



The Grove Newsletter

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the new school term. I hope that you all had a relaxing Christmas period without too many changes to plans that you had made.

I was very relieved on Tuesday evening that Mr Johnson did not take the same decision to close schools as he did last year - I sat there holding my breath for a short while! Therefore, life in school continues as it did last term with the small alteration to the drop off area at the front of the school in the mornings. Our Covid mitigations continue to be:

- 1) Increased hand washing/sanitising throughout the school day.
- 2) Reduced sharing of equipment where possible and use of good hand hygiene.
- 3) Increased cleaning of contact points.
- 4) Ventilation of all rooms and corridors throughout the day.
- 5) Use of social distancing for staff in our communal areas.
- 6) Limiting visitors to school and visitors asked to wear a face covering whilst on site.
- 7) Twice weekly Lateral Flow Testing for staff.
- 8) Immediate cleaning of rooms should anyone become symptomatic whilst at school; the child or adult goes home.

You may be aware that there has been a change to the testing expectations. From next Tuesday, 11th January, if you have a positive Lateral Flow Test, you do not have to book a PCR test at a test centre.

This term we are looking to improve our rates of attendance at school. Last term our overall attendance was 90.6% which is very low compared to our usual termly attendance. The local and national attendance rates are very similar and we were very much above both of these until November when we saw an increase in the amount of illness in school.

Apart from the rules around Covid infections, the other expectations around illness remain unchanged. For example, if your child has a vomiting bug, please can they stay at home until 48 hours have passed since the last episode. Being consistently in school allows a child to follow the learning as it progresses and good attendance (96%) has a strong correlation with passing 5 GCSEs.

It is also brilliant to have the children here on time by 8.55 – thank you.

We will be publishing our weekly attendance rates again from this week and Ozzy the Owl will be collected by the class with the highest attendance each week.

This term we will be celebrating World Book Day, running a Healthy Living Week and providing some sessions on mental health. Please see key dates for this term below.

Also, this year, we are trialling sending home reports to parents this term rather than in the summer. This means that the targets on the report will be something that can be reviewed, alongside the progress your child has made, at a parent/carer conversation in the summer term.

Have a good weekend,

Miss Shaw



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Attendance



Class Name	% attendance from Wednesday 5 th January to Friday 7 th January 2022
The Aviary	65.2
Gosling	91.6
Wren	94.2
Ostrich	88.2
Kookaburra	87.3
Flamingo	98.6
Woodpecker	75.6
Toucan	88.6
Hummingbird	92.8
Whole School	88.5

Diary Dates – Spring Term 2022

Date	Time	Activity
Monday 17 th January	All morning	Individual school photos
w/c 24 th January	All week	Healthy Lifestyle Week
Friday 4 th February	During school day	Year 3&4 Bikeability
w/c 14 th February	All week	Half term
w/c 28 th February	All week	Reading week
Thursday 3 rd March	-	World Book Day
Friday 1 st April	14:00	School closes for the Easter Holidays
Friday 1 st April	16:00	The Orchard Closes for the Easter Holidays



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Rosettes at achievement assembly were presented to:

Friday 7th January

Toucan: Julia, Raaida

Hummingbird: Simon, Seren

Woodpecker: Joshua, Maddie

Flamingo: Sofia, Ranaya

Kookaburra: Enrikas, Rocco

Ostrich: Delilah, Ana

Wren: George M, Hamish

Gosling: Naotaro, Nahadnajeab

Aviary: Zach, Muhayaddin