



# The Grove School Newsletter

## *Wonder – Explore - Grow*

Newsletter 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Issue 6/2018-19

Headteacher: Ms K Martin

Deputy Headteacher: Miss H Owen

### Key Diary Dates

#### Spring 1 & 2

##### FEBRUARY

**13<sup>th</sup> Feb** – deadline for photo orders

**13<sup>th</sup> Feb** Parents Evening 3.15pm – 6pm

**14<sup>th</sup> Feb** Parents Evening 3.30pm –  
4.30pm & 5.30pm – 7pm

**15<sup>th</sup> Feb** – School Closes at 3.15pm for  
half term

##### Half Term

**18<sup>th</sup> Feb – 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb**

**25<sup>th</sup> Feb** School reopens to pupils

##### MARCH

**4<sup>th</sup> Mar – 8<sup>th</sup> Mar**

Reading and Writing Week including  
World Book Day

**7<sup>th</sup> Mar** - World Book Day including  
dressing up as a book character

**13<sup>th</sup> Mar** Reading Cafe 8.45 – 9am

**15<sup>th</sup> Mar** – PTFA School Disco

**27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Mother's Day Lunch

##### APRIL

**3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL** Reading Cafe 8.45 – 9am

**5<sup>th</sup> April Easter Celebration**

led by Y3/4 to parents at 2pm

**5<sup>th</sup> April** – School Closes at 3.15pm for  
the Easter Holidays

##### Easter Holidays

**8<sup>th</sup> April – 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

**23<sup>rd</sup> April** School reopens to pupils

### Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of this half term I am reflecting on all the opportunities our children have had beyond the national curriculum. I hope this month's newsletter gives you a flavour of some of the things we have been doing.

If you haven't already done so please do sign up to meet your child's class teacher. This is an opportunity for you to discuss their progress, achievements and next steps. I hope as many of you as possible can make it.

Kind regards,

Ms Karen Martin, Headteacher

### Tune in to a one day special broadcast on

**Wednesday 13 February with Open House Radio** - a celebration of radio for the young and old with Cambridge 105.

Artist Hannah Kemp-Welch has been working with residents of North Cambridge to explore, create and capture stories, songs and sounds which celebrate the diversity of voices within our community. Hear from residents of North Cambridge: local histories, hopes for the future, playlists, performances, conversations and archival material.

The Grove has been part of this project and we can be heard as part of the broadcast. Catch us on air throughout the day with stories, songs and sounds created by communities across North Cambridge, and from 6pm - 7pm listen to a live hour with Open House artist in residence Hannah Kemp-Welch and special guests.

There are many different ways you can listen in; online at [cambridge105.co.uk](http://cambridge105.co.uk), on Radioplayer, your mobile or Smart Speaker, tune your radio to 105FM or DAB Digital Radio across the City of Cambridge & South Cambridgeshire. We will be broadcasting the live hour in the large hall during Parents Evening.

#### Attachments

- Open House Radio Flier – The Grove School participates
- Eat Well Spend Less – Red Hen
- Mayor's Magic Show in aid of Red Hen Project

Our Value for this  
Half Term is  
**RESPONSIBILITY**

**The Greatest gifts you can  
give your children are the  
roots of responsibility and the  
wings of independence.**

*Denis Waitley*

THE MOMENT YOU TAKE  
**RESPONSIBILITY**  
FOR EVERYTHING  
IN YOUR LIFE IS THE MOMENT  
**YOU CAN CHANGE**  
ANYTHING IN YOUR LIFE.

—HAL ELROD

**You cannot escape the  
responsibility of tomorrow  
by evading it today.**

Abraham Lincoln

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### Reading-for-Pleasure Reading Cafes Review

On Wednesday 30th January 2019 the staff and children at The Grove were absolutely over the moon to see so many keen and enthusiastic parents and carers popping into classrooms to spend 15 minutes reading with the children for our first Reading Cafe. As we continue to promote Reading-for-Pleasure throughout our school, this was a new and fun opportunity for parents and carers to take part in our reading community by having a few minutes to engage with their children's favourite books or read some new materials from the classroom's reading corner. The Reading Cafes were really well received by all, as seen by the beaming faces and a general buzz around books for the rest of the day, so we can't wait to see you back again for our **March Reading Cafes, in Spring 2 - Week 3, 13th March and Week 6, 3rd April.**

Immediately after the reading Cafes the English team lead a Reading workshop. Thank you to everyone who attended with their questions and feedback. We are always developing the Reading and Phonics curriculum provision at The Grove ensuring lots of rich texts, linking in various enriching in-house events, activities and trips. We had lots and lots of really helpful and insightful feedback from a parent/carer's point of view, so thank you for continuing to support and work alongside us to provide the best learning opportunities for our children. We look forward to Reading and Writing week in March, so listen out for any whole-school or class-based projects and fun Reading opportunities to get involved with then!



### A Tweet from SF Said, author of Varjak Paw

It has been so exciting to discover that authors have been reading The Grove Reading Recommendation Newsletter. Following our February publication look what SF Said had to say.....

Visit the school  
website for more  
Reading for  
Pleasure ideas and  
book reviews.



SF Said @whatSFSaid · 16m  
Replying to

@TeresaCremen and @OpenUni\_RfP

That's brilliant to see - thank you for working so hard to inspire the love of reading in parents & children alike. And thank you for recommending Varjak Paw - please wish all the children HAPPY READING from the author!





### Do you have any Board Games that your children have outgrown?

As a school we want to replenish our wet play games. Do you have any cluttering up your house that your children no longer play?

If yes, would you be willing to donate them to our school. We can make good use of them for lunchtimes and playtimes. Please bring any donations to the office.

Thank you in advance

### 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

### Snow Policy – School Closure

Last week we saw a few flurries of snow.

Although snow can be great fun it can also make it difficult to operate as usual. Hopefully we have seen the end of snow but just in case.....



In the event of extreme inclement weather, such as when heavy falls of snow develop overnight and continue into the following day or extreme icy conditions occur, parents note the following advice

Whenever possible, our school will remain open. However, we have to consider the safety of all our children and staff, some of whom travel a great distance into school each day. Should the need arise, in severe weather a decision will be made by 7.30 am if the school is to be closed. An email alert will be sent informing you of school closure. BBC Cambridgeshire (96.4 FM) and Heart Radio (100.7 FM) will also share this information. The closure will also be announced on the school website and notices will be placed on the school gates.

Please check for an email message or listen to one of these stations if heavy snow is falling or has fallen overnight or if there is other extreme weather and there have been other school closures announced.

If you do arrive at school, please do not leave your children without confirming that the school is to remain open. Once the school is open for the day we will remain open until the end of the normal school day at 3.30 pm. If heavy snow falls during the day and you are concerned about getting your child home, you are welcome to collect your child earlier. Please do not telephone in these circumstances, just call into school to collect the children. Phone lines do become extremely blocked as you can imagine. Our aim is to open every day but hopefully, this information will give some clarity.

### Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Safer Internet Day was celebrated internationally on Tuesday with the theme “Together for a Better Internet: A better internet starts with you”.

In Computing lessons this week we have been thinking about our responsibilities when using the internet and mobile phones.

As parents it's natural to feel worried about the risks posed by your child being online, but for young people the online world is exciting and fun, as it brings so many opportunities for them. Try to look at both the positive and negative aspects of being online and empower your child with the safe choices they can make.

If you would like any more information, please visit:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk>

**REMINDER: Children under the age of 13 should not be using WhatsApp, Instagram and Snapchat.**

## Healthy Lifestyles Week

Last week we celebrated 'Healthy Lifestyles Week' which was about helping the children (and adults!) to understand what things we can do in order to be healthy. As a school we focused on the following three aspects; Healthy Eating, Healthy Body and Healthy Mind. Each class had a 'Funtrition' session with Premier Sport who came into teach about healthy food choices this was then followed up in class and assembly where children thought about what makes a balanced diet and healthy snack choices.

As part of thinking about having a healthy mind the children took part in a small group yoga session with Christine from a local company that regular works in schools. The children worked on stretching out different parts of their bodies as well as spending some time learning techniques for relaxation. There was a special 'mindfulness' session for our Year 6 pupils who are currently working extra-hard in preparation for their SATs. Part of this aspect also included thinking about what might be enough sleep to help our minds be ready for our days.

All of the classes worked on thinking about how we can a healthy body. This included taking part in our Golden Mile challenge, each child aiming to run or walk ten laps of the track in order to complete one mile. Throughout the week class teachers were ensuring plenty of opportunities to fit in five minutes of exercise using our 5-a-day program. We hope many of you have also been using this at home!

Finally, on Thursday, we had an inspirational visit from athlete, Laura Samuel who led our sponsored fitness circuit and then spoke to the whole school about how she ensures she stays healthy and her athletic achievements. She gave a special thanks to those children who collected money to support the unsponsored GB athletes on their journey but especially to Ella Slater who managed to raise £40 and Jayne Holland who raised a huge £122!

We know that the children enjoyed this week and we hope that they will continue to think about the messages and information they have learnt to ensure they have a healthy lifestyle all of the time not just for this week!



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 .....



**Joy Deane, Celia Gitterman and Liz Barford, parent volunteers**, who collectively coordinate the PTFA's English Corner. The group is a really friendly group with an amazing international mix. It is obvious that friendships are being built up and everyone participates in the conversations, regardless of their ability in spoken English. The Pit Stop area provides a perfect venue with space for younger children to play in while their parents meet, and offering a kitchen where hot drinks and snacks can be prepared. The English Corner is an asset to the Grove, which welcomes parents into the school and wider community, who could otherwise feel excluded because of their limited language skills.

**Jeanette Walker, Director of Cambridge Science Park.** Part of her role is to bring together people from different backgrounds, skills and experience and identify opportunities for collaboration and partnerships. As a school we are proud to be one of these partners. With her team, Jeanette has already supported events for our Y5 pupils and the school choir. We are in the process of planning even more for this year and next. In addition she is keen to support our school practically and this week the Science Park donated dining tables and chairs for the staff room which staff are already enjoying sitting at to eat their lunch.