



# Grange Park Junior School Newsletter

## December 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a very busy term, I would like to thank you for the support you have shown your children and the school to be the best that it can be. Ofsted visited the school in November for an ungraded inspection, which celebrated all the recent successes and opportunities, but more importantly, the next steps aligned with the leadership vision for what the school needs to do even better. Hopefully I will be able to share the report with you soon.

I would like to thank Mrs Ramtohul-Butler for a fabulous end to the term in which she supported the PTA's Festive Fair and organised the Festive Concert at St Nicholas' church and the visit to The Beck Theatre to watch the panto of Aladdin. The children enjoyed performing through singing and playing the instruments, in church, that they have learnt in Music and it was lovely to hear our amazing choir. I would like to say a huge thanks to you, for allowing your children to join in the festivities during the final week as it is lovely to come together as a school community and enjoy the opportunities the local area gives us.

I would also like to thank the Hillingdon Interfaith Team for their delivery of their workshops and for their very appropriate words in church around peace and love at this time of year. It was lovely to see people from a number of faiths enjoying the service and coming together to show that we can all show respect to all, regardless of faith, beliefs or religion.



The school is working hard to ensure all children treat each other with respect and refrain from using any language that can be seen as discriminatory. I would appreciate your support with this at a time when it is very much an issue in society and the wider world. Through our on-going work around the values, in particular Respect, I endeavor for all relationships within the school community to be positive, empathetic and above all caring. My favourite event from this term as been the installation of our very own swimming pool, by a team that has a very strong commitment and passion in ensuring every child can learn to swim. We have high expectations that the children will do well academically, but we also have high expectations that the children will be successful and develop a winning mentality through the wider opportunities, whether this will be swimming, performing arts, clubs, sporting events or competitions. With your support, I know our school can go from strength to strength in ensuring our children will leave Grange Park Junior School as role models, both academically and socially in the local community and beyond.

It leaves me to wish you a very Merry Christmas and health and happiness for 2025.

Mrs Madar– Headteacher





# Have you seen our new website?

We are thrilled to share our new website with you! Please take a moment to explore it. We hope you find the *Learning and Curriculum* pages particularly helpful. On the home page, you'll also find information about upcoming events which we hope you'll find useful. Additionally, you can access our social media channels directly from the website (top right of the home page).

We hope you enjoy navigating the new site and we'd like to thank you for ensuring the children wear appropriate uniform to reflect their pride in being part of our school community. A special thank you to Mrs Ramtohol-Butler for her incredible work in developing the website!



## PTA Festive Fair

A huge thanks to the PTA for organising the Festive Fair and to continuing to raise money to support our school. We really appreciate the time and commitment that they give.



## Panto

On Wednesday 18th December and Thursday 19th December we all went to The Beck Theatre to see the panto—Aladdin. The children thoroughly enjoyed the trip. Here is what they had to say...

*'It was a pleasure to go to the panto, yesterday. It was fun and entertaining and an amazing show. Thank you for booking for us.'* Aviraaj (3L)

*'I really enjoyed the Aladdin pantomime. My favourite character was Aladdin because he married Princess Jasmine in the end. The best part of the show was when Soapy Simon came in to the audience and squirted everyone with water.'* Tanisha (3L)

*'Aladdin was brilliant. I really enjoyed the end part when the teachers had to go stage.'* (Bahar 3L)

*'The Panto was an amazing opportunity with lots of bright and amazing scenes!'* (Nimrat)

*'The Panto was very thrilling and had some amazing parts.'* (Kultajveer)

*'This was my favourite panto; my favourite part was the cave as it was very life like and had some cool effects.'* (Simreya)





## Christmas at St Nicholas' Church

On Monday 16th December and Tuesday 17th December, we had a Festive Concert at St Nicholas' Church. Year 3 performed on glockenspiels, Year 4 on recorders, Year 5 on ukuleles and Year 6 on vocals. The choirs also performed before our whole school finale song that the children had learnt called *Nothing More* in which they also performed the sign language version of. Thank you to our Musical Team: Mrs Ramtohl-Butler, Miss Frost, Miss Alexis and Mr Barlow for their hard work.



## Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch served by our caterers and SLT! The children had a great time with yummy food, festive music and crackers filled with funny jokes!





## The North Pole's Got Talent

The pupils worked extremely hard during their Performing Arts after-school club with Miss Alexis to present to the whole school, parent and carers *The North Pole's Got Talent!* A huge thank you to Miss Alexis who wrote the whole script and rehearsed with them until they were ready to perform an amazing show!



## iRock Concert

Our amazing iRock musicians performed to parents/ carers and friends at their end of term iRock concert and they were brilliant! They performed a range of songs and the audience had a great time! If you are interested in signing up to iRock lessons, please look at the 'clubs' section on our school's website.





## Sporting Events



### Football Tournament

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, the football team competed in the PSD Cup held at Uxbridge FC. It was a hugely competitive tournament with some very talented schools. The children represented themselves professionally but were unfortunate to not make it out of the group stages having won 1, drawn 1 and lost 2, finishing 4<sup>th</sup> out of 5 teams in the group.



### Ten Pin Bowling

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, our bowling team participated in the Ten Pin Bowling Panathlon. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and improved so much throughout the event.



## Year 3—Gunnery Park

Year 3 had an amazing time learning about Prehistoric Britain during their recent visit to Gunnery Park. They learnt all about how people used to live from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age, explored some of the different types of tools and materials used by Stone Age people and even had the chance to make their own Stone Age shelters. It was a brilliant way to round off their autumn term topic.



## Calendar Dates 2025

- Monday 6th January 2025- Children back to school



**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

Welcome to  
**Grange Park Junior School**  
Leaders of tomorrow

**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

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

**Punctuality:** Please support your child/children in getting to school on time by leaving home with time to spare so that children can enter the school building 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                    |
| <b>Attendance so far:</b> | 95.5   | 95.7   | 96.9   | 96.6   | 96.22                   | Below 90% | Cause for Concern (Persistent Absentee) |



**Striving to be the best that we can be**