



## Newsletter

### Autumn Term 1

*Follow us on Twitter@thegroveschool\_*

**WELCOME:** I write to you after the first half term is drawing to an end. What a busy start to the new year and to our new school. We are thrilled to see all our new students settling in so well, it certainly feels as if they have been with us for some time already. I know class teams have been working hard to establish structures and routines in class and ensure your child is settled and able to thrive. I hope you have managed to arrange an appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss their Personal Learning Plan. This is an important document, which outlines the targets and strategies for everyone working with your child to ensure consistency and achieve the best progress possible. It is really important that you are able to meet and discuss this plan with your child's teacher. If you have not managed to meet this week, please ensure you have arranged a time straight after half term to come into school.

Best wishes, Lucia Santi, Head of school

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS:** A few weeks ago we sent home copies of the application for Free School Meals. If you think your child is eligible for Free school Meals, please could you complete the application form and return back to school in the envelope provided. If you need another copy, please contact Lorraine Bellot in our school office or email at [Lorraine.bellot@thegroveschool.co.uk](mailto:Lorraine.bellot@thegroveschool.co.uk)

**ANNUAL REVIEW DATES:** The Annual Review season is upon us. You should be receiving a date for your child's annual review. This is a statutory meeting which we must hold each year to review your child's Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). It is extremely important that you attend the review as this is an

opportunity for us to address any changes to the EHCP you or the school wish to raise. It is also a key meeting for year 9 and older students, as we discuss and review the transition plan towards adulthood, a key document that we have in place to help signpost your child's progression towards Post 16 and beyond school.

**UNIFORM:** We will be placing a new order for uniform shortly. You should have received an order form through our school office. Please can you complete the form and return to school as soon as possible as we will be placing an order shortly after half term. We will need all order forms back by **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October.**

**PARENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT:** We are really pleased to be able to offer a training and support package. The first event will be a coffee morning on Wednesday 7th November 2018, so we can all meet! I hope you can then join us for the following training / support events:

13th November - 10-11.45 - Healthy Eating

20th November - 10-11.15 - Alex Kelly Social Skills

18th December - 10-11.15 - Online Safety & Internet

A letter will be coming out to all parents and carers with times, dates and locations confirmed.

**YEAR 11 FURTHER STUDY EVENT: Tuesday 30th October from 6-8pm** Each year there is a Post 16 event held at Heartlands High School. Parents, carers and students in Year 11 are all invited to this event, which is held in the main hall of the Heartlands School building. Local colleges and Post 16 providers attend this event and you have an opportunity to talk about courses and offers that the colleges and other providers run. There are a number of local colleges that attend so you have the chance to talk about the range of academic and vocational courses that may be suitable for your child. Previous attendees have found the event useful in providing some guidance and being able to make an initial point of contact with some providers which can be followed up with a visit after.

**PERMANENT SITE UPDATE:** Work at our permanent site is underway. The contractors have started the process of moving out the interior furnishings ready for building work to commence. We are currently on schedule to take over possession of the refurbished site in the summer of 2019 ready for a

full move in September 2019. We will keep you updated on any developments as and when they are happening.

### **FUNDRAISING: CALLING ALL PARENTS, CARERS< FAMILIES AND FRIENDS.**

My name is Michelle Jefferson and I am one of the parent governors for The Grove. I am writing to you all, as a parent to ask you for your help with fundraising for our new school building. All ideas welcome. Do you have contacts or amazing ideas to raise funds for essential school equipment? Teamwork is more than the sum of its parts and you may pride yourself in the knowledge that you have contributed to the future success of the school as well as future school alumni. However large or small your help would be massively appreciated. If you would like to get involved or get in contact with me, please pass on your contact details to Lorraine Bellot at the school office on [lorraine.bellot@thegroveschool.co.uk](mailto:lorraine.bellot@thegroveschool.co.uk) or on 020 8340 4898 (Option 3). I look forward to hearing from you. Best Michelle Jefferson.

**PARENT/CARER QUESTIONNAIRES:** For those of you who did not manage to attend the parent consultations on 18th October, we will be sending out a parent questionnaire for you to complete. We value your views and feedback as this is an important part of our evaluation and our commitment to ensuring the best outcomes for your child. We take feedback very seriously and your views are considered and help us to make those important decisions about the way we work with you and your child. The feedback is also useful for us if you think we are doing a good job as this serves to validate our work so we can continue to work hard to ensure the same processes and standards remain effective.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- Year 11 / Post 16 Information Event: Tuesday 30th October 6-8pm
- After school club (secondary only): Tuesday 30th October 3-4.30pm - Arts and Crafts

- After school club (secondary only): Tuesday 13th November 3-4.30pm - Board Games
- Governors meeting: Thursday 22nd November 6.00-8.00pm
- After school club (secondary only): Tuesday 27th November 3-4.30pm - Sensory Play
- Meet and Greet the SLT: Monday 3rd December 10.30-11.30 Heartlands site.
- Pupil Progress Day Tuesday 4th December School is **CLOSED** to all Primary, Secondary & P16 Students
- Break up for Holiday: Friday 21st December at 12.15pm



## **Primary News**

**GOLD CLASS:** Gold class have all been settling in to their new school, getting used to routines and their new environment. We have been learning 'All about me'. We have learned about our bodies; we made artwork using our hands and feet, and moved our bodies during aerobics to feel the effects on our hearts. Gold class have also been learning to count and add numbers, the days of the week and





measuring full and empty in maths. In literacy, we have focussed on reading and following instructions and making choices. We have been practicing taking turns and learning as a group. Our favourite lessons have been making playdough and making wraps in cooking.



Next half term, we are still learning 'All about me' through learning about our senses and what we wear in different weather.

**BLUE CLASS:** All the children have settled so well into their new class and school!

The topic for this term is 'All about me' and Blue class have been learning about body parts.

We have been making finger-, hand-, and footprints and used them to create pictures.



The students have looked at the letters in their names and have been mark making in different ways.

In maths we have explored capacity by filling containers, looked at numbers and shapes and sorted in different ways.

Next half term, the topics will be 'Our senses' and 'Family'.



## Secondary News

**JUPITER CLASS:** It has been a very exciting few weeks in Jupiter Classroom. We got to know each other and learnt to communicate with each other; with words, signing, or with our Communication Wall. We have learnt to modify our voices when presenting, or when we are in the classroom and want to respect each other's space. We practice yoga and stretching every day and we have developed flexibility so we can all touch our toes now! Yoga helps us relax and self-regulate.



This term, we worked on object properties: big and small, cold and hot, short and tall, soft and hard, and we practiced numbers and counting and our times tables. Some students



worked hard on their additions and subtractions in column, and on place value. We made rainbow volcanoes in science and pizzas in food technology.

We reflected upon our emotions and learnt to recognise them; we talked about why it is important to listen to ourselves and communicate with others. We used the Attention Autism strategies to learn and engage. We also use our interactive board for our activities.



We are looking forward to the second part of the Autumn term! We will explore our daily routine and become proficient at reading the time. We will also learn positions in space and how to use a map. We will learn about the city we live in, and also design our dream city.

**SATURN CLASS:** In our learning time we are looking for opportunities in our busy schedules to have more physical and sensory experiences. So far, we are enjoying movement breaks in between lessons by





doing physical activities such as running and jogging on the spot, jumping, spinning and dancing. We finish with a peaceful and calming cool down



accompanied by relaxing and healing music.

Students are learning about *road safety*. When walking outside, teachers will remind them to STOP, LOOK and LISTEN at the edge of the road before crossing over.



During PSHE lessons, we have enjoyed role playing with traffic lights and practising road safety in our playground as a safe environment.

### MARS CLASS:

This term Mars class have been exploring science concepts through conducting a variety of experiments. During these sessions, students have designed balloon



rockets, rainbow milk and explored chemical reactions through experiments with skittles and make Coke Bottle Rockets. During these lessons the students learn to work towards predicting what will happen during an experiment and learn to follow a procedure to



successfully complete the experiment. Students were able to develop and demonstrate their higher order thinking and problem

solving skills through discussions, team work and reflection. Mars class have enjoyed becoming scientists and will continue to discover the wonderful world of science.

**VENUS CLASS:** It has been a fantastic start to the year and first half term for Venus class. The students have settled in well and the year 11s are making a very positive transition into their final year.

Venus class have started three new courses this term; Home Cooking Skills BTEC level 1, Entry Level Step up To English and Entry level maths. These courses enable the student to develop creativity, imagination, practical skills, communicating and expressing ideas and provide learners with a qualification that is relevant to them and meets their needs.

In English we have been getting creative with descriptive writing where some great work has been produced, describing super-heros. The students have



also been using the school library regularly and we have started a new class reader called 'Mocking Bird' by Kathryn Erskine. In

Maths students have been revisiting measuring and long division and enjoying being successful with both these processes. Everyone

has been enjoying our two cooking sessions a week as part of their Home In cooking BTEC all students have produced some wonderful food. We have been making: cakes, biscuits, sandwiches, Focaccia bread, pizza and Halloween treats. In Art lessons the creativity has continued with collages, printing, autumn art, bracelet and necklace making.

In PSHE, the students have been learning, discussing



and role playing different types of relationships and what can be expected from those relationships. This has included identifying key points to remember such as body language, communication and facial expressions. Venus class have also explored how to communicate in good and not good ways during different scenarios like, shopping, in cafes, with friends or strangers. Everyone in Venus class loves physical activity so we have been building three exercise sessions into the time table and they have been enjoying all of them: Dance, Dodgeball, walks and the gym. There are two clear favourites however, using the outdoor gym in Turnpike lane and playing Dodgeball matches on Friday mornings. It is lovely to see all of them enjoying this and working together as a team.



To be really independent it is important to manage shopping lists and planning and so as part of Home Cooking skills they have been planning their shopping lists based on the recipes

being cooked and going to Morrison's to look at costs and purchase items.

Next half term is just as exciting. Students will be moving on to the topic of London, looking at the



Geography of London, famous authors and writing

linked to London, London art and art movements' among other things. They will be continuing with their Home Cooking course but will be starting to share recipes with home and hopefully show you their cooking skills.

## Post 16 News

Post 16 have made a really positive start to the new academic year and we are so proud to think they are our first ever cohort of post 16 students. Unsurprisingly they have risen to the challenges and are all embracing their post 16 curriculum with enthusiasm.

Our curriculum focus is Life and Living Skills with a particular focus on home management planning and preparing a simple meal. This unit will provide an opportunity for students to further demonstrate their skills and abilities to plan and prepare a simple meal safely.

We have been researching different recipes and practicing skills to enable our students to complete cooking a simple mean as independently as possible.





We cook our own lunch three times a week and they have selected the three recipes they like, Jambalaya chicken, Pizza and Chicken in tomatoes garlic sauce on bed of basmati rice to cook for lunch on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday we go to the local cafe and practice our money and communication skills. In addition to this, Post 16 students have joined the local gym, have started a horticulture module, are taking part in work experience and have started a placement, one day a week at Haringey 6th Form centre. All in all a really busy start to our new post 16 provision.



### AND FINALLY.....

On behalf of all the staff here at The Grove, we would like to wish all students, parents, carers and families a very happy half term.

Thank you for your continued support, particularly at this busy first half term of our new school.

We are confident that together, in partnership, we will continue to build upon the successes of this half term and continue onwards throughout the school year.

With best wishes from The Grove Staff Team.



