



Grands Vaux Primary School

Headteacher: Miss Maria McCool

Monday, 30 October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the start of this new ½ term. I hope you all had a restful break.

ICT Suite:

It is with great pleasure I can share with you that we are in the early stages of developing a new computer suite. This will be developed in the current library, we will have 24 computers. The Education Department is supporting with the provision of new computers and reconditioning our old ones so they are compatible. We will not be losing the library, just relocating it. We hope to have two learning zones (One in KS1 shared area and the second in the KS2 shared area). These learning zones will use the current library books alongside new purchases. The areas will be designed to encourage language development and a love of reading.

House System:

We have revitalised the House System and linked this to our Encouraging Positive Behaviour System. You will see the display in the entrance area by the office and posters in the hall. We have had our first House assembly of the year, this was where the yr 6 children put themselves forward to become House Captains – well done to all those who were brave enough to give it a go and congratulations to those who were successful. House Captain badges to follow.

House Badges:

The children will be provided with a house badge free of charge. This will be with the understanding that any lost badges will be replaced at a cost of £2. These will be given out in the next House Assembly (Friday 3rd November).

Inspire Literacy:

This is an exciting new resource for KS2 children. It is a computer based 'programme' that uses virtual 'worlds' as links to topic areas studied in the KS2 curriculum. Following the training that KS2 teachers are attending today this resource will be used to support teachers planning.

VEO: (Video Enhanced Observation) Reminder

Please can consent slips be returned to school. We need to know which children can be involved in this process and those that we need to ensure are not being recorded. Additional copies of the consent form can be found on the website in the section 'The School Office' or a paper copy can be obtained from the office.



Rec –yr 6 Flu Vaccinations:

Thank you to those who have returned their consent slips. If you haven't done so yet please can this be returned as soon as possible. The date for the Rec-Yr 6 flu vaccinations is Wednesday 8th November.

Rec – yr 6 Dental Consent forms:

These consent forms will be coming out soon. Please can these be returned promptly so the dentist can co-ordinate the visit to school.

Uniform:

The uniform expectations are outlined on the website. This can be found on the 'About our school' drop down. This clearly outlines uniform expectations. Your continued support with our high expectations of uniform, including tucking in of shirts and appropriate footwear is appreciated.

No Pens Day:

This is a new event that we are going to undertake. The date for our first No Pens Day is Wednesday 15th November. This is an event developed by The Communication Trust (<https://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/projects/no-pens-day-wednesday/>). "No Pens Day Wednesday encourages schools and settings to put down their pens and to run a day of speaking and listening activities". The day will be timetabled like any other day but the activities planned by the teachers will focus on evidencing the learning via a different means, other than pen and paper.

Children in Need:

We will be supporting The Big Spotacular again this year, it will be on Friday 17th November. This will be the same format as last year, non-uniform with as many spots as you can. We would ask for a £1 donation for the charity.

**PTA:**

The PTA would appreciate any additional members. Please see Mrs Serinet, Miss Bree, Mrs Da Silva and Mrs Rondel.

PTA event dates for the diary:

- 3/11/17 Spooky Disco KS1 4.30-5.30, KS2 5.45-7.00
- 21/11/17 Bag Packing yr 6 – Co-op G. Marche
- 1/12/17 Christmas Fayre. Grotto will start to go up 27/11/17 so drama and music room will be out of use. Grotto will be open until 8/12/17 so will be available for classes to access if they wish to undertake curriculum based tasks with this as the focus/stimulus.

Foundation Stage Fund Raising Event:

On Tuesday 17th October, Foundation Stage held a fund raising event where they raised £279.50. Thank you to all those involved and all those that supported. This will be put towards the purchase of a carpentry table for Foundation Stage.

Parents Evening:

The two dates agreed for this term's Parents Evening are: Thursday 16th Nov 3.15-5.15 and Thursday 23rd November 3.15-5.15. Mrs Meyer has completed allocations and confirmation letters for your appointment times should have been received. If you still haven't booked an appointment please speak to Mrs Meyer.

Drop off arrangements reminder

Our Stop and Drop arrangements are a well established routine. Thank you very much for your support with parking, I know this can be a very stressful time, if we work together and use the system correctly start and end of day will run smoothly.

We ask that parents vacate the parking spaces as soon as possible so that other parents can also stop and drop, or park. However, please be assured, if you need to speak to a teacher, you can. Where possible please arrange an appointment as this will ensure staff are available.

We would encourage as many families as possible to walk to school and ask that if you do need to park, please park in the car park and not in the 'stop and drop' zone. End of day arrangements will remain as they are. In bad weather children go straight to Key Stage One or Two shared areas.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries, concerns or there is anything I can do to help and support you with your child's learning and school life. All at Grands Vaux Primary School are committed to the well-being of your child/ren so if we can help please let us know.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. McCool'.

Miss Maria McCool - Headteacher