



The Grove Newsletter

Dear parents and carers,

What an amazing start to a new academic year! The children look so smart in their school uniform and have settled back into their learning so quickly. As you walk around school there is that lovely buzz of learning and chatter.

We have published dates for class assemblies to go into your diaries. I am not 100% certain that we will be able to invite you to come in – it will depend on Local Authority and Public Health England advice as the months roll on. Currently, the advice is to limit the number of visitors into school. We will continue to review this and to think creatively if we are not able to invite you in.

We do know that there are Covid 19 cases in our community. If anyone has been on site and then tested positive for Covid 19 then we will continue to let you know. There is no need for anyone to self-isolate unless NHS Track and Trace contact you directly. Schools no longer have to do contact tracing or shutting “bubbles” as we did last academic year. This is very new and I can understand why many feel unnerved about this change. We will keep you as informed as we can and have the recommended mitigations firmly in place.

The rest of this newsletter introduces our teams to you all. Over the next couple of weeks, you will also be receiving a letter from your child’s teacher and a topic knowledge organiser so you can see what they are covering. Should you have any queries, please do catch up with your child’s class teacher.

Stay safe,

Miss Shaw

Dates for 2021/22 – Autumn Term

Date	Time	Activity
Monday 13 th September	PM	Rocksteady start back
Tuesday 14 th September/Wednesday 15 th September	PM	Swimming for Years 5 and 6 start.
Friday 22 nd October	All day	School closed - INSET Day
Monday 25 th October – Friday 29 th October	All week	Half term holiday
Monday 1 st November	All day	School closed - INSET Day
Thursday 11 th November	During school day	Balanceability session for Reception children
Thursday 11 th November	9:15am	Hummingbird Class Assembly
Thursday 25 th November	9:15am	Woodpecker Class Assembly
W/cMonday 29 th November	-	Year 2 phonics assessment week.
Friday 3 rd December	TBC	Decorations' Day (plans TBC)
Monday 8 th December	TBC	Nativity Production by Year 2 and 3
Thursday 9 th December	TBC	Nativity Production by Year 2 and 3
Friday 17 th December	14:00	School closes for the Christmas Break
Friday 17 th December	16:00	The Orchard Closes for the Christmas Break

Please remember:

Everybody should arrive between **8.45 and 8.55** for school. If you arrive after 8.55, please come to the Community Door where a member of the senior staff will be there to welcome you. From Monday 13th September, after 8.55 you will need to sign your child in at the Community Door.

Many thanks.



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School uniform

When children are in school, they are part of a community and by wearing a uniform we aim to promote a feeling of equality, partnership and belonging. The school clothing is as follows:

- Black or grey skirts, pinafores or trousers
- White polo t-shirt with the school logo on or shirt
- Emerald Green sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo on
- Year 6 children may wear a plain white shirt and school tie
- Appropriate black footwear
- Plain black leggings may be worn under a school skirt or dress but should not be worn as a replacement for trousers.
- Hair should be tied back for school if it is below shoulder length.
- Children wear navy or black shorts and a T-shirt in their house colour for PE. Trainers are worn for outdoor P.E. Navy or black joggers and sweatshirts may be worn in colder weather.

Arbury Road Closure Consultation

You may not be aware that there is a consultation running about the proposal to close Arbury Road to through traffic near NCA. The consultation closes **next week** on **Weds 15th Sept**.

If you would like to give your views, then the link to the consultation is here:

https://consultcambs.uk/engagementhq.com/cats?fbclid=IwAR2GGve1opbeMe3A9UZW495KbgPRwy5usHNDcwbMkzhkVM_6V33cPYuwv-g

You don't have to fill in the whole thing (it refers to all the proposals across the city), but can just answer the specific question about Arbury Rd and then add any comments on the last page.

Look what Mrs Harwood and Mrs Robinson found this morning!

In July, last year's Years 5 and 6 worked with artist Hermione Spriggs to forage for greenery around the ancient hedgerows in King's Hedges. We created and photographed 'hedge ghillie suits' which are now brightening up the hoardings opposite Tesco on Campkin Road! Do go and take a look if you are passing!





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Rosettes at achievement assembly were presented to:

Friday 10th September 2021

Toucan: Nico, Katelyn

Hummingbird: Louie, Amirah

Woodpecker: Maryam, Cassius

Flamingo: Albie, Jonathan

Kookaburra: Ruby, Khimarley

Ostrich: Ana, Lakshan

Wren: Mikey, Hamish

Gosling: Joel, Evie-Lou

The Aviary: Max, Jake



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Introductions!

EYFS / Reception

Hello!

We are the EYFS team. We are Mrs Fish (class TA), Miss Holland (class teacher) and Mrs Rice (class TA). We enjoy getting creative and exploring new learning opportunities. We are so excited to welcome your children to the school and start their learning journey with them.



Year 1

Hello and welcome back from the Year 1 team. We are delighted to be moving up with Reception into Wren Class and we have been so impressed with how quickly the children have settled. We both love crafting, reading and outside learning. We can't wait for lots of fun learning adventures in Year 1!

Miss Rattray and Mrs Ali





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Years 2 and 3

In Year 2/3 we are so excited to begin the new year! This year Ostrich class is taught by Miss Aurelio, who can often be found at the beach or on a nice long walk. Flamingo class is taught by Miss Walker, who enjoys spending time exploring our city and trying new food. Kookaburra class is taught by Miss Gibson, who is often found on the hockey pitch attempting to score goals.

Across Year 2/3 we have a fantastic team of Teaching Assistants, Miss Diver, Ms Milham and Mrs Chardakova. Miss Diver loves to read and listen to children read to her. On the weekends she loves to catch up with friends and family. Ms Milham also enjoys listening to children read and supporting them in their learning. Mrs Chardakova loves making arts and crafts in school and enjoys reading, cooking and traveling in her spare time. We have really loved getting to know the children in our classes this week and cannot wait for the year ahead.





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Year 4

The Year Four team is made up of Ms Claydon, Mrs Cowe and Mrs Robinson. We have enjoyed seeing everyone return to school and are impressed by how you have all settled in well and are coming in ready to learn, well done – Keep it up!



Who is Ms Claydon?

Hello and welcome back to another year at The Grove Primary School. Most of you would have seen me around the school or perhaps I have taught you as I have been at The Grove for several years. I am passionate about our school and teaching at it. If I am not at work teaching, I spend my time at school learning, just like you or looking after my own children. My other passions are sport, especially running and yoga but I also enjoy reading a good book and escaping on an adventure with the characters. I am delighted to be teaching you this year and I know that we will have a legendary learning journey together.

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.

Who is Mrs Cowe?

I have spent much time over the last few years watching you grow and develop! I think most of you know me well already. I came to teach at the Grove in 2010 and have taught across the school. I live locally and enjoy living in Cambridge, 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 have been on some adventurous coastal and mountain walks this summer in the British Isles. I also had a go at kayaking on the sea! My favourite subject is music and I love to sing.



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Years 5 and 6



The year 5/6 team consists of Mrs Robinson, Mrs Nicholls and Mrs Windmill in Toucan Class and Mrs Harwood and Mr Tinkler in Hummingbird Class. We are looking forward to this year and have many exciting activities planned for Year 5/6. We have had a great week seeing everyone return to school with smiley faces. Everyone has already settled in well and it has been a joy to begin to get to know you all.

Mrs Harwood

As I have worked at The Grove for many years, you may have seen me around school. I have lived in Cambridge for a long time and I love discovering the city and countryside on my bicycle. I also work closely with Kettle's Yard and The Science Park planning exciting opportunities for children at The Grove.

When I am not in school, I love to cook, see friends and family and to read as many books as I can. I also love singing with a community choir – in fact, this is something I can't wait to start again in September. I enjoy exploring the outdoors and visiting all the wonderful museums that we have in Cambridge.

Mrs Robinson

I enjoy cycling and exploring the many parks and museums in Cambridge. I love listening to music. I enjoy discovering new music and watching bands play at gigs and music festivals.

Another thing I like to do is crochet; it is a little bit like knitting, but you only use one hook instead of two knitting needles. At home I spend my free time taking photos, spending time with my friends and family, reading and cooking.



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The Aviary



A huge hello and 'Happy New (Academic!) Year' from all of us in The Aviary! We are so pleased to give a huge welcome to our new families and to say 'Welcome Back' to those who have been with us for a while. It's been lovely to see our 'veterans' model our values of collaboration, resilience, tolerance and empathy for our younger children. This term will be spent getting to know your child and their developing interests so that we can provide the best possible experience for them as well as adapting and teaching their cohort's curriculum in a way that is tailored to maximise their success.

Our door is always open to talk to us about your child's successes and concerns, and we fully believe this is a collaborative process between school and home. For those who are new, here is a bit of information about each of us (and a refresher for those who have known us a bit longer!).

Mr Cumberland

I joined The Grove in 2017, having taught in previous settings, and have set up and led The Aviary for the last 4 years. Discovering and acknowledging a child's individual interests and skills is a true passion of mine. I also have a love of all things to do with technology, which spills into my home life where I enjoy tinkering with hardware and experimenting with programming. I have two sons at primary age, so I am very aware of the joys and challenges that parenthood brings! To relax, I love to take my dog for long walks and go on park runs.

Miss Murgio

I have been working in childcare for the past 16 years. I have a passion of working with children of all different ages and abilities. I particularly enjoy learning about the variety of traits of every individual child. When I'm not at work, I enjoy outdoor adventures such as camping and going for walks with my dog Gizmo. I love cooking Mediterranean dishes and I also enjoy swimming in the sea.

Miss Pham

I have been working in Education for the last 5 years, recently joining The Grove in 2019. I find that, being able to support each child through every step of their learning, play and exploration is important in setting a stable foundation for their futures. When I am not at school, I like to watch movies and bake sweet treats. I also enjoy experiencing different cultures and travelling around the world.

Mr Moralee

While at school and in The Aviary my aim is to help each student reach their milestone towards their goals in life. I believe any and every student can do so, with the right amount of patience and understanding. I really enjoy travelling to various and (very) exotic countries. I also enjoy writing, photography, keeping active, spending time with my family and friends as well as meditating.



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Office Staff

Mel Ramsey – Office Manager



I am very proud to have worked in the office here at The Grove for over 22 years. I have seen many children pass through our doors and it is always lovely to see and chat with past pupils when I am out and about in the local area. I enjoy cycling but also rediscovered walking during lockdown. I have recently taken on an allotment, and am looking forward particularly to growing pumpkins next year!

Clare Cordell – Office Assistant



I started work at The Grove in 2019, although I ran the PTFA for several years before that and have had children in the school since 2014. My younger two boys are currently in Year 4 and Year 2. When not working I enjoy walking, reading, playing Pokémon Go (it goes well with the walking!), discovering new places and spending time with my three boys.

I look forward to meeting you all at some point this academic year and getting to know our new children and parents.

Michelle Taylor – Finance Manager



I started working here at The Grove in September 2020 after previously working in London in finance. When I'm not working I enjoy walking my cocker spaniel and spending time with my four children.