact families and comparing number sentences so our brains have been busy. Happy weekend year 1!

## YEAR 2

Year 2 really had fun week in English this week making our own food riddles! We started the week thinking about the properties of our foods, then we tried to use similes and alliteration to improve our writing and, by the end of the week, we'd written some amazing riddles that used less obvious clues to start. This week in maths, we finished off our multiplication and division topic - we're now experts at dividing by 2, 5 and 10s! We logged in to our own Yumu accounts for music this week and tried to compose some of our own music in the topic 'I wanna play in a band'.

## YEAR 3

This week year 3 started their new book 'The Iron Man'. We have been working hard at describing the characteristics of the Iron Man and have looked at the way the author has used language to engage the reader. We have also looked at how the author has used show, not tell for communication between the Iron Man and Hogarth. In maths we have been working hard on our multiplication of 2-digits by 1-digit, understanding factors and products and we have also been learning how to divide 2-digits by 1-digit using partitioning as well as learning to exchange.

## YEAR 4

For year 4 (bubble) the week started off in an enjoyable way! The snow is not here everyday, so the children made the most of the opportunity to have fun in the snow before returning to class for a hot chocolate! Hopefully all of year 4 enjoyed the snow when it was with us! In English, the children wrote a diary entry as an alien who was retelling his day on earth. This was quite an entertaining exercise and the work produced was fantastic. In maths, we have been learning how to divide 3 digit number by one digit numbers... Tricky, but through hard work there was a lot of success. In history, the children have continued to learn about the Anglo-Saxon period in England. Learning about Viking invaders and English kings!

## YEAR 5

This week in year 5 we have been writing the diary entry of a High Priest, who is mummifying the body of a Pharaoh. Some fantastic examples of figurative language have been written. In maths we have been learning about fractions and extending what we know from previous years. In reading we continue to discover more about 'The Boy at the Back of the Class.' We are learning more about the Egyptians in art and history.

## YEAR 6

Year 6 have been preparing to write persuasive letters encouraging people to stop using single-use plastics by researching this heart-breaking issue. We have also continued our studies of Mayan history and evolution. In maths, we have been finding percentages or amounts.

# CERTIFICATES



## Achievements

## Writers of the Week

### Reception

Lillie-Rose  
Anaya  
Blake  
Arlo  
Ethan R

### Year 1

Imogen J  
Harrison  
Esmee  
Martin  
Ajwa  
Alexander  
Albie  
Maria  
Jacob  
Willow  
Adam  
Amelia H

### Year 2

Ronny  
Alissia  
Freddie  
Everly  
Zach

### Year 3

Jack  
Emily  
Olivia I  
George  
James  
Adam  
Harry Mar

### Year 4

Melody  
Tyler  
Arlo  
Louis  
Ethan  
Jessica  
Amelia  
Hugo  
Niall  
Sara  
Chloe  
Lily A

### Year 5

Alessandro  
Ellie  
Lily  
Nick  
Sulaiman

### Year 6

Grace  
Felicity  
Arabella  
Charlie  
Lilia  
Vera  
Amber

### Reception

Idris  
Amima

### Year 1

Wissal

### Year 2

Evie  
Fiorella

### Year 3

Thomas  
Evie

### Year 4

Sienna  
Caitlin

### Year 5

Harley  
Jacob

### Year 6

Whole Bubble  
James

Please see the achievement assemblies in Google Classroom or Tapestry for Reception.

## Lexia Superstars

Nicholas (Dolphins)  
Sienna (Leopards)  
Alessandro (Falcons)

# WELL DONE EVERYONE

# Inclusion Parent/Carer Coffee Mornings (SEND/EAL/Pastoral)

## How to support your child with home learning

Grovelands Primary School invites you to weekly virtual coffee mornings to discuss how to support children with SEND (special education needs and/or disabilities), EAL (English as an additional language) and pastoral (wellbeing of the whole child) needs at home with remote home learning activities.

Monday 1st February 2021 - 9:30 - 10:30am

Emotion Coaching and Zones of Regulation  
(in celebration of Children's Mental Health Week - 'Express Yourself')

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99675688434?pwd=ZS9vaGNJMHpWMU1qMIJWVkfFMelZaZz09>

Meeting ID: 996 7568 8434

Passcode: SNX1eY



Monday 8th February 2021 - 9:30 - 10:30am

How to support your child with maths at home



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93942638834?pwd=UmNrTW1TWkZXTGN3aWdGRGJFSDRmdz09>

Meeting ID: 939 4263 8834

Passcode: bC81rp

We look forward to seeing you at the above sessions, but should you are unable to join any of them , they will be recorded and circulated for you to watch at a later date.

Thank you - Mrs P Anning

How to support your child with writing at home



For those of you that were unable to make this webinar, please use the link below to view this session.

[https://youtu.be/xzNveF\\_DVEg](https://youtu.be/xzNveF_DVEg)

How to support your child with reading at home

For those of you that were unable to make this webinar, please use the link below to view this session:

<https://youtu.be/vHd7VhfQD9I>





Next week we will be celebrating

## Children's Mental Health Week

At Grovelands Primary School, your child's mental health and well-being is of the utmost importance to us, especially during these testing times.

During next week, we will be engaging in activities which will support your child's pastoral needs and we will end the week with a **Dress to Express Day on Friday 5th February 2021.**

Whether your child is attending the school provision or working remotely from home, we would like all children to 'dress to express' in an outfit which best showcases your child's personality. Your child's class teacher will discuss possible outfits with the children during the week. Please note that we do not expect you to buy a new outfit for your child. Accessories can be created at home or items can be sourced in the home environment to complement your child's outfit e.g., capes, crowns, sunglasses, badges etc. Adults please feel free to get involved too and celebrate with us on 'dress to express' day.

Oak National Academy is launching a live assembly to launch **Children's Mental Health Week at 9am on Monday 1st February 2021.** If you are working remotely from home, please do join us and the nation in the live assembly at:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/assembly>

We would love to receive photographs of your child engaging in the weekly activities, as well as seeing their amazing outfits on 'dress to express' day. Please could you email your photographs to your child's year group email:

[year?teacher@grovelands.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:year?teacher@grovelands.surrey.sch.uk)

We will be sharing these in next week's newsletter and assembly.



# Surrey Family Help Hub

## Help is at hand

We all need a bit of help sometimes, especially when managing the highs and lows of family life.

Surrey Families Help Hub is a brand new service. They are starting small, so at the moment their help is focused on children's behaviour – from babies to teens.

They can help you find useful information, advice and support for those times when you need it.

For further information please visit their website at

<https://www.surreysfamilyhelphub.org.uk/?view=category>



## HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

Please don't forget about the service provided by Walton Charity for families who may need help with food over the coming weeks and months and how you can access this service.

Walton and Hersham Foodbank is well-stocked and able to help any family that needs it. For families to access this support, they must be referred by the school and there is no limit to the number of referrals we can make.

Once a referral is made, the school is provided with a voucher to pass on to the appropriate family. You should then take this voucher to our most local allocated foodbank (St John's Church) to match up code and hand over your food parcel - enough to feed a family for at least 3 days.

If you are in need of this service, please get in touch by emailing [info@grovelands.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@grovelands.surrey.sch.uk) and we will move quickly to make the referral. We know it is a really difficult time for many families and we are keen to help by referring this service, which is open to everyone, as often as is needed.



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know About

# WECHAT

**17+**  
App Store Rating

WeChat is an all-in-one communications app for free text messaging, voice and video calls, photo sharing and games. Additionally, through “mini-programs” (apps integrated into the main WeChat platform), it becomes a one-stop shop by allowing users to do things like send payments, make purchases or book taxis, flights and hotels. Headquartered in Shenzhen, China, WeChat is one of the world’s most popular social media downloads, with around 980 million active users.

### Risky Connections

Users of WeChat can exchange contact info instantly through their own unique QR code. That also means that one quick scan of your child’s QR code would give a person all of their details. Users can also add a person to their WeChat network using just a phone number – and, more worryingly, there’s an option to search specifically for nearby users, utilising their device’s location services.



### Age-Inappropriate Activity

Social services in Malaysia (where WeChat is among the top three messaging platforms) have highlighted the app as a conduit for teenagers and schoolchildren to gamble online, arrange sexual hook-ups and deal drugs. WeChat’s age rating is 17+, but this is only an electronic verification: a child could simply lie about their age to download the app and would not have to provide proof.



HEY, WANNA MEET UP THIS SATURDAY?  
#SOCIALDISTANCED

### Random Contacts

WeChat has a ‘discover users’ mode which allows you to connect with other people – either worldwide or nearby – entirely at random, through the device’s GPS locator. The ‘shake’ facility (i.e. literally shaking the phone) puts you in touch with another user (most likely a stranger) and instantly allows messaging and video contact. For children and young adults, this feature is potentially incredibly dangerous.



### Surveillance Suspicions

Some western journalists have alleged that WeChat is being used on behalf of the Chinese government to mine data, access voicemails and track users’ physical location. The Indian Government banned the app in 2020 over “data and privacy issues”. In the USA, the Government has initiated legal proceedings to block WeChat, citing national security and data privacy concerns.



### Questionable Impartiality

There have been numerous media reports of WeChat blocking or censoring messages because of ‘restricted’ keywords, usually related to politically sensitive subjects (for example, criticism of the Chinese Government’s response to the Covid-19 outbreak). Some people’s accounts have allegedly been disabled because of something comparatively innocuous that they posted. If this is accurate, it raises questions about the reliability and fairness of WeChat’s content.



## Advice for Parents & Carers



### Research It Yourself

If your child is interested in using WeChat, it’s a good idea to download it yourself before they do, to help you decide if it is appropriate for them to use. Getting the app yourself will allow you to experience how easy it is to obtain, how users can create and share their own content, quickly make connections with other people, discover users’ locations and so on.



### Disable Location Services

If you are intending to let your child use WeChat, we would strongly suggest that you do not let the app access their device’s location services. That will not only prevent random – and quite probably, unwanted – contact requests from strangers, but it will also stop other users nearby being able to pinpoint your child’s whereabouts.



### Adjust Security Settings

Unless a user alters it, the default security setting is that anyone else on WeChat (anywhere in the world) is able to see what they’ve posted – including photos and videos. What’s more, when a user adds text, images or video to their ‘Moments’ (a scrolling feed of friends’ updates), not only their contacts but anyone nearby can see what they’ve uploaded.



### Remember Linked Accounts

Bear in mind that users can connect WeChat to their Facebook and Twitter. That makes it easy to share content from the app – including posts that were intended to be private. If your child does link social media accounts, encourage them to think carefully before posting. Similarly, WeChat offers in-app purchases of stickers and games, so you may want to discuss in-app spending with your child in advance.



### Meet Our Expert

Jonathan Taylor is an authority on online safety, social media and online grooming, having previously been a covert internet investigator with the Metropolitan Police for more 10 years. He has worked extensively with UK and international schools to deliver training and guidance around the latest apps, platforms and dangers.



Sure! Love to :)

<https://nationalpost.com/news/censored-by-a-chinese-tech-giant-canadians-using-wechat-app-say-theyre-being-restricted>,  
<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/3064832/how-wechat-censored-even-neutral-messages-about-coronavirus>,  
<https://www.todayonline.com/world/asia/wechat-app-used-pupils-sex-drugs-and-gambling>,  
<https://qz.com/518908/wechats-new-heat-map-feature-lets-users-and-chinese-authorities-see-where-crowds-are-forming/>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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Children and  
Family Health  
Surrey



# 0-19 Advice Line 01883 340 922

Call the advice line for child health,  
development and parenting  
advice and support.

Open 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday  
excluding bank holidays.



[www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk](http://www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk)