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Telephone: 01207 502938



12th November 2021 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

We have lots of information to share with you this week. It has been a busy week at The Grove Primary School with lots of exciting activities happening and planned for Christmas too (we are still finalising some events)!

Tapestry

Please remember that this is the best way to keep up to date with what is happening in school. Reports will also be shared via Tapestry on November 26th. If you have issues accessing your child's Tapestry account, please contact the school office.

School Lunch Price Increase and Christmas Lunch

Please note that school lunches for paying children did increase in October. The cost of a daily school meal is now £2.15.

We will be sharing the menu and a link for your child to order their Christmas Lunch next week. This link will be shared with children who usually bring a packed lunch (those who usually have a school dinner will have one ordered automatically). The link must be completed so please ensure that we have the correct contact details to send texts to. We have to have final numbers by Friday 19th November and no Christmas Lunches can be ordered after this date.

Nursery Places

Did you know that you can apply for a Nursery place when your child turns two? They will then start on the term after their third birthday. Please see <https://www.thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk/our-classes/nursery/> for admission forms and any additional information.

We would like to remind parents that when they choose our Nursery we would hope that they would apply for a Reception place too. This supports transitions as children use similar routines in Nursery and Reception and will have made relationships and friendships with staff and children too.

Please note that although Nursery education is not statutory we would ask that parents do not request a leave of absence during term time in line with the rest of the school. Staff work hard to prepare resources and interventions so we would ask that Nursery children attend as often as possible.

Our Nursery is more popular than ever. We are starting to fill our places for next academic year. We currently have 2 afternoon places left for this academic year. You can contact the team on nureseryadmissions@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk

Updated Information from Durham County Council (shared last week)

We have received recommendations from Durham County Council's Public Health team and have decided to introduce the following measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission in school:

- PCR testing for all adults and pupils if they are a close contact of a positive case in their household*.
- Daily LFT testing at home for 7 days for any adult or pupil in key stage 2 (year 3) or above who is a household contact of a positive case and is exempt from isolation and continues to attend school. The testing of primary age pupils is at parental discretion. Testing should start from the day the household member has symptoms or if they don't have symptoms from when they tested positive*

**Note: People who have tested positive with a PCR test within the last 90 days should not be encouraged to test unless they develop new symptoms*

LFD Testing advice

We would recommend you have a supply of LFD testing kits at home in the event you are requested to use them. You can order home testing kits to be delivered to your home here www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests

Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Class involved
Monday 15 th November	Walk to Consett Park	Year 2
Monday 15 th November	Odd Socks Day	Whole School
Thursday 18 th November	Trees for Children Assembly and Planting	Year 1 and Year 2
Friday 19 th November	Children in Need	Whole School
Friday 19 th November	Mini Sports Event	Year 1
Friday 19 th November	Virtual Viking learning	Year 5
Monday 22 nd November	Flu Immunisations	Reception-Year 6
Friday 26 th November	Settling in Reports shared with parents	Whole School
Friday 3 rd December	Pantomime visiting school	Whole School
Monday 6 th December	School Closed for Staff Training	Whole School
Friday 10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day	Whole School
Wednesday 15 th December	Christmas Lunch Day	Whole School
Thursday 16 th December	Christmas Party Day	Whole School
Friday 17 th December	School closes for the holidays at 3pm (please note there will be no After School Club on this day).	Whole School

There could be more dates to add but please note these events could be subject to change in line with guidance and risk assessment. Thank you for your patience and understanding.