



The Grove Weekly

AUTHOR VISIT

As part of our commitment to championing reading, some of our pupils recently enjoyed an exciting author visit at one of our fellow Laurus primary schools. **John Patrick Green** is the bestselling and award-winning creator of the hugely popular *InvestiGators* series, loved by readers around the world for its action-packed adventures, laugh-out-loud humour and comic-book style storytelling.

This was a rare opportunity for pupils to meet one of the world's most successful children's graphic novel authors and hear first-hand about the creative process behind his much-loved books. Our children had a fun, inspiring and memorable experience and we cannot wait to welcome more of these events.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS, HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD

The eligibility for Free School Meals has changed which means that even if your child has previously received these, you will need to reapply. You can still check if your child qualifies for free school meals online by clicking on the link below. If you need any support at all with this, please do get in touch with us either in person or via admin@hgps.org.uk

[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK](#)

Your Free School Meals entitlement and access to Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) may change if you are identified as being eligible for the Expanded Free School Meals. You may now **not** be able to access HAF during the holiday periods. The local authority will be sending HAF codes out, so you may or may not receive these, depending on whether you qualify.

If you are anticipating that you will be experiencing hardship in the half-term break, please be aware of the support from our local food banks and the cost-of-living hub, where you can access other support. The cost-of-living hub is live on the Stockport Council website, and the Resident Advice and Support scheme can be reached on **0161 474 2140**. Please seek **further support from our pastoral lead, Mrs. Marshall, or Mrs. Turvey, our Associate Head of School.**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

For a full list of important dates over the course of this year, please see our [annual planner here](#)

15th October - **Autumn PTA Discos:** EYFS 3:30-4:30pm

Years 3 & 4: 4:45-5:45pm

16th October- **Autumn PTA Discos:**

Years 1&2. 3:30-4:30pm

Years 5 & 6 4:45-5:45pm

Show Racism the Red Card- wear red day

19th October- Prospective parent tour 9:15am

23rd October - Harvest assembly/ last day of term

SCHOLASTIC REWARDS

We were thrilled to see so many of you join us, with your children, at our Scholastic Book Fair. With this service, our school can earn Scholastic Rewards to spend on a huge range of exciting learning resources and children's books for our library. With all of your support, we were able to raise a staggering **£690.26** to spend on rewards! **Thank you so much** for enabling us to make this such a successful opportunity for the children.

PSHE SPOTLIGHT

Stockport schools are committed to protecting pupils' **digital safety and wellbeing**. This free, hour-long workshop on **25th January at 7:30pm** will help parents and carers understand the risks children may encounter online and the practical steps they can take to support safer online experiences.

Katherine Howard, Head of Education and Wellbeing at **Smoothwall**, will provide practical insights and guidance on:

- the latest apps and games children may be using;
- harmful content children may encounter;
- supporting children to recognise and navigate online risks safely;
- accessing the Online Safety Hub and its dedicated guidance for parents and carers; and
- a parental app that can help manage the content a child sees online where concerns have been identified, alongside other safety features.

Please register for the online workshop:

https://smoothwall.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ewEjTjWATE6s11_wMdcaQg

HARVEST ASSEMBLY- ALL WELCOME

On **Friday 23rd October**, for our children to travel safely to the church for our assembly, we need some helpers to walk with our children to ensure we are within ratio and to make sure we all stay safe. **Please let your child's class teacher know as soon as possible if you are able to help, by walking with the children on this day, so we can register your name.**

Current needs are for tinned or non-perishable items: beans, tinned potatoes, tinned tomatoes. There is also a growing need for gluten-free and Halal products too. Please support our local food bank by donating non-perishable food items and help ensure that no family goes without essential food supplies. If you can support us, please send items in with your child who can hand them to their class teachers.

CELEBRATING DIWALI

As we prepare to acknowledge Diwali, the major Hindu, Sikh and Jain festival of lights, we would love to draw on the knowledge and experiences within our school community. If you celebrate Diwali or have personal, cultural or professional knowledge of this special festival, we warmly invite you to get involved

Whether you could talk to a class, share stories, traditions, artefacts or activities, your contribution would help enrich our children's understanding and bring their learning to life.



Please inform your class teacher if you would like to support us in celebrating and learning about this important occasion.

STOCKPORT COUNTY

Children across Years 3- 6 are taking part in one of Stockport County's education programmes:

-To work cooperatively and communicate with others.

-To develop resilience when tasks are difficult or things go wrong.

-To manage emotions, frustration and disappointment.

-To build confidence, empathy and positive relationships.

-To transfer teamwork and perseverance skills into classroom learning and playground situations.

They have enjoyed a range of classroom challenges that have required them to communicate effectively and work as a team. In addition, they have played football, dodgeball and basketball. These sessions will be offered on a regular basis to benefit more children.



Bravery



Citizenship



Curiosity



Gratitude



Integrity



Kindness