

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a fun-filled, action-packed week, with much to report. Excitement is also building for tomorrow's Christmas fair. Thank you to everyone for your kind donations to Frogs in support of their stalls, and to everyone that has helped get this event ready. I look forward to seeing you there.

First of all, well done to the year 5 and 6 football teams who both played this week. Both teams played well and year 5 came away with a 3-0 victory for their efforts. Well done.

There have been a number of opportunities for our pupils this week, with children from year 5 attending a more able maths workshop at Bell Farm. This was a great success and our pupils did really well. We've also been able to host a maths excellence workshop for years 3 and 4 at Grovelands, and a group of year 6 pupils have attended a science enrichment group at Cleves.

There has been lots of exciting learning taking place across the school this week, and I have been very impressed by the children's work. I particularly enjoyed my visit to year 1, where children have been making salt dough for their class Christmas tree decorations.

I would also like to celebrate the wide range of interventions that are taking place across the school. The SLT were able to drop-in on all of our interventions last week, and were delighted to see children practising important basic skills in purposeful, engaging activities.

Enjoy the Christmas fair and have a wonderful weekend.

Mr Tuck

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 per parent if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, rising to £120 per parent if paid after 21 days but within 28 days. 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.

Dates for your Diary

1 Dec	FROGS Christmas Fair (4.00—6.00)
5 Dec	Parent Tour—Reception 2019 intake (9.15)
11 Dec	YR2 Christmas Performance (9.30 / 2.00)
12 Dec	YR1 Christmas Performance (9.30 / 2.00)
13 Dec	Reception Christmas Performance (9.30 / 2.00)
14 Dec	Save the Children 'Christmas Jumper Day' Christmas Lunch
14 Dec	Tigers and Bears Christmas Performance (9.00)
17 Dec	YRs 3 & 4 Christmas Concert—St Marys (10.00 / 6.30)
18 Dec	YRs 5 & 6 Christmas Concert—St Marys (10.00 / 6.30)
19 Dec	END OF TERM (2.00)

Inset Days	15 February 2019 23 April 2019 3 June 2019
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N.B. Please note dates are subject to change.

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

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 £2.30 per day.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNERS

Dear Parents and Carers of Grovelands,

I wanted to provide you with an update as Grovelands' Chair of Governors. I intend to hold an open session in the new year so that I can meet some of you in person and hear your perspectives on the school and its progress. At this session I will outline governors' thinking about strategic priorities for the school; and Dan Tuck will talk about the School Development Plan (SDP) - which many of you kindly contributed your views to in the recent workshops. In the meantime, I thought it might be helpful to recap on some of the highlights and achievements from last year, and make you aware of some key developments coming up over the next few months...

Some of the things we are proud of from the last year:

- ◆ filled all key positions in the school, including recruiting our new Head of School, Dan Tuck, whilst maintaining the Executive Head oversight from Cleves' Headteacher, Chris Hodges, strengthening links with Cleves through a Memorandum of Understanding and restructuring our focus and responsibilities across the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to build our in-house capability, capacity and effectiveness over the next year;
- ◆ begun the programme of work to improve the school site including an IT infrastructure and kit overhaul, library refit and new resources, more classroom and bespoke intervention space, new nursery outdoor facilities and 30hr offer places, better fencing for safety and security, new lockers for bag storage, improved middle garden and freshly painted areas;
- ◆ prioritised our spending to focus on the areas of learning that need it most (maths, literacy, and SEN) in order to make the greatest impact and achieve the best outcomes for our children, and we continue to progress this with expert support;
- ◆ celebrated a hard earned and well deserved 'good' from Ofsted and tremendous first SAT results (75%)

But things don't stop there. Mr Tuck is delivering against this year's SDP, and several governor meetings are already taking place to make decisions on focus areas for spend and improvement over the next year. The Governing Body will also hold a strategy meeting in early December where, working with the SLT and an educational expert, we will define the key priorities and risks for the school over the next few years and how best we manage and develop the budget, resources, and our teaching expertise to put Grovelands in the best position to educate our children and help them achieve their best outcomes.

Kind regards

Dean Furber
Chair of Governors

IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK...

NURSERY

This week in nursery we have been learning all about hibernation. We have shared the story of The Hare and the Tortoise and played games related to the story. We have also been busy making homes for our clay hedgehogs.

RECEPTION

This week have begun to practise our play, 'Busy Busy Bethlehem'. In class, we have been learning and writing about Julia Donaldson's 'Stick Man' and 2D shapes.

YEAR 1

This week in year 1 we have been discussing what we would like for Christmas. We planned and wrote our letters to Father Christmas and we cannot wait for his reply! In maths we have been learning how to tell the time to o'clock and half past and discussing 'When it points to the top it means o'clock. When it points to the bottom it means half past.' We have also been busy rehearsing for our Christmas nativity and cannot wait to show our parents.

YEAR 2

In year 2 this week we have continued learning about how to recognise and work out multiplication sentences using groups of dots (arrays). We all know how to keep super healthy from writing a report on this subject, using sub-headings. Examples included diet, exercise, sleep and personal hygiene. Dolphins had lots of fun during their last swimming lesson and have shown much improvement in technique and water confidence over the last few weeks. Soon it will be Seals turn.

YEAR 3

The children in year 3 have been learning about multiples of 8 this week and have solved calculations and word problems using the 8 x table and related facts. In English, the children have been sequencing stories and have learnt how to improve sentences when describing a setting or scene. They described walking through a labyrinth using their senses to write about how it might look, sound, feel and smell!

YEAR 4

This week, year 4 have been challenging themselves in maths, with a focus on solving problems that involve calculating perimeter. In English, we've been using a story mountain to understand the structure of a narrative. We had an interesting science lesson, where we conducted an experiment to observe what happens to lard and chocolate when we change the temperature.

YEAR 5

Year 5 have had a busy week! In maths we have been calculating perimeter and area and solving many challenging problems. We pretended to be Tim Peake and have been writing a diary entry as him, about the night before he left on his mission to the ISS. We have also been rehearsing our Christmas show songs with year 6 almost every day - it is starting to sound amazing now! Please make sure that you keep practising the songs at home.

YEAR 6

Year 6 are investigative reporters and have written superb articles on Will's disappearance in Goodnight Mr Tom. In maths, we have mastered percentages. In science, we have created creatures adapted to live on the harsh climate of Mars!

Walton Lantern Parade

Our year twos had a fantastic time at the lantern parade on Saturday night. They proudly carried their amazing lanterns they made at school through Walton for the annual Festival of Light. There was a lovely atmosphere, with many of the local schools taking part in the parade. It was lovely to see lots of Grovelands families waving in the crowd to cheer us on. The parade ended at the Christmas tree, where we saw Father Christmas himself and the Mayor of Elmbridge, as they switched on the Christmas tree lights. What a lovely start to the festive season!



GROVELANDS V ST ANNE'S

On Wednesday, the year 5 team played against St Anne's School at their ground. Everyone played incredibly in the match and we won by an amazing 3-0. In the game, Charlie scored 3 goals, including a long-distance strike. We tackled, passed and shot really well and defended phenomenally. Jamie made some incredible saves too.

By James P and Cameron

Attendance last week

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
93.2%	98.3%	96.9%	95.8%	93.1%	93.8%	93.6%

Well done to **Year 1** for the best year group attendance

Well done to **Penguins** for the best class attendance **100%**

Year Group Attendance from beginning of September 2018

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
93.6%	97.1%	96.4%	96.7%	96.5%	93.8%	93.6%

Overall attendance percentage to date: **96.1%** - Target: **96%**

CERTIFICATES



Class	<i>Behaviour</i>	<i>Achievement</i>	<i>Writer of the Week</i>
Otters	Jayden	Licia-Mae	Sadie
Squirrels	Zakary	Poppy	Lennon
Flamingos	Evie	Scarlett	Isla
Penguins	Emily	Lily	Emma
Swans	Alfie	Finn	Darragh
Dolphins	Eloise	Jess	Levi
Seals	Chloe	Evie	Jack
Giraffes	Liam	Kayla	Alessandro
Zebras	Charlie	Ranell	Madoc
Jaguars	Lola	Max	Jaila
Leopards	Leeanna	Callum	Leo
Panthers	Julian	Elijah	Lily
Eagles	Megan	Armandas	Emilia
Kestrels	Jamie	Taheiya	Elisse
Cobras	Olli	Panna	Kristian
Pythons	Isis	Jaiden	Archie



Grammar Wizards

Keeley—Cobras

Mohamed—Zebras

WELL DONE EVERYONE