



# Grands Vaux Primary School

Headteacher: Miss Maria McCool



Friday, 24 February 2023

Dear Parent and Carers,  
Welcome to newsletter 11 of this academic year.

## New Staff Welcome:

We welcome to the team 5 new Learning Support Assistants. We are very fortunate that they have been part of the induction and training programme run by CYPES and now join our team. Miss Goncalves, Mr Le Brun, Miss Nicolas, Miss Coelho and Miss Hasiura will be working throughout the school across different classes and phases.

## Yr 5 and 6 Peer Mediation Training – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February:



The yr 5 and 6 children really engaged in the two days of Peer Mediation Training. I hope that after they have reflected over the w.end that many of them either put themselves forward for the important peer mediator role or they recommend a friend put themselves forward. The application process will begin next week.

More information can be found here – <https://theresolutioncentre.com/peer-mediation/>



## New Start to the day Routine:

The children have settled into the new routine really quickly – there were a few struggles on the first day but all the children managed to adjust to the new system well.

A reminder that the school opens to the children at 8.30am with KS1 (yr 1 and 2 ) and KS 2 (yr 3-6) going straight up to class.

EYFS (Reception and Nursery) will continue to access their playground space in the morning so need to be taken to the FS playground gate where staff will be available at hand over. Reception and Nursery children should only come through the front door if they are late and we need to update the registers in the main office. Reception arrival time will remain as 8.30am and Nursery 8.45am, with registers taken at 8.45am and 9.00am respectively. EYFS children in breakfast club will go to the EYFS playground at 8.30am as usual.

## Durrell Tortoise Take Over:



Well done to all those children that entered the design competition. There were some very imaginative designs and creative names. A very suitable buddy will no doubt be selected for Vaux!

All entrants earned a house point for their house. The entries will today be dropped to Durrell.

To celebrate the start of the Tortoise Take Over and to jump start our fundraising to pay for the sculpture, we had our first fund raiser – the non-uniform today, raised £66.

## World Book Day (Reminder):

This year, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March. Children are invited to come into school dressed as a book character, or to bring a prop from their favourite book.

We will be using World Book Day as a way to share our favourite books, but to also celebrate the languages of our community through stories. We are so lucky at Grands Vaux to have children and staff that have links to other countries around the world including Portugal, Poland, Romania, Italy, France, Ecuador and Venezuela and we will be listening to and finding out about stories from some of these countries on World Book Day.

Thanks to the generosity of National Book Tokens Ltd, each child will receive a book token, which they can use towards a book or to buy one of the exclusive World Book Day titles. Vouchers are valid until Sunday 26 March 2023.

**Glasses:**

Thank you to those families that have donated children's glasses, we currently have 9 pairs of children's glasses that we will give to the Ophthalmology team from Jersey who are visiting Lahore, Pakistan in March 2023 to undertake visual screening in schools and orphanages. If there are any other donations please can these come to the office – these will be sent off by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March so if you have any children's glasses you want us to include please drop these in to the office by Wednesday morning.

We have had two pairs of glasses in the office for some time – despite trying to find the owners they still remain with us – if these are not claimed by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March I shall add them to the glasses we send to the Visual Impairment Team.

**Chewing Gum:**

A reminder that chewing gum is not permitted on school site. This causes real issues when trying to remove it.

**Supervision of Children at the end of the day:**

Please can I ask for your continued support with supervising your children at the end of the day. Forest School is closed when the children are not supervised by staff. Access to this space has been impacted by damages or it being left untidy. This is not due to out of hours visitors to the school site, children have been seen 'playing' in this space unsupervised at the end of day. Please support us with ensuring that all areas of school are kept tidy and safe for our children to access.

**Safety on School Site:**

I would ask that all school site users ensure they take extra care when accessing our site. The school is a very busy place and your ongoing support with this is much appreciated. All drivers must take care and drive carefully and considerably when on school grounds – there has been a report of two cars driving at a speed to cause concern – families will be moving around with small children and by ensuring that you drive slowly this may allow extra time/provide a mitigation against any potential accidents.

**Lost Property:**

Uniform lost property collection continues to be available at the front of school. Families who can make use of the items that remain can do so – as this is from lost property no donation to school is required.

**Parent/teacher Association AGM:**

As you will be aware we have had two key members of our PTA (Mrs Serinet and Ms Chapman) resign from their posts after many years of dedicated service. I am looking to co-ordinate an AGM for the election of the new chair and treasurer. I want to make sure that I hold this meeting at the most suitable time for parents and carers. If you are interested in putting yourself forward for either of these roles and attending a meeting is difficult please get in touch and we can try to accommodate the date/timings to ensure as many parents/carers can attend.

**Parent/Carer Questionnaire:**

We will be sending out a 'FORMS' questionnaire for families to complete. The questions will assist with improvements we make with how we work together and will help inform our improvement agenda. Please do try to complete these questionnaires, your voice is important to us – any feedback (both positive and constructive) is most welcome.

**DATES:**

INSET Monday 5th June 2023 - school closed to the children

Additional Bank Holiday - Monday 8th May 2023

As always, if you wish to discuss anything in the newsletter, please do get in touch.

Kind regards



Miss Maria McCool – Headteacher