

23rd August 2024

Good afternoon everyone!

I hope you have had a lovely summer holiday and are feeling restful and ready for the new year!

Staff at The Grove have been back at school for the past two days taking part in safeguarding and domestic violence CPD and preparing classrooms ready for the arrival of the children. Our staff have been making their classrooms bright and welcoming for Tuesday when we look forward to welcoming the children back to school. We look forward to seeing their faces between 8.40am and 8.55am! I am sure they will be armed with lots of stories they want to share with us! Please do make sure they are on time as it is important that we all start as we mean to go on!

Over the summer we have been planning the new academic year and we have so many exciting things booked in the school diary already, including days such as World Book Day, a 'Rock Star' day for maths, science workshops, sports events and visits from Creative Learning Services. We will send home the 'Parent Dates' letter today too, which will help you plan your diaries for the next year. Please do come to school for the events which invite parents as your support is needed and much appreciated. There will be more information on these events in due course.

Over the past two days, it has been great spending some time with our new teachers, Mrs Moxham and Miss Smith as well as a new member of staff we appointed over the holidays. We have appointed a lady called Mrs Esmail who will be working with us full time as an English as an Additional Language specialist. This is something we have wanted for our children for a long time, but we have never been able to find the right person.

Sadly, I need to tell you that over the summer holidays there was a flood caused from a burst pipe in our new KS1 library. The flood has also damaged our beautiful Reception class and Year 1 classroom, so we have had to move some classrooms whilst the carpets are all being replaced.

For the interim, Reception class will be taught from the Hall, Year 1 will be taught in a classroom upstairs and Year 5 will be taught in the Science Room. As always, the staff at The Grove have worked together positively and efficiently to make the new classroom spaces as perfect as we can for your children. I am hoping the new carpets will be sorted in a few weeks, but we will have to wait and see. I will keep you updated.

For the foreseeable future, Reception class will need to enter the Hall through the back door please (by the ball court and back gate) and Year 1 will be greeted at the side door by the field (by the trim trail). Year 5 will use the usual Year 5 entrance and exit and walk to the Science Room.

These spaces will also be the exits for the end of the day as we wait for the classroom carpets to be replaced.

Although the flood has caused some disruption, we will not let it bring us down as at The Grove we work hard and stay positive!

This year we have some exciting new projects happening in school as we have a sensory room being built, an astro turf being placed in the old ball court and new playground equipment for the KS1 and KS2 playground. This will replace the old pirate ship and tree house! The area by the canopy, by the main reception and Year 2 entrance is all being replaced with new surfacing and tables too! If that wasn't enough, we have also organised for new forest school equipment to be installed including den building equipment.

Inside school, we are also getting new bathrooms for boys and girls downstairs as well as a new intervention area for KS1! In a few weeks I will send you some pictures of the planned projects.

I have so much to share with you so please keep an eye on Dojo as we use that as our main form of communication.

I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday. Please send me a Dojo message if you need anything.

Mrs Cheeseman