

Grange Park Junior School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy half term already!

Coffee Mornings



We have held the following Coffee mornings and it is always lovely to hear your views and give you the opportunity to ask questions:

- Tuesday 7th November— School Lunch Taster session –Parents were invited to try a selection of lunches provided by the Infant school.
- Tuesday 14th November - Dojo & Parent Pay — our new communication tool, Dojo, that will be used to update you about your child's learning and behaviour.
- Tuesday 21st November—Reading workshop— How to support your child with their reading

Thank you if you were able to attend and the final coffee morning for this term is as follows:

- Tuesday 28th November—Pupil Well-Being and Anti –Bullying

Social Media



Following our recent coffee mornings, parents asked for further communications from the school. We now have an X (formally known as Twitter) account where you can see latest information within the school. Please do follow us on: [@GrangeParkJnrs](https://twitter.com/GrangeParkJnrs)

Please note that only children with parental media consent have their photo shared on any social media platforms.

Interfaith Week 2023

Interfaith week was a real celebration of all of the communities and cultures that come together to make Grange Park Juniors such an exciting place to work and learn. It was lovely to see children dressed in their traditional or bright clothing. The children also heard stories being read to them in a range of different languages.



We would also like to say a Happy Diwali to all of our families who celebrated this special festival.

Parental Survey

Parents Evening was a wonderful opportunity to meet some of you and speak to you about the way that your child is progressing. We are always gathering views so thank you if you were able to fill out the parental questionnaire. We will be sending out another questionnaire near the end of term. The findings from this recent survey are very positive and the main area of concern is how school deals with bullying so we will be looking at our processes and feeding back to you about what our definition of bullying is and how we deal with it in school. This was the particular focus in Anti Bullying week and we define Bullying at Grange Park as the following:

"Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person by another, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical or psychological. It can happen face to face or through cyberspace."

This Anti-Bullying Week,
let's make a noise about bullying.

MAKE A
NOISE
ABOUT
BULLYING

Anti-Bullying Week 2023: Make A Noise About Bullying (anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)

Children and young people are exposed to many different forms of bullying nowadays with sexist, sexual and transphobic bullying increasingly being seen and reported by schools and children and young people, both of a primary and secondary school age, affecting boys and girls. This can range from teasing and name-calling to groping and online image sharing.

Online image sharing, sexting, or sending nudes is becoming increasingly common in our children and young people's worlds. In an OFSTED review (2021) it was reported that 90% of girls and 50% of boys said they or their peers had been sent explicit pictures or videos of things they did not want to see "a lot" of the time, or "sometimes". In addition to this, 92% of girls and 74% of boys reported that sexist name-calling happens a lot or sometimes to them or their peers, making sexist or sexual bullying so common, many consider it "normal."

Children and young people are not only being exposed to explicit content online, but feel under pressure to provide sexual images of themselves too, with many being unaware that this constitutes generating youth produced sexual imagery. In some cases, these images are passed around in peer groups leading to bullying and isolation. Below are some resources that can help both adults and young people begin conversations and seek support around their experiences of sexual bullying or online image sharing.

- [Online and mobile safety | Childline](#)
- [Report Remove | Childline](#)
- [Bullying on social media | Childline](#)
- [#AskTheAwkward](#) - help to talk with your children about online relationships
- [Bullying - The Mix](#)



Christmas



Christmas can be a truly magical time in school and this year will be no different.

We are excited to have a pantomime visit the children and if you haven't made the payment for the Panto please do so. Furthermore, for the first time in a while, we will be holding a celebration of Christmas around the world, at our local church. You are more than welcome to hear the children singing a range of festive and winter songs and to hear some readings. There will be no prayers or act of worship, however it will be a celebration of all things wonderful at this time of year and with the whole school community coming together, I am sure it will be a very special and memorable event.



Sporting Achievements

Girls Football

Our Girls football team entered a tournament which took place at Guru Nanak. At the group stages we finished second in our group and we were unbeaten at this stage, which meant we reached the semi finals. We lost 1-0 to Lake Farm in a close encounter. But in what was our first time as a school entering the competition and for the first time having a girl's football team we are incredibly proud of their achievements and the way they supported each other as it was a real team effort, especially as they hadn't been able to practice much before. Thank you to Mr Mahay for supporting the children and giving the children this incredible opportunity.



Sports Hall Athletics

We also took part in an indoor Sports Hall Athletics event for Year 5 and 6 children at Swakeleys. The children completed against other schools in the borough and thoroughly enjoyed the event! Thank you to Mr Mahay for training the pupils!

Dates for your Diary 2023

- Tuesday 28th November—Coffee Morning—Pupil wellbeing & Anti-Bullying
- Monday 4th December - A.I.M Math's trip—Year 5 &6 selected children
- Thursday 7th December –History Explorer workshop (in school)
- Friday 8th December—Year 3 trip to Gunnersbury Park Museum
- Monday 11th December—Yr. 5. Maple & Cedar trip to the Mosque
- Tuesday 12th December - Yr. 5. Beech & Walnut trip to the Mosque
- Wednesday 13th December - Christmas Lunch
- Tuesday 19th December - Panto—Aladdin



Attendance

Illness

If your child is sick please make sure you call us promptly by 8.30am to speak to the Admissions Manager, Mrs Phull on Tel: 020 8353 4265 (Option 2). Please also note if your child is sick with vomiting or diarrhoea, he/she will need to remain at home for 48 hours from the last episode. This is a health and safety requirement to ensure it does not spread around the school.

Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, if Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters
Remember Absence = Lost Learning Opportunity

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School Attendance		
Attendance so far:	97.0	96.8	97.1	95.9	96.8	97%-100	Very Good
						96%-91%	Room for Improvement
						90% and Below	Cause for Concern

Staffing Update

I am delighted to announce that we have appointed Mr Sharma as the Deputy Headteacher and he will undertake the role from January 2024. He has already been supporting the school this term and therefore you will see him on occasions in the playground this term and at the beginning or end of the day. I am sure that he will be shown a warm welcome, like you have shown me, so please do not hesitate to introduce yourself to him. I would like to thank Mrs Ramtohol-Butler in her Acting Deputy position for all the guidance and support she has shown me at the beginning of this term and I cannot wait for us, as a new Senior Leadership Team, to move the school forward in what I know will be a very exciting journey. More details will follow in January with regards to roles and responsibilities.

Mrs Madar, Headteacher