

Grange Park Junior School Newsletter

January 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the Spring Term which I am sure will be as busy as last term! We have already had successful coffee mornings around Attendance, the upcoming French Trip, Maths and PSHE. I would like to thank all the parents and carers who have attended, we hope that you have found them useful and we value the feedback that you have given.



We are planning the Summer Coffee Mornings and we will have another one for Maths as requested. As we are a new Leadership team we are always looking for ways to improve the school, we sent out our second parental survey just before Christmas. Please remember when completing the survey, we are talking about the period under the new Leadership Team, which is from September 2023. We had 61 responses and generally the views were positive. Some areas for us to consider are a wider range of clubs, being more specific in feedback about the progress your child is making and also continuing to respond to behaviour concerns that you may have promptly and swiftly.

Mrs Madar

The new SLT structure

The new SLT structure from January 2024 is as follows:

| Role | Headteacher | Deputy Headteacher | Assistant Headteacher | Acting Inclusion Manager | Year Group Leaders |
|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Person | Mrs R Madar | Mr A Sharma | Mrs R Ramtohul-Butler | Miss Allen | Y3 – Mrs Iqbal Y4 – Miss Doohan Y5 -Miss Allen Y6 – Mrs Patel |
| Responsibilities | Safeguarding Wellbeing | Core Curriculum | Wider Curriculum | SENCO EAL Pupil Premium | Teaching and Learning |

Please remember that any concerns that you have regarding your child, must go through the class teacher in the first instance and then the Year Group Leader. Senior Leaders will always be on the playground at the beginning and end of the day if you have any questions that you would like to ask.

Congratulations to all of the children and staff who were in Year 4 last year.

We have received a congratulatory letter, for our results in the Multiplication Check last year. The average pupil score was 24.2 out of 25, **which makes us one of the top 200 performing schools in England—This means we are in the top 1% in the country.** A huge thanks to ALL of our parents and carers for the support that they give their children, to ensure that we can reach the highest educational standards possible.



Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP
Minister for Schools

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tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe

Mrs Rena Madar
Grange Park Junior School
Lansbury Drive
Hayes
UB4 8SF

January 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mrs Rena Madar'.

I am writing to congratulate you on your school's achievements in the 2023 multiplication tables check.

Your average pupil score of 24.2 out of 25 makes Grange Park Junior School one of the top 200 performing schools in England for the multiplication tables check. The excellent achievement of your pupils is something the Government hopes to see replicated in schools across the country.

Knowing times tables is vital for school and day-to-day life. Recalling multiplication and division facts up to 12x12 is important for progression in maths. That is why we introduced these checks, as a helpful tool for teachers to identify those pupils who need extra support.

I would like both to congratulate your staff and pupils for their hard work and to thank you for your leadership in continuing to promote the important subject of mathematics.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'D. Hinds'.

Damian Hinds
Minister for Schools

Reminders

Please ensure that your child, or their siblings, **do not** have access to your Class Dojo log in or are communicating with the school in ways that they should not. For instance, we had a child complete the parent survey and had children ring the school attendance line.

If we have persistent prank calls or messages we will have to make contact with the police.

Online Safety

This week's coffee morning was about Online Safety. We know that being online is great fun and can be very informative, but it can also expose children to things that they are not ready for. Here is some advice for parents and carers on how to support your child whilst using the Internet:



What can you do to help?

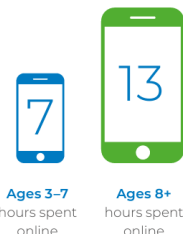
- Give them opportunities to **think about how what they do online** can affect their well-being, i.e. sleep, feelings, learning
- Talk about ways to combine what they love online, offline, i.e. using apps that **encourage you to move and play outdoors**
- **Put in place a family agreement** and agree an appropriate length of time that they can use their devices for
- **Use tech tools and parental controls** to help them to manage the time they spend online and the apps they use
- For younger children find ways to **combine touch screen use with creative and active play**
- **Get the whole family to unplug** and create 'screen free' zones at home

What can you do to help?

- **Use stories to introduce the topic** to make it easier to spark a conversation with children such as **Digiduck's Big Decision** and **The Internet is like a Puddle**
- **Agree together what is appropriate** for them to do online so they feel part of the decision making process
- Create a safe place for them to **talk to you or a trusted adult** if they run into issues online
- **Show them that not everything they see online is true** and tell them to always try and check other sources. Remind them that if something appears 'too good to be true' then it probably is!
- **Use parental controls** to block access to adult and inappropriate sites

What can you do to help?

- **Have a chat about personal information** and what they understand this to be and why it's important
- Discuss the fact that **anything you put online** has the potential to be there for a long time
- At one time or another your child may be talking to strangers online, its important to **teach them how to recognise when a person's intentions might not be what they seem** and steps to take if they run into trouble through sharing too much information
- **Use the NSPCC Net Aware platform** to get advice on which apps are most suitable for them to use to limit the risks
- Talk about the pressure to **post things just to get likes** and comments and how to challenge this
- **Review the privacy settings** available on the platform they use to ensure they are set to the right level
- **Work together** on a family agreement to create digital boundaries so they are more aware of your values on what is safe to share online



Young Voices 2024

Our Year 4 students were given a fantastic opportunity to audition to be part of this year's Young Voices choir! Young Voices is the world's largest school choir group, with over 150,000 primary school children involved at stadiums throughout the UK. Place2Be has teamed up with Young Voices to raise awareness and funds to support the emotional well-being of young people. After weeks of learning a range of songs, our YV choir performed at the o2 Arena in London on Monday 29th January! All members of the YV choir performed extremely well and we are all very proud of them. Parents, carers, family and friends were all invited to watch the show and join in the fun! Here is what they had to say:

'This was such a great event and pretty sure that this would increase the confidence level of kids. As a parent it was thrilling and lovely experience. A special thanks to all the teachers whose done hard work and made this a memorable event' (GPJS parent)

'I think it was an amazing event, wonderful evening and a lovely opportunity to go out together as a family. It was magical!' (GPJS parent)

'It was very fun and exciting! I really enjoyed the concert. Thank you for taking me there' (GPJS student)

'It was very exciting, full of fun like a disco party! I sang my favourite song and had an extraordinary fun time!' (GPJS student)

'I thought it was amazing to watch and I'm very proud and happy that my child was able to take part in such a big event' (GPJS parent)

'I liked it very much and I want to do it again!' (GPJS student)



Calendar dates 2024

Coffee Mornings: details are available on an attachment sent with this newsletter.



- Tuesday 6th February, 9am to 10am - Multiplication Tables Check (Year 4)
- **Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February—Half Term**
- **Monday 19th February—Staff Training Day (School closed to children)**
- Monday 26th February - Yr4. Trip to Gurdwara (Buttercup Class and Lavender)
- Thursday 29th February 2024 -Yr4. to Gurdwara (Rose and Tulip)
- Tuesday 19th March 2024 - Yr6. Trip to Brunel University
- **NEW DATE ADDED- Thursday 2nd May 20234—Polling Day—School Closed to children**
- Thursday 8th February 2024— Aspire Netball Tournament.
- Thursday 22nd February 2024 -Taekwondo Festival

Breaktime Snacks

Please remember that children are only allowed to bring in a healthy snack at lunchtime . They are not allowed crisps, biscuits or chocolate. In line with Healthy Schools, children should bring in fresh/ dried fruit only or a dairy product such as cheese or yoghurt.

Attendance

Punctuality

Please ensure you leave home with plenty of time for your child to arrive at their allocated start time.

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

| 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

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.

Evidence must be provided prior to all types of appointments eg; Doctor, Dentist, Hospital or any other appointment, however if the appointment is an emergency, including visiting A & E, please make sure you acquire an appointment card/letter for your child's school records.

| | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 | Whole School Attendance |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------------|
| Attendance so far: | 96.5 | 95.7 | 96.6 | 95.8 | 96.2 |

| | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 97%-100 | Very Good |
| 96%-91% | Room for Improvement |
| 90% and Below | Cause for Concern |