

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been lovely to see so many people attending the school events this week. The Meet the Teacher sessions have allowed us to establish the lines of communication between teachers and parents. The School Development Plan workshops have enabled us to gain the ideas of parents/carers and the Macmillian Coffee afternoon provided us with an opportunity for a good old chit chat!

Following on from the Meet the Teacher sessions, please see the school website for each year group's topic web. The website will, in the next few weeks, undergo some changes with additional features such as 'recent communications' on the home page. We hope it will provide a valuable resource.

Our nursery garden is now up and running and the children have really been enjoying their new learning environment. This project was delayed but we are very pleased with the final outcome. Please see further in the newsletter.

We are aware that there are growing concerns about road safety in the area surrounding the school. We would like to reassure you that we are in contact with the local authority regarding ways to improve this situation.

Our upper Key Stage 2 children are eagerly awaiting next week, where we have the Home Front Bus visit for YR6 and the Hampton Court Trip for YR5. We are so pleased that Grovelands' children have these exciting opportunities and would like to thank you for your ongoing support.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Chadda and Mrs Coleman

Dates for your Diary

2017 Autumn Term

2 Oct	Reception children full time
3 Oct	YR6 Home Front Bus visiting the school
5 Oct	Reception Meet the Teacher—9.00am
6 Oct	YR6 Parent Assembly—9.00am YR5 Hampton Court Palace visit
11 Oct	Sibling Photos Parent Tour (Sept 18 intake)—9.15am
12 Oct	Individual Photos
17 Oct	Usborne Book Fair—3.00pm Parents Evening—3.30pm to 5.30pm
18 Oct	Parent Tour (Sept 18 intake)—9.15am Usborne Book Fair—3.00pm
19 Oct	YR2 Parent Assembly—9.00am
19 Oct	Parents Evening—4.00pm to 7.00pm
20 Oct	Break up for half term—3.00pm
30 Oct	YR3 Hobgoblin Theatre visiting the school
8 Nov	Parent Tour (Sept 18 intake) - 9.15am
13 Nov	YR5 Parent Assembly—9.00am

NB. Please note dates are subject to change.

Early Years = Nursery & Reception /
KS1 = Years 1 & 2 / KS2 = Years 3, 4, 5, 6

SCHOOL OFFICE OPENING HOURS

MONDAY—FRIDAY 8.30AM TO 3.30PM

If you wish to report an absence please call 01932 227816 (selecting option 1) and leave a message. Calls must be made by 09:30 at the latest to safeguard our children.

Thank you

SCHOOL DINNERS

Please pay dinner money in advance every Monday or, alternatively, you can pay half termly using our online payment facility. Should you require log-in details for online payments, please speak to the main office. The cost of a school meal is £2.25.

Please notify the office of any changes to school meal preferences a week in advance in writing.

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. 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.

In accordance with the above Regulations, requests for leave of absence are treated sympathetically, but only in exceptional circumstances can they be approved. The policy of the Government to which this school has agreed, states that parents who take their child out of school for five days or more during term time, without the authority of the Headteacher, will each be liable to receive a penalty notice. Penalty Notices will be issued by the Local Authority.

The penalty is £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days of receipt of the notice. If the penalty is not paid in full by the end of the 28-day period the Local Authority must prosecute the recipient for failing to ensure regular school attendance under section 444 Education Act 1996.

Please be aware that each parent is liable to receive a Penalty Notice for each child who incurs unauthorised absences, for example, if there are two parents and one child, each parent will receive one Penalty Notice.

If there are two parents and two children incurring unauthorised absences, each parent will receive two Penalty Notices, which in this case would amount to £120 each if paid within 21 days.

Message from the Chair of Governors

It was good to see some of you at the School Development workshops and encouraging to hear positive feedback on how this term is going, even though it's early days. Governors and the leadership team appreciated you taking the time to tell us what you valued and, in particular, where you wanted to see changes. Thank you!

On Tuesday evening, Governors met and discussed the strategic challenges and opportunities the school faces. One of the main issues, of course, is our longer term leadership model and some of you asked questions about this at the workshops. In the short term, we are very confident that the leadership structure we currently have in place is more than capable of making further positive changes to our school and children's education. Governors have asked the leadership team to keep you informed about new developments.

Longer term, the national agenda strongly drives schools to work in partnerships, particularly with budget cuts, and this also means that schools are adopting different leadership models. Governors will be taking external advice on their options and will work as fast as they can - without rushing into hasty decisions - to identify the best strategic direction (e.g. remaining as a stand alone school, going into a new partnership or joining a Multi Academy Trust (MAT)).

The chosen strategic direction will in turn point to the most appropriate leadership model(s). Whilst we would all like to have definite decisions, it is Governors' duty to explore options thoroughly so that we achieve the best possible education and environment for Grovelands' children. We know that in the past some of you have been frustrated by abrupt changes in the school's direction and we absolutely want to avoid that happening again.

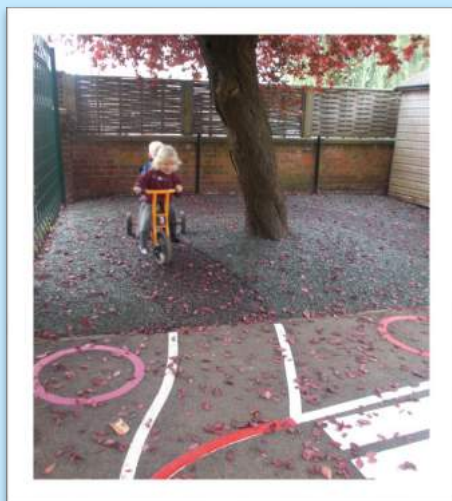
We will keep you informed regularly as our thinking develops, but for now I simply wanted to explain the process we are beginning and to thank you for your understanding.

Best wishes

Susan Foster
Chair of Governors

Our New Nursery Playground!

We are so delighted with the new play area for our nursery children. As you can see from the photographs they are absolutely loving exploring their new surroundings. A massive THANK YOU goes to FROGS and the Governors for enabling this project to go ahead.





THANK YOU

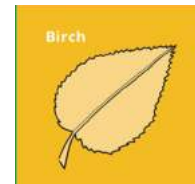
.....so much for all your support with our Tesco Bags of Help. As you can see we are doing very well at Hurst Park!

Please continue to support us by asking for blue coins whenever you shop in Tesco.



INTER-HOUSE COMPETITION TIME!

We are starting a new initiative where the school will be competing in termly inter-house competitions against other children in their year group. These competitions will be linked to what they have been learning in PE for that term. Year 3 got the ball rolling this week—the afternoon was a great success and the children loved the competitive edge!



Dog Fouling Outside the School

An Elmbridge representative was present on Tuesday morning looking out for and talking to dog walkers passing by and has asked for more information regarding recent parent complaints.

If you have any more detailed information or a description of the people or dogs, please send an email to:

wmooney@elmbridge.gov.uk

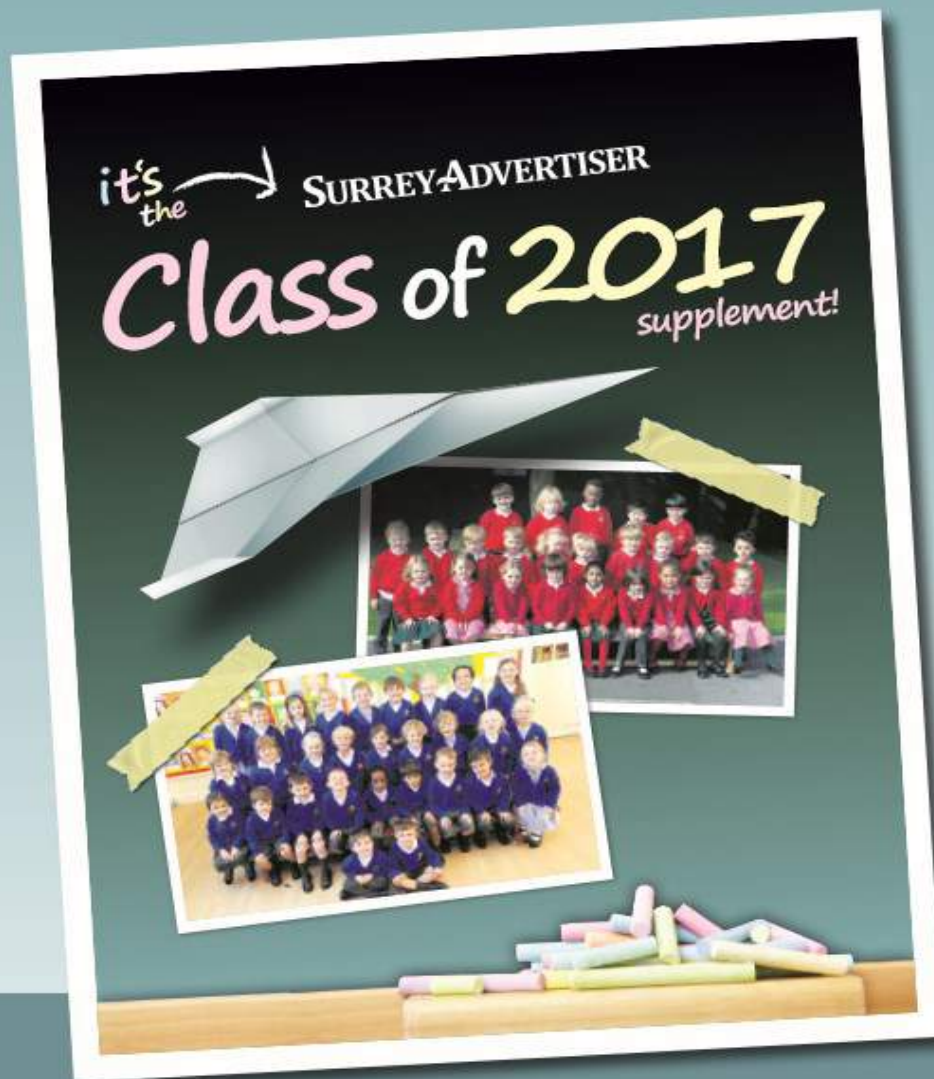
Signage has now been put up around the local area to discourage this offense.

Thank you

Reception Parents/Carers

A reminder that all our fabulous new Reception children will be having their photo taken this Monday 2 October by the Surrey Advertiser for their Class of 2017 Supplement. Grovelands will feature in the supplement, together with many other schools in the local area. Don't forget to pick up your copy which goes on sale next Friday, 6 October!

Don't miss your FREE schools picture supplement



* Example photos pictured

only inside the
SURREY ADVERTISER

Issue dated Friday 6th October 2017

Attendance last week

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
96.9%	96.3%	95.7%	95.7%	96%	95.5%	94.5%

Well done to **Reception** for the best year group attendance

Well done to Otters for the best class attendance **98.7%**

Year Group Attendance from beginning of September 2017

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
97.6%	97.6%	98.2%	94.8%	97.1%	96.7%	95.9%

Overall attendance percentage to date: 96.7%

Target: 96%

CERTIFICATES



Class	Behaviour	Achievement	Writer of the Week
Flamingos	Lilly	Ethan	Oliver
Swans	Jessica	Lara	Tyler
Dolphins	Alan	Hayden	Laila
Seals	Daniel	Ramsay	Oscar
Antelopes	Gabrielle	Fred	Muntaha
Giraffes	Dorka	Sophia	Edward
Zebras	Joshua P	Nicola	Jensen
Leopards	Lee	Tilly	Alex
Panthers	Freya	Oliver	Chloe
Eagles	Kristian	Tiana	Zainah
Kestrels	Melad	Max	Kara
Cobras	Shelbie	Mariam	Louis
Pythons	Amber	Libby	Sid



Pen Licence

Milana—Antelopes

WELL DONE EVERYONE

FROGS NEWS

The FROGS AGM will be held on Tuesday 3rd October at 8:10pm in the Sandy Lane Hall. All parents, carers and staff are welcome to attend. This is a fantastic introduction to the work carried out by our PTA. We will be reviewing the accounts, looking at upcoming activities and look forward to seeing as many participants as possible.

FROGS NEEDS YOU!

At the AGM we will also be appointing a new board of directors.

The positions of Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary will be up for grabs! If you would like more information on the roles please contact either Cassandra Rock or Tracey Bird through the School Office.

Grovelands
Primary School

our **FROGS** meeting
Tues 3rd Oct 8.10pm
Sandy Lane Hall



Want to get to

- know more people at Grovelands
- feel part of what's going on?

Want to help improve the school equipment for your kids?

You can. You're a FROG. Come take an active part in helping create fun social events for our kids and their parents/carers/staff and help raise funds along the way...

It counts. Thanks to **FROGS** we have the

- big climbing frame
- contribution to nursery grounds revamp
- wooden shelter
- table tennis tables
- contribution to library revamp



As **FROGS** we also do the

- Social Events
- Christmas crackers
- Christmas presents
- Easter eggs

Come help plan this year's activity at

our **FROGS** meeting
Tues 3rd Oct 8.10pm
Sandy Lane Hall.

Bring a drink and some nibbles.

FRriends **O**f **G**rovelands **S**chool
PTA (parent teacher association) of Grovelands School



TIME TO TAKE THE STAGE

ASK
ABOUT OUR
TWO WEEK
TRIAL

Stagecoach Performing Arts Walton

Acting, singing and dance classes for 4 to 18 year olds.

You can try Stagecoach for 2 weeks before signing up for the whole term. Children aged 4 to 18 are invited to experience our fantastic Drama, Dance and Singing classes first hand.

For just £50 for the Main School (children aged 6 to 18) or £25 for the Early Stages classes (children aged 4 to 6), children will take part in our weekly classes, work with our talented teaching team, meet current students and have lots of fun!

STAGE
COACH

- 01932 506 806
- walton@stagecoach.co.uk
- stagecoach.co.uk/walton

QUALITY
TRAINING
ESTABLISHED 1988