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Telephone: 01207 502938



10th September 2021 Newsletter



Letter to Parents/Carers from our PCSO (Community Police Officer)

Dear Parents/Grandparents/Carers

For Information and Advice with relation to Parking around School at Drop off and Pick up Times.

It is within our best interest to ensure the safety of pupils and their parents upon arriving and leaving school grounds. We have noticed an increase in parking and speeding issues, and it is our aim to proactively educate, encourage and engage with our community to reduce the dangers these pose.

We aim to continue our visible patrols at peak times around the schools and continue to build on our relationships with yourselves, the parents and the pupils.

If it is possible, we encourage parents to:

- Consider car sharing.
- Breakfast and After school clubs - these are available and would help alleviate congestion at busier times as well as being fun for the children. (Please enquire with school for more information).
- Please bear in mind when parking your vehicle near the school, "Am I causing an obstruction?", "Am I creating a dangerous environment by parking where I have?", "If I was a local resident would I be annoyed by the manner of my driving/parking?". If you answer 'yes' to any of these questions, please reconsider and choose a different option.
- Set off earlier and park further away to prevent a build-up of traffic and to give yourselves time to walk to and from school. Police will take positive action on those committing traffic offenses.

The school is fully supportive of creating a safe environment for your children and the Police together with partner agencies will assist them however possible to try and prevent any further issues with regards traffic/parking concerns.

Our PCSO visited today and had to remind some parents about stopping and parking on the zig zag lines outside of the pupil entrance too so please bear this in mind when dropping/picking up.

Conduct on school premises

It saddens me to say, we are aware that some adults who have been dropping off and collecting, from school, have behaved inappropriately. I would just like to generally remind everyone that any aggression displayed verbally or physically on school premises will be dealt with accordingly. We would also ask parents if they have a query, concern or a complaint that needs to be discussed that they should arrange a telephone appointment to speak to the class teacher. Thank you

School Dinners

If you make the decision to change your child's choice of meals from a school meal to a packed lunch, you must inform the school office.

You can contact the school office on 01207 502938 or

enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk

Otherwise you could be charged for school meals that your child has not taken. We would also ask that you give a week's notice. Thank you.

ParentPay

Please ensure that all balances are settled on a weekly basis. If you have a query, please contact the school office.

School Places-Primary and Secondary

Is your child due to start primary or secondary school in September 2022? You can now apply for their school place.

The deadline for applications is Sunday 31 October 2021 for secondary school places and Saturday 15 January 2022 for primary school places.

Apply now:

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

Nursery Places

You can apply for a place at our Nursery when your child turns 2 (they would start the term after they turn 3 years old. Please see our Nursery page

<https://www.thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk/our-classes/nursery/> for an admissions form. There are also details of how the form can be returned too.

Jobs Fair-Derwentside College

There will be a Jobs Fair on Friday 17th September at Derwentside College from 10.00a.m. to 3.00p.m. Over 35 companies are represented at the fair, from NISSAN to NHS, from Amazon to the Army, with current opportunities and future positions on offer.

There are apprenticeships, part time and full-time jobs available and a full range of careers from care work to administrative positions, manufacturing to hospitality.

Covid 19

Please remember that if a child or family member have any symptoms (including a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of/change of taste or smell) they must not come to school. They must book a PCR test and stay at home until they get a negative result. This is still the case even if symptoms are mild.

Attendance/Leave of Absence

Just to remind parents, there is no entitlement for you to take your child on holiday during term time. You can be fined for taking your child on holiday during term time without consent from the school.

If you do not apply for leave of absence in advance, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. If the Headteacher granted an absence in exceptional circumstances and your child is away for longer than was agreed, any extra time is recorded as unauthorised (please see this year's holidays below).

Term	Start	End
Autumn 1 st half	Wednesday 1 st September 2021	Thursday 21 st October 2021 (school closed from Friday 22 nd October until 1 st November)
Autumn 2 nd half	Monday 1 st November 2021	Friday 17 th December 2021 (school closed Monday 6 th December 2021)
Spring 1 st half	Tuesday 4 th January 2022	Friday 18 th February 2022
Spring 2 nd half	Tuesday 1 st March 2022 (school closed Monday 28 th February 2022)	Friday 8 th April 2022
Summer 1 st half	Monday 25 th April 2022	Friday 27 th May 2022 (school closed Friday 29 th April and Monday 2 nd May 2022)
Summer 2 nd half	Tuesday 7 th June 2022 (school closed Monday 6 th June 2022)	Thursday 21 st July 2022