



# The Grove Newsletter

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to another academic year at The Grove. I hope that you enjoyed the summer break – despite the weather.

Thank you for all your congratulations on my wedding. I had a wonderful day up in Northumbria and then was treated to two weeks in Sicily. We were also incredibly lucky with the weather – the sun shone all day on the 28<sup>th</sup>. I have included just a few photos of my day.

The biggest change seems to be getting used to having a new name. I have decided to take my husband's surname so I am now Mrs Rowe. I am very grateful to Mrs Nicholls who bought me a mug, with my new name on it, to help me remember.

As always, we have a busy term ahead. Later in this email you will find a list of dates for your diary, including parent/carers meetings and Christmas Nativity Plays.

We are very keen to see an improvement in our attendance rates this year. Nationally, the rate was 93.7% and ours was 91.6%. Pre Covid, our attendance used to be nearer 94% and it would be great to get back to that. If your child's attendance is 90%, for an academic year, that means that they have missed the equivalent of  $\frac{1}{2}$  a day each week. Over 5 years, this is the equivalent of about one  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a school year. It is surprising how quickly the time missed adds up and the amount of learning they miss in school. The other impact can be on their friendships. Whilst no one can prevent catching illnesses, we ask that your child comes to school unless they are really poorly. We also ask that holidays are taken outside of the school term. Below is an interesting article about attendance and some research on the impact of lower attendance at school.

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2023/05/18/school-attendance-important-risks-missing-day/>

From this term, we have appointed two Phase Leads in school to be part of the Senior Leadership Team. Miss Din is the lead for Key Stage 2 (Y3 – Y6) and Miss Holland is the lead for EYFS/Key Stage 1. Miss Holland will take up this role on her return in January 2024.

I would also like to welcome Mrs Hardy into her new role of Deputy Headteacher (SENCo).

As always, you will see myself, Mrs Hardy, Mrs Benson, Mrs Nicholls, Ms Moore and Mr Kingsford on the door in the morning. If you have any concerns, please do catch one of us.

Take care,

Mrs Rowe

## PE Days this half term

Gosling – Monday

Wren – Thursday

Flamingo – Tuesday

Ostrich – Wednesday

Kingfisher – Wednesday

Kookaburra – Friday

Toucan – Friday

Hummingbird – Swimming – First session **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>**, all following sessions on **Monday afternoons** (please note this is a change from the letter sent out earlier this week).

A reminder that PE consists of blue/black shorts or joggers, and a T-shirt in your child's house colour (available via the School Gateway App). The Golden Trainer award will be given each week to the class with the most children wearing correct PE Kit on their class PE day!



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## Dates for your diary

Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept 9.00 and 2.30	Reception Parents meeting (please come to the front of school)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept 9.00	Coffee with Kindness starts again and will run every Thursday)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 3:30 pm	Year 6 Parents' Information evening (in Hummingbird Classroom)
W/c 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Reception Baseline Checks
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Nursery and EYFS 'Talk like a Pirate Day' – fancy dress optional
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Flu Vaccinations in school (please look out for further information)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent/carer meetings (from 3.30pm)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent/carer meetings (from 4.30pm)
W/c 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Healthy Living Week
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	School closes at 3.15 for the ½ term break
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET Day (Staff only)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1/EYFS nativity (9.30am and 3.30pm - TBC)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Next Bags2School collection starts
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery singalong at The Good Shepherd
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December at 2.00	School closes for the Christmas Break at 2pm (Orchard closes at 4pm)
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	School reopens to all pupils





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## Attendance



Class Name	% attendance from Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> September
Gosling	100%
Wren	84%
Flamingo	84%
Ostrich	98%
Kookaburra	77%
Kingfisher	95%
Toucan	91%
Hummingbird	91%
Whole School	89%



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*Rosettes at achievement assembly have been presented to:*

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September

Hummingbird: Rosita, Ronnie

Toucan: Jonathan, Lucie

Kingfisher: Nour, Thash

Kookaburra: Sienna, Mohammed

Ostrich: Lena, Renaye

Flamingo: Josie, Connor

Wren: Anas, Hannah

Gosling: Leonie, Maks