



South Grove Primary School Parent Newsletter 1



5th September 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome back! It was really good to welcome everyone back to a new Autumn Term yesterday! It was a shame the weather wasn't as good to us as it could have been but I don't think the children minded! I hope that you all had a good summer break with your children and families whatever you managed to do over the summer. Thank you for sending your children in so smartly in their new school uniforms. They did look lovely! The children seem to have settled well and we welcome our new families that have started at South Grove. We will also begin to welcome our new families starting in Reception and Nursery this week.



The staff returned to school on Friday 1st September. We met as a whole staff team to welcome new staff and discuss the school's priorities for the academic year. During this time we also looked at consistency and practice across the school in terms of expectations and staff prepared their learning areas ready to welcome the children back.



New Classes

I hope that you managed to make contact with your child's new teacher. Please make a note of the Presentations to Parents listed in the Dates to Remember section further down this newsletter. These are very important to give you an insight into what your child will be learning this year and how you can help them.

Summer Works

The school has had its usual summer works schedule over the holidays and this year. Decoration of all the communal areas took place over the summer, with new carpets in Year 1, 2, and 3.



The school has had a fantastic clean thanks to Marion Howes and Carol Anderson our SSO's and the cleaning team. It looked brilliant for staff and children to come back to. Thanks a million!

Staffing

We welcome a number of new staff to South Grove this September:

Teaching Staff:

Miss Hubbard – Year 3

Miss Matthews – interim Music Leader

Support Staff:

Mrs Wiechowska - Early Years Practitioner (Maternity Cover)

Miss Chau – PLM

Mr Kinsella-Perks – PLM

Miss Wright-Douglas - Reception

NEW TEACHERS & STAFF



Controlled Parking Zone Reminder to our new families

The school has a controlled parking zone around it and it operates from **Monday to Saturday 8:00am – 6:30pm**.

A 15-minute permit is available to allow parking in permit bays close to schools.

Applying for vehicle Parking Permits

Applications for MW resident parking permits can be made online by visiting www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/waltham-forest-parking-permits.

If you do not have access to the internet postal applications forms can be obtained from Walthamstow Central Library, where a postal application drop-off service is available. Alternatively parents can request that a postal application form is sent to them by telephoning 0203 092 0112 and select option 3, lines are open Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm (Closed public holidays).



Please check the Council Website to access further details

DATES FOR THE AUTUMN TERM:



6 th , 7 th & 8 th September	New Reception staggered entry
8 th September	Children returning to Nursery and full timers start back <i>(New Nursery staggered entry throughout September)</i>
w/c 11 th September	Most clubs start this week(not cookery) All new Reception in full time Years 5 & 6 intensive swimming course – selected children – 2 weeks
11 th September	9.00 – 10.30am Adult ESOL sign up
12 th September	3.30pm Presentation to parents – Year 5
14 th September	3.30pm Presentation to parents – Year 4
19 th September	3.30pm Presentation to parents – Year 6
20 th September	3.30pm Presentation to parents – Year 3
21 st September	3.30pm Presentation to parents – Year 2
22 nd September	Year 4 Egyptian workshop led by Rainbow Theatre 3.15 – 5.30pm Friends of South Grove Summer Fair (NO CLUBS on this day)
28 th September	3.30pm Presentation to parents – Year 1
29 th September	Friends of South Grove AGM – all welcome
w/c 2 nd October	Year 4 intensive swimming course – 2 weeks
11 th October	Year 2 – Florence Nightingale comes to school
17 th October	Individual School Photos
18 th October	Y4 Egyptian Day
19 th October	9.15am Harvest Festival 3.30 – 8.30pm – Parents Evening – NO CLUBS on this evening School finishes for Half Term
20 th October	INSET – school closed to children 3.15pm Break up for Half Term
30 th October	School starts
10 th November	9.15am Music Concert – all welcome
13 th November	Flu Immunisation Reception – Year 4 – details to follow
4 th December	Year 5 to The Museum of London
w/c 11 th December	Last week of clubs
14 th December	2.30pm Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 Nativity – all welcome
15 th December	9.15am Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 Nativity – all welcome
20 th December	9.15 Christmas Carol Concert – all welcome 2.30pm Break up for Winter Holidays
4 th January 2018	School starts - Spring Term

Parents Information

You will shortly receive an emergency contact and medical information sheet for 2017-2018. It is very important that parents update their contact information sheets so please look out for them but **please return immediately**.



We would also request that if you have an e-mail address to note this down as we send our weekly newsletters directly via parent's e-mail. If of course, parents do not have an e-mail address copies will be available, but as a school we do want to cut down on the amount of paper the school uses. It is also uploaded to the school website.

School Uniform

Thank you for your support with ensuring your child has come back looking really smart and ready for school. This supports the children to be prepared for learning and be part of the school community. Can I just remind parents that shoes need to be black and not a type of trainer or converse shoe. These can be saved for PE Kits. Please make sure that if you have yet to purchase shoes or boots ready for the winter months can we ensure that they are black.

We are arranging for the school uniform shop to come into school soon if you still need any items - exact date to follow. We still have a lot of nearly new items for £1.00 a piece. If you have any uniform your children have grown out of it is always welcome!



School Dinners

School dinners are £2.16 per meal £10.80 per week and they still represent good value for money, providing a hot, nutritionally balanced meal for the children.



We are still using Parent Pay to pay for school dinners (please remember that a choice should kept for a whole half term)and for Breakfast Club as well and hope that during the year we will have set it up to pay for trips in this way too.



Year 3 parents who are new to paying for lunches using this should have received a letter explaining how to set their account up but please just come and ask in the School Office if you need any help. We feel that this is a more accessible way of paying as parents are able to either pay online or at any shop with a PayPoint sign.

If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals, Year 3 parents will have to apply again to ensure they continue with their entitlement after Year 2.

Across the rest of the school we urge parents who may be entitled to free meals to apply for it as the school could receive extra funding for the children. Please do so even if you want to provide your own packed lunches for your children or if they are in Reception, Year 1 or 2 and are receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals. It's a very simple online form on the Waltham Forest website and you should receive a decision immediately. Ms McLean in the office is happy to sit with parents and help them with the form.

LABEL LABEL LABEL!

Please can you make sure you write your child's name in their uniform so that if it gets mislaid we can easily return it to its owner. Do remember it will need checking after washing to make sure it is still there.

Names and classes (remember to update) on water bottles, packed lunch bags and PE kits is really helpful too.

Thank you.

Music Clubs



Free Music Clubs (Years 3-6) and Choir (KS1 and KS2)

The free Music Clubs (choir, keyboards, recorders and guitar) will be starting the week beginning 11th September.

Letters are being given out this week to all children who are interested – both continuers and new starters. If your child hasn't brought a letter home please remind them to ask for one, or speak to Miss Matthews after school. Letters should be returned as soon as possible, by Monday 11th September at the very latest.



Instrumental Lessons for Years 3-6

Lessons are provided by visiting tutors from Waltham Forest Music Service at our school on violin, clarinet, flute & oboe. These are held in small groups or individually depending on the instrument, and are paid for by parents. Instruments can be hired from WFMS. Places are available for new starters this term – if you are interested in your child receiving this opportunity, please speak to Miss Matthews after school as soon as possible to find out more. For continuing pupils, this term's lesson fee is now due, and you will receive a letter shortly confirming the date of their first lesson.



Birthdays

Parents just a reminder that as we have so many children with varying dietary requirements and some with serious illnesses or allergies, can we please not bring in sweets or cakes to celebrate birthdays. We are unable to give these out.

I hope that you will understand this.

Cycling to school.

Could I please ask both parents and children that, when entering the car park to lock up bikes/scooters in the cycle area, cyclists need to dismount and walk up the main pathway, around the fence at the end of the car park (still on the path) and then only cross the carpark to the bike racks by keeping close to the Camden Road gate and in reverse when collecting bikes at the end of the day.



This is due to both adults and particularly children cutting across the car park. A number of staff cars have been damaged with scratches from handle bars, pedals etc which are costly to repair. This area is recorded by our security cameras. I would ask for your cooperation with this.



Remember if you have any queries about your children's education or any change in circumstance that may affect their learning please do not hesitate to contact your Class Teacher in the first instance or a member of the Senior Leadership Team if they are not available.

With my very best wishes for a positive and productive Autumn Term with both children and parents.

J. Maltwood.

Julie Maltwood
Headteacher