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Telephone: 01207 502938



15th September 2023 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

It has been another busy but productive week. We have a few reminders and updates to share with you and hope that you find them useful.

Free School Meals

Have your circumstances changed? Do you think that your child/ren qualify for Free School Meals after checking <https://www.durham.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals> Please contact the school office and we can check for you.

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 have some spaces for morning and afternoon sessions available for this current year if you know any families looking for a nursery place.

Phone Contacts

If parents/carers change their phone number or address, you must inform the school office as soon as possible. We must have contact details in the event of an accident or illness.

Photographer

The School Photographer will visit school to take individual photos on **Wednesday 11th October 2023**. We will provide additional information nearer the time.

Non-school Uniform Day

We will continue to hold our non-uniform days on the last Friday of the month (we will have our first one on Friday 29th September). We would ask that parents pay £1 as we are hoping to raise funds for some new OPAL equipment.

Earrings

Next week will be the third week back at school after the holidays. Some parents reported not being able to take children's earrings out for the first two weeks so we would expect all children arriving at school without earrings from Monday.

Book bags

We would ask that only 'school book bags' are sent to school with children rather than a rucksack. This is due to limited space in our cloakrooms. You can order a book bag via [totstoteams.com](https://www.totstoteams.com) (logo) or a plain red book bag from many internet sites.

Attendance for w/b 11th September 2023

	<u>Class</u>	<u>%</u>
1 st Place		
2 nd Place		
3 rd Place		
4 th Place		
5 th Place		
6 th Place		
7 th Place		

Well done Year ! Our target is 96%

TTRS and Numbots

Please see Tapestry for this week's winners.

Coats and wellies

The weather has been colder and wetter than last week. Children may need to bring a coat, with them, to school and may need wellies if they want to play on the grass.

Each class has a designated welly rack where children can store their wellies. Thank you!

A few dates for your diary

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Class</u>
18 th September 2023	Consett Academy Open Evening (Presentation 4pm or 5pm)	Year 6 and parents
25 th September 2023	RWInc Parents' Session	Reception parents
27 th September 2023	Year 2 visit to Beamish (information on Tapestry)	Year 2
28 th September 2023	OPAL Big Play (pm session)	Whole School
28 th September 2023	Macmillan Cake Day	Whole School
29 th September 2023	Non-uniform day £1 on ParentPay	Whole School
3 rd October 2023	Flu Immunisations	Children who have consent
9 th October 2023	Year 4 visit to Vindolanda	Year 4
11 th October 2023	School Photographer (Individual photos)	Whole School
26 th October 2023	School closes for half-term	Whole school
6 th November 2023	School reopens after half-term	Whole School

We hope to have a list of dates to Christmas soon- watch this space!

Crossing Patrol vacancy

A number of parents have been asking when Jim is going to return. We have been informed that Jim is likely to be off until half term and the Crossing Patrol Service has staff shortages.

They are wondering if there are any parents, grandparents or friends of the school who would like to cover short term? Please contact the school office on 01207 502938 or enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk and we can put you in touch with the Crossing Patrol Team.

Dismissal arrangements

We would ask parents to avoid standing in the following areas while children are being dismissed at 3.15pm please. This is so that we can dismiss all of our children safely.

It may also be a reminder especially if your child has moved class this year.

Nursery and Reception are dismissed from the same entrance points.

Year 1- Basketball area

Year 2- 100 square

Year 3- Along Library Bus

Year 4- Small circle between 100 square and Library Bus

Year 5/6- Hockey area

If your child has permission to walk home (only Year 3-6 children), then you must complete the following form https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Uv_fRWSDc02_Oo-YvfENh1BQ6Eo5d8NEuMMPYOoHIXxUMEIwWTEc5VE1FMEIwWDhUODIzVTQ4OTJXWC4u

We would ask that you share these arrangements with other adults who might be collecting.