



Miss Shaw's Newsletter

Dear children and families,

It has been so amazing to see you all back at school this week. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all again for your patience and support this week. It was so hard to know exactly how well things would work, at the start and end of the day, but I think we are getting there.

This week has flown by! I have thoroughly enjoyed being on duty in the lunch hall with Miss Owen and Mrs Hardy and being able to spend a few moments with the children as they come through. I have to say, the lunches here are much better than they were at my previous school! It has also been great to see lots of learning going on in all our classrooms – I have seen writing, reading, maths, science experiments and a whole variety of art learning to mention but a few. I have also had the privilege of handing out six Headteacher's Awards. Today we will have had our first Celebration Assembly of the academic year. I shall be visiting every class with my basket of rosettes and I am looking forward to hearing who has been nominated and why. These children will bring their rosette home (it is theirs to keep) and we will have our hot chocolate on Monday. There are eight different colours of rosette for the children to choose from!



This week's newsletter is all about introducing ourselves to you. There are quite a few new members of staff as well as some very familiar faces. Unfortunately, we are not going to be able to hold the usual 'Meet your teacher' evenings this year but we will be sending out the information you need over the next couple of weeks. I will include more in my newsletter next Friday.

Thinking about contact and communication with you, if you need to get a message to your child's class teacher in the morning, please let a member of the SLT know and we will either pass the message on or get them to phone you later during the day.

We will not be having Parent/Carer Evenings in school this term. Instead we are going to be offering you a zoom call or a phone call. The booking system will be the same and I will include more information about this later on this month.

Sadly, we have become aware that there are some really awful things being shared through TikTok. This is a national issue and not just something between our children. Thank you to the parents who have made us aware that some of the content their children were coming across was so inappropriate. We will be sending out some more advice around internet safety over the next week.

I am really pleased that all our building works finished on time which means that we can reopen our Pitstop After School Club from Monday. With a new home, the club team have decided on a new name. It will now be called The Orchard which links to our school theme of birds. The afterschool club is now based in two classrooms in the Y5/6 end of the school. The main room is next to Kestrel Class whilst the second room is the other side of current Kestrel Class. You will need to collect your child from the playground entrance door to school – to find this, come through the side gate and walk past the bike sheds, and the door is right in front of you. There will be a doorbell there for you to use.

Have a lovely weekend.

Take care,

Miss Shaw




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The Senior Leadership Team

Over last term we redeveloped out Senior Leadership Team. It is made up of Miss Shaw (Headteacher), Miss Owen (Deputy Headteacher), Mrs Hardy (Inclusion Manager), Mr Cumberland (Lead Teacher, Aviary), Mrs Harwood (Key Stage 2 Lead), Miss Rattray (EYFS/KS1 Lead) and Mr Kingsford (Site Manager). We are the strategic leads for the school and meet weekly.

We are a diverse group of people. You will find out more about some of our team as you read on as they are part of class teams too. For those of us who are not part of a class team - here is a bit about us.

Miss Shaw loves to walk her dog, bake and read whilst Miss Owen can be found on the River Cam rowing and enjoying a good book too. Mrs Hardy enjoys singing with her choir and relaxing with her kindle. Mr Kingsford is an avid aviation fan and is also part of the Management team for the Cambridge Sea and Royal Marine Cadets.





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The Reception/Year 1 Team

A very warm welcome to Duckling and Gosling Class from Miss Rattray, Mr Simkin, Mrs Ali and Mrs Fish. We have loved welcoming you all into The Grove family this week and have been so impressed with how quickly and how well all the children have settled.

Miss Rattray is a big fan of stories - reading them, acting them out and writing them. She also loves playing outside. Mrs Fish loves making things, whether that is play dough or crafting or big building with the Poddley outside. Mrs Ali also loves reading stories and enjoys cooking and baking with the children. Mr Simkin loves Numberblocks and is looking forward to using this in our maths lessons.

We look forward to continuing to get to know you all and are excited for all the learning adventures to come.



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Year 1 Team

Hello from Miss Wade and Ms Diver!

The Year 1 team have loved welcoming everyone back this week and it has been wonderful getting to know the Year 1 children. We can't wait to see what the next year has in store for us and we have lots of fun adventures planned for Wren Class!

Miss Wade really loves being creative and using arts and crafts to make learning fun, especially making creations from old recycling. Ms Diver enjoys reading and sharing her favourite stories and she loves when children read their favourite stories to her too!

We feel very lucky to be a part of Wren Class and are really excited for our Year 1 journey together!



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The Year 2 Team

In the Year 2 team, Miss Hayhurst teaches Flamingo Class, Miss Aurelio teaches Ostrich Class and Mrs Rashid supports learning across both classes. Miss Hayhurst can often be found reading in cafes or baking tasty treats. Mrs Rashid is also a keen chef and loves trying out new recipes! Miss Aurelio is her happiest when she's at the seaside or on a long walk.

We have all loved getting to know Ostrich and Flamingo Class over the past week and we've been so impressed by how quickly everyone has settled into life in Year 2! We have started reading the book 'Journey' in English and have been blown away by the children's enthusiasm as well as their ideas. We're all so excited to see what this term brings!



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Year 3 Team

Most of you will remember us from two years ago when we taught you in Wren Class. We have had a great start so far and have been impressed with your increased maturity. We are looking forward to another year together as you join us in Kiwi Class!

Who is Miss Milham?

I have been a teaching assistant at The Grove for ten years. I have worked throughout the school. I enjoy reading and read every day including in my lunch break! I enjoy taking my dogs for a walk by the river. I also love spending time with my family and especially my two granddaughters.

Who is Mrs Wells?

I have been working at The Grove since 2014, although I have not always been in school as I have had maternity leave with my two children, Finley and Matilda. I have taught in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 so this is my first venture into Key Stage Two at The Grove. I live not too far from Cambridge, in Royston with my family. Outside of school I am usually kept busy with Finley and Matilda. We enjoy going on picnics or walks in the wood and playing together in the park. When I do get some spare time, I like to cook and especially love baking cakes. My favourite subject is English as I love reading books and exploring the characters.

Who is Mrs Cowe?

I came to teach at the Grove in 2010 and have taught across the school. I live locally and enjoy living here, although I do miss the sea as I was brought up in Bournemouth. I have 2 children who keep me busy. I enjoy reading, cooking and trips out with my family. I am learning to garden and enjoy all the nature I see there. I have a pond which has fish and frogs and dragonflies hovering over. Sometimes it is even visited by a heron who comes to eat the fish and frogs! My favourite subject is music and I love to sing.



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Year 4 Team

The Year 4 team is made up of Miss Gibson, Miss Sheriff and Mrs Robinson. We have had a great week seeing everyone return to school with happy smiley faces. Everyone has settled in well and it has been a joy to get to you over the past week, now it is your turn to get to know more about us.

Who is Miss Gibson?

Well, the first thing you should know about me is that I am not from Cambridge, or even England. I was born and grew up in a small town called Bangor in Northern Ireland. I moved to Cambridge last year, to teach in The Grove and I am loving it. When I am not teaching, I love to play sports in particular hockey. I also love to go to the cinema when I can, mainly for the popcorn and sweets. Lastly, my favourite subjects are PE and History.

Who is Miss Sheriff?

I am new to The Grove Primary School and I am excited to get to know the school and everyone who is part of the community. I moved to Cambridge a year ago and am enjoying getting to know the area. I grew up in a small village outside of Milton Keynes but now I live with two other teachers in Cambridge. When I am not in school, I love to see friends and family and exploring the outdoors. I like to watch and play sports, currently, I am really enjoying running. My favourite subject is History. When I go to new places I love to learn about its history. I think it can teach us so much about the world.

Who is Mrs Robinson?

I joined The Grove Primary School in January and I am looking forward to being a part of the Year 4 team. When I am not at school, I love to walk my two boxer dogs and being outside. My favourite subject is maths.



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Year 5/6 Team



Hello from the Year 5/6 team! From left to right we are Mrs O., Mrs Robinson, Mrs Harwood, Ms Claydon, Mrs Windmill and Mr Tinkler. We are already off to a flying start and the children have been amazingly resilient this week. We are looking forward to working super hard and having lots of fun as we all get to know each other this year.



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The Aviary Team

The Aviary Team

A very warm welcome back to everyone at The Grove from The Aviary Team! We are excited to get going for a new school year in our brand new Aviary area – based in the old Pitstop. The children have been very excited exploring the different rooms available. For those families new to The Aviary, we are really looking forward to learning about your child and getting to know you more.

This year, Mr Cumberland continues to be the lead teacher and will be supported by Mrs Morris, Mrs Nicholls, Miss Murgo and Miss Pham. These names will be very familiar to those who have been part of The Aviary in the past. We are looking forward to showing you all the amazing activities we get up to on our online platform Seesaw, so please look out for details of this coming out soon.

As always, please do get in contact if there is anything you want to discuss with us. We are a very approachable team with your child's interests at the heart of everything we do. We look forward to another fantastic year of learning and laughter!