



# The Grove School Newsletter

## *Wonder – Explore - Grow*

Newsletter 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Issue 4/2019-20

Headteacher: Ms K Martin

Deputy Headteacher: Miss H Owen

### Key Diary Dates

#### DECEMBER 2019

17<sup>TH</sup> – SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

17<sup>TH</sup> – CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

18<sup>TH</sup> – KS2 CAROL SERVICE 9:30AM

18<sup>TH</sup> SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR CHRISTMAS  
BREAK AT 2.15PM

#### JANUARY 2020

3<sup>RD</sup> – INSET DAY

6<sup>TH</sup> – SCHOOL OPENS FOR SPRING  
TERM

8<sup>TH</sup> – EYFS 2020 OPEN DAY -  
9.30AM

9<sup>TH</sup> – YR 5 DAY AT THE SCIENCE PARK

10<sup>TH</sup> – FLU VACCINATIONS

22<sup>ND</sup> – INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL  
PHOTOGRAPHS

#### FEBRUARY 2020

14<sup>TH</sup> – SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR HALF TERM

### Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a busy term with so many wonderful events and activities, in addition to all the great learning that's been going on across the school. I hope, by the time you read this, you will have enjoyed the Christmas Decoration Day and the EYFS/KS1 Christmas Nativity. We have certainly enjoyed the Christmas countdown to the holidays. Still to come are the Carol Service and Christmas Lunch.

Governors have been working hard this half term to think about the recruitment of a headteacher to replace me when I leave at the end of the Spring Term. The Governors are also wanting to consult with stakeholders about the possibility of reducing our pupil admission number to 30. Please see below a further update from our Chair of Governors regarding these matters.

As the term comes to a close we often have to say farewell and welcome to people. Mrs Harter has resigned from the school and we would like to wish her good luck in her future endeavours. We have been able to secure her replacement and we would like to give a big Grove welcome to Mrs Blakeley who will be joining the Y5/6 team from January.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for their continued support and say an enormous thank you to our staff team, who have worked so hard this term.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and New Year.

Ms Karen Martin,  
Headteacher

### Message from the Chair of Governors – Simon Virr

I wrote to you recently about the appointment process for a new Headteacher, and I am writing again to give you an update. The Governors met on 9th December to further consider the matter, and to appoint a selection panel. We will aim, if possible, to get a new Headteacher in place for the Summer Term. We are currently working on the advert and information pack for potential applicants. We will let you know when the advert has been placed. This will be either late December or early in January.

If you have any questions about the process, please get in touch with me at [chair@grove.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@grove.cambs.sch.uk).

### Contact Details

The Grove Primary School

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Cambridge

CB4 2NB

Tel: 01223 577017

Fax: 01223 577018

Email

[office@grove.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@grove.cambs.sch.uk)

Website

[www.groveschool.net](http://www.groveschool.net)

## Our Value for this Half Term is



**RESPECT**



## School Meals

**Year 3 – 6 meals cost  
£2.25 per day**

Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a universal free school meal.

Children can have soup as well as a main course.

There is always a vegetarian option available along with pasta/jacket potato followed by a dessert.

Fruit, yoghurt and cheese and biscuits are available each day.

Please encourage your child to try one of our delicious lunches.

## IMPORTANT – Consultation re EYFS Admission Numbers 2021/22

At present, the school has a published intake size of 60 pupils in reception. In recent years, the number of children joining The Grove in Reception has been significantly lower than 60. Looking forward, Local Authority forecasts indicate that over the next few years the numbers of children reaching school age within The Grove catchment will continue to decline.

There is a statutory limit on class sizes of 30 pupils in Key Stage 1. If The Grove admissions to EYFS continue to be in the range of 35 to 45 pupils it becomes very difficult for a school to plan a consistent class structure across the school which meets the needs of all children and provides our children with the education they deserve.

Therefore, the governors propose for the School Pupil Admission Number (PAN) into Reception to be reduced from 60 to 30. It is important that as Governors we consult with our stakeholders and seek your views.

**Please send any views or questions to Simon Virr, the Chair of Governors, at [chair@grove.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@grove.cambs.sch.uk). The consultation will be open for six weeks and will close on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

## Flu Vaccinations – 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020



The Flu vaccinations have been rescheduled for Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020. If you have already registered your child you do not need to register again. If you require further advice or information, please contact the School Immunisation Team:

**Tel: 0300 555 5055 Option 1 or**

**Email: [ccs-tr.cambsimmsteam@nhs.net](mailto:ccs-tr.cambsimmsteam@nhs.net)**



**Save the Children  
CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER DAY**

**17<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

**£1 Donation if you wish to join in**

We will be supporting the Christmas Jumper Day again this year. We are asking for donations of £1 for your child to wear their Christmas jumper to school on Tuesday.

We have chosen Tuesday so that we can all wear our jumper for the Christmas Lunch too.

### Attendance at The Grove



#### November 2019 Attendance

Well done to  
Penguin Classes who  
achieved 97.7%  
attendance

2<sup>nd</sup> – Kookaburra –  
96.7%

Overall school  
attendance 94.6%



### School Attendance

Regular attendance at school is crucial. Fairly recently it was decided that a child with attendance of below 90% at any point in the academic year was said to be 'persistently' absent.

We monitor attendance closely, and will call you in for a meeting should your child's attendance dip below this figure. Following a change in legislation in 2013, Headteachers are not permitted to authorise term time holiday requests.

We ask that where possible you arrange any medical appointments outside of school hours

There are times, of course, when a child is not well enough to attend school. Should this be the case, we ask that you contact school to let us know. Our office is staffed from 8.30am. You can call before, though, leaving a voicemail to let us know why your child will not be attending school.

It is very important that children arrive promptly each morning. When a child is late it can be hard for them to 'pick up the thread' of the learning which their classmates are undertaking. If a child arrives after registration has closed at 9.15am they are recoded as absent from the entire morning session which will impact on their overall attendance figure. There are instances, such as traffic congestion, which mean that a child is running late. Should this occur we ask that you call the office on 01223 577017 to let us know.

Each month we are aiming to say thank you to people who are supporting our school in a variety of ways. This month we want to say a big thank you to .....



Victoria Feldhaus who has been helping in our EYFS classes all term. Victoria is training to be a teacher in Germany and her help this term has been much appreciated by staff and children. We would like to wish Victoria all the best for her future career.

**PLEASE REMEMBER**  
**School closes for the Christmas Holidays on**  
**Wednesday 18th December**  
**at 2.15pm**