

Grange Park Junior School Newsletter

February 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a wonderful half term. It is exciting to note that we are half way through the academic year and I feel proud of how much we have achieved together to ensure that the school is moving forward. March is always an exciting month as it brings a renewed focus on reading, which is one of our school priorities. World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March and children can dress up as their favorite book character, also Tony Bradman the author is visiting the school. Tony Bradman is a successful author and has written many books. His range of books are not only ground breaking but they also appeal to a wide range of readers. He was one of the first authors to feature diverse characters and he specialises in historical fiction. There will be an opportunity to buy his books and have it signed by Tony himself! We are looking forward to parents coming in to read to their children. It doesn't matter how confident you feel, it is all about enjoying reading together. We are really looking forward to this special week. Please look at the following website with your child, which is an interview with Tony Bradman this will build interest in his forthcoming visit:

<https://www.risingstars-uk.com/blog/november-2021/author-interview-with-tony-bradman>

Mrs Madar
Headteacher



World Book Day—Key Dates



- From Tuesday 27th February— Children can buy Tony Bradman Books after school every day from the library.
- Friday 1st March— Children can start to drop off unwanted books in class.
- Monday 4th March—Tony Bradman workshops—Booking signing in the Big hall after school.
- Thursday 7th March—Children can dress up as their favourite book character. Book swap in the playground after school.

Sign up to read with your children in school on the following days, on the week of 4th March:

The dates below indicate when you can come and read with your child.

Please enter via the main entrance.

Tuesday 2.50 – 3.10	Wednesday 2.50 – 3.10	Thursday 2.50 – 3.10	Friday 2.50 – 3.10
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6

Red Nose Day

COMIC
RELIEF

Red Nose Day is back on **Friday 15th March**. Comic Relief supports incredible projects and organisations that are making a difference for people across the UK and around the world. On this day, you can wear your own clothes and ideally something Red to show your support. We would also like you to donate £1.00 and make a difference!



Ramadan



The month of Ramadan is due to begin soon. Children are enthusiastic and feel a great sense of achievement joining their families taking part in the spirit of Ramadan. Ramadan is one of the five pillars or duties of Islam. During this month, Muslims ask for forgiveness for past mistakes and try to improve themselves through self-control and discipline. Fasting helps to remind Muslims to focus their attention on God and empathise with those that are less fortunate. Many other religions also fast for similar reasons.

Recommendations:

Due to the longer days, we would advise pupils not to fast on school days as it can become difficult to take part in lessons and concentrate on learning. Please consider whether your child will be able to cope throughout the day as they are still required to take part in all the National Curriculum subjects, including PE and swimming. It is important for pupils to drink plenty of water to stay hydrated to be able to focus on their learning. If parents/carers do give permission for their child to fast, the school needs to be informed through **written** permission. In this case, it is vital pupils have their early morning breakfast (often known as Suhoor) as it an important part of fasting.

Calendar dates 2024



- Tuesday 27th February 2024 –Coffee Morning—SEND
- Thursday 29th February 2024 -Yr4. to Gurdwara (Rose and Tulip)
- Tuesday 5th March 2024—Coffee Morning—SATs
- Thursday 7th March 2024—World Book Day
- Friday 8th March 2024—Yr6. Hate Crime Workshop
- Tuesday 12th March 2024—Coffee Morning –Safeguarding
- Tuesday 19th March 2024 - Yr6. Trip to Brunel University
- Tuesday 19th March 2024—Coffee Moring -France Trip (Year 5 only)
- Wednesday 21st March 2024 -Yr6. Heights and Weights check
- Thursday 28th March 2024 — Last day of Term **early finish 1pm**
- **Friday 29th March 2024—Easter Holidays**
- **Monday 15th April 2024—Children back to school**
- Thursday 18th April 2024 —Parents meeting (details to follow)

Home time—Pupils being collected

If it is not the usual parent/carer picking up your child, please let the office now as early as you can. To ensure that we safeguard your child, we will always need confirmation from you, if you have asked another parent, or someone different to pick up your child and you have not informed us. We appreciate your support in this matter so that your children can leave school safely.

Attendance

Welcome to

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

Attendance

Punctuality

It is important to leave home in plenty of time for your child to arrive on time at 8.40am, to start their learning at 8.45am (school gates open at 8:30 am)

Reporting your child's absence

If your child is absent please ensure you call us promptly by 8.30am and leave a voicemail message on Tel: 020 8353 4265 (Option 2).

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 or letter of attendance for your child's school records.

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School Attendance	97%-100	Very Good
						96%-90%	Room for Improvement
Attendance so far:	96.3	95.6	96.6	95.9	96.1	Below 90%	Cause for Concern (Persistent Absentee)

Taekwondo Festival

Some of our Year 4 and Year 5 pupils participated in the Taekwondo Festival hosted at The Unit in Harlington this afternoon. They had a fantastic time and learnt a range of Taekwondo techniques and skills. If you would like your child to begin learning Taekwondo, please contact trenicclubs@tkd.co.uk and let them know you have a 1 week free trial (see last image).

"I liked learning the side kick" - Ismail, Year 5

Mrs Doohan



1 WEEK FREE PASS

Harlington Taekwon-Do Academy
The Unit, Victoria Lane, Harlington, UB3 5EW

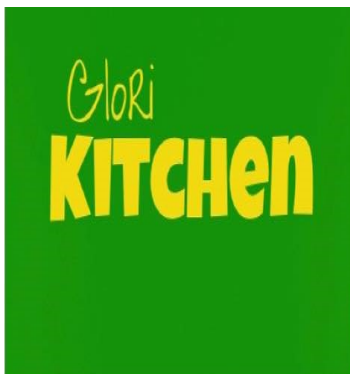
Hayes Taekwon-Do Academy
Labour Hall, Pump Lane, Hayes, UB3 3NB

Yiewsley Taekwon-Do Academy
The PRIDE Academy, Falling Lane, Yiewsley, UB7 8AB

trenicclubs@tkd.co.uk
01895 459947



Free hot meals for those in need - Saturday 2nd March and every month.



A organisation called Glori Kitchen is offering **free** hot meals at Hayes End Methodist Church (623 Uxbridge Road Hayes, UB4 8JW) every first Saturday of the month. The next meeting is **Saturday 2 March** and the service is available between **5pm** and **8pm**. All are welcomed.

If you or somebody you know would like to attend please let them know in advance by calling Ian 079484176967 or email: ianrolle698@yahoo.co.uk



Parent Carer Support

Raising children doesn't come with a handbook, and sometimes knowing who to reach out to for support or advice is tricky.

Brilliant Parents and the Stronger Families Key Working team are offering a friendly and informal drop-in for parents/carers of 0-18 year olds and 0-25 year olds for those with SEND.



We'll be there for a chat, to share advice, support and a range of information in relation to parenting, and mental and emotional wellbeing for all the family.

2024	Harefield Children's Centre High Street, Harefield UB9 6BT	Uxbridge Family Hub Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW	Hayes Family Hub College Way, Hayes UB3 3BB
	Wednesdays 1-3pm	Fridays 5-7pm	Fridays 10am - 12pm
March	6th	8th	15th
April	3rd	12th	19th
May	1st	10th	17th
June	5th	14th	21st
July	3rd	12th	19th
August	7th	16th	23rd
September	4th	13th	20th

For more information contact Sarah on:

07495 024 449 or

sarah.rust@brilliantparents.org

Our goal is to empower parents to feel safe, strong and healthy, whilst building resilience and confidence in your parenting decisions, with the support of a community network.