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26th October 2023 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

That's our first half term over and what a long but productive half term it has been! I think everyone is ready for a rest, relax and recharge after a busy 8 weeks. Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend Parents' Evening. If you did not get a chance to and would still like to speak to your child's class teacher, please email enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk

We will still monitor our emails and school mobile, over half term, if you need to get in touch with us and hope that everyone in our school community has a restful half term.

Please share your half term adventures on Tapestry and we will look forward to hearing all about them when we return on Monday 6th November.

Reception Autumn Walk- Wednesday 8th November

Reception children will take part in an Autumn Walk on **Wednesday 8th November**. Children should wear uniform as usual and have wellies and waterproofs already at school. If your child does not have wellies in school, please send them in on Monday 6th November.

The walk will take place during the school day so there is no change to the timings of the day. Children will be accompanied by school staff.

Remembrance Assembly- Friday 10th November

Our Remembrance Assembly will be led by our Year 6 children on Friday 10th November at 2.30pm. All parents are welcome to attend the assembly and can enter via the pupil entrance from 2.20pm.

We will also have poppies and other remembrance items on sale from Monday 6th November. Items cost between 50p and £1.50 and will be available to buy during play times.

Autumn Disco- Monday 13th November

Our Autumn Disco, organised by School Council, will take place Monday 13th October from 3.25pm until 4.30pm. Tickets cost £3 for a single ticket or £6 for a family ticket and can be bought via ParentPay. Children can be collected at 2.55pm to get changed if necessary. All children must be collected from the playground at 4.30pm.

Children in Need- 17th November

School Council would like us to have a non-uniform day for Children in Need this year. There is no dress code for the day so children can wear their own clothes or Children in Need clothing/Pudsey ears if they have some (please do not buy any purposely for the day).

Donations of £1 (or more if you would like) will go towards Children in Need. These should be paid through ParentPay (as school fund) and will be instead of our usual non-uniform day on the last Friday of the month (24th November).

Throughout the day children will learn about the support Children in Need gives to local projects that make a positive impact to children and young people in our local area.

If you would like to find out more visit: www.bbc.co.uk/cin

Attendance Certificates

Our attendance target is 96% for each child. We have updated our Attendance Policy and are keen to identify families who need any support with attending as often as possible.

Attendance Week Beginning 22nd October 2023

| | <u>Class</u> | <u>%</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|
| 1 st Place | Year 3 | 98.1% |
| 2 nd Place | Reception | 96% |
| 3 rd Place | Year 2 | 95.7% |
| 4 th Place | Year 6 | 91.3% |
| 5 th Place | Year 1 | 90.4% |
| 6 th Place | Year 4 | 89% |
| 7 th Place | Year 5 | 82.8% |
| 8 th Place | Nursery | 82% |

Well done Year 3!

We have sent an attendance notification to parents on Tapestry.

A reminder of our attendance targets for parents and shared on annual reports.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Excellent | 100% |
| Good | 96 – 99.9% |
| Satisfactory | 90- 95% |
| Requires improvement | less than 90% |

Water bottles

Please remember that only plain water (not flavoured water or juice) in all water bottles. This also includes packed lunches too to encourage good oral health.

Children who were absent for immunisations

The immunisation team will visit again on 5th December. This is for any child who was absent when they visited earlier this term.

After School Club- Collection

After the holidays, we would ask that children are collected at the main office entrance from After School Club. There is a bell to ring for After School Club that the staff can access in the hall. Thank you!

School dinner payment

Unfortunately, we are unable to allow payments to go above £30 on ParentPay moving forward. We would ask that balances are cleared regularly and if you have difficulty, please contact the school office.

Reception Places- Nursery Parents

Our Reception class has 25 spaces for next academic year. You can apply for your child's Reception place until 15th January 2023 by visiting <https://www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces>

We would hope that many of our Nursery parents would choose to apply as children are familiar with routines, staff and friends too!

Secondary Places- Year 6 Parents

Please remember that the deadline to apply for school places is Monday 31st October 2023. If you still need to apply, please do so at <https://www.durham.gov.uk/secondaryschoolplaces>