



Grove School

21.10.16

Dear Parents,

We have had an excellent half term. I have been very pleased with how well the children have settled into their new classes, they have been working very hard.

**Secondary Transfer**

For those parents who have not yet completed their secondary transfer application could I remind you of the following dates:

October 2016	You are strongly advised to <a href="#">apply online</a> or to have returned your Birmingham Local Authority Preference Form by this date. If you wish to view schools that are outside of Birmingham and whose open evenings fall after 1 October 2015 you may <a href="#">apply online</a> by Friday 2 November 2015. This will not disadvantage your application.
14 October 2016	The results of Birmingham grammar school tests should be sent by letter to parents.
<b><u>31 October 2016</u></b>	<b><u>This is the final date for acceptance of preferences and online applications.</u></b> If you submit your application online you will receive an email acknowledgement. Those parents who submit a paper application will receive an acknowledgement through the post. If you have not received an acknowledgement by this date you should contact the Children's Information and Advice Service on 0121 303 1888.
1 March 2017	<p>Emails are sent to those applicants who have applied online for their child's secondary school place (and will arrive ahead of postal applications). You can also log in to the online application system using your name and password to check your offer.</p> <p>All applicants are sent a letter on this date letting you know the secondary school place Birmingham City Council is offering to your child. Letters will be sent by first class post and should arrive at your home address on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017.</p>
16 March 2017	You must tell the secondary school by Friday 17 March 2017 whether or not you are accepting the place offered.
29 March 2017	You must complete any appeal forms for Birmingham schools and return them by Wednesday 29 March 2017. Please visit the <a href="#">School Appeals Enquiry page</a> for more information on how to appeal. If you wish to appeal for schools or academies in other local authorities you should contact the relevant authority to establish their appeal arrangements.
9 June 2017	Date by which all appeals that have been submitted on time for secondary schools will be heard.
3 July 2017	Year 6 Induction Day - Primary children visit future secondary school.
September 2017	Start school in Year 7

To apply online visit [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)



At Grove we have had a very successful half term, our children have visited many different places and welcomed many visitors to Grove, including:

**Nursery and reception** As part of their 'Amazing Animals' topic, pupils in nursery and reception enjoyed seeing and touching a range of animals brought into school by 'Animal Magic'. Have a look at the school website to see the photos of our pupils interacting with a snake, owl, hamster rabbit and spider. Pupils achieving **100% attendance** in nursery and reception enjoyed the 'Teddy Bear Hospital' which came to school in October. Medical students from Birmingham University showed the children how to care for the poorly teddies.

**Y1** Year 1 visited Weston Park as part of their 'Superheroes today' topic where the children had the opportunity to learn about the history of toys.

**Y2** As part of their topic 'My Sporting Achievements' year 2 pupils enjoyed a yoga lesson with a visiting professional. They made fruit bowls out of clay, wrote and performed songs developed from classical nursery rhymes and competed as Olympians in their own Olympic games.

**Y3** As part of their 'Living in the Iron Age' topic, year 3 pupils visited Wren's Nest in Dudley. The pupils had a fascinating morning finding fossils and learning that Dudley used to be under a tropical sea. A visiting specialist from The Lapworth Museum brought a range of fossils into school for the pupils to explore.

**Y4** Year 4 pupils visited the Tesco Superstore at Spring Hill as part of their 'Healthy Bodies, Health Minds', topic. The pupils had the opportunity to learn how food gets from the land and into the supermarkets. Year 4 also participated in a yoga workshop learning about balance and breathing techniques. A 'Hands on Science' workshop in school developed pupils' understanding of keeping their teeth healthy and the importance of oral hygiene.

**Y5** In September, pupils in year 5 visited Blists Hill in Telford as part of their 'Victorians in the Midlands' topic. They experienced life as it was over 100 years ago through the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of a recreated Victorian Town.

**Y6** Year 6 pupils visited the Imperial War Museum North and The Lowry Gallery in Salford, Greater Manchester as part of their history topic, 'Britain 1939-1950'. The visit allowed the children to explore how war affects people's lives. At the Lowry Gallery they used charcoal and pencil to recreate some of Lowry's most famous works. Year 6 also started their topic off with a very exciting curriculum day where the children immersed themselves in a living history day, jiving to the music of a visiting band who performed a range of wartime songs.

At Grove our **Young People's Parliament** representatives have been awarded the Dennis Edwards' citizenship silver award for their exemplary ability to debate and discuss current issues related to school.

**School council** have been working hard on road safety this term. Year 3 and 4 councillors have been making plans for how to use the road safety resources, loaned to school by the road casualty reduction team. Following notification from Birmingham City Council that our crossing warden is not to be replaced, Year 5 and 6 councillors carried out a survey to find out whether the absence of a warden is causing problems for pedestrians in the mornings. Read our school council blog on the school website to see the results of their survey. School councillors and pupils in upper school will now be writing to the council, outlining their concerns.



**Welsh National Opera** Twenty pupils from year 5 have had the opportunity to develop their acting skills, compose songs as well as creating a digital animation. This work will be showcased at The Hippodrome Theatre in Birmingham in November 2016.

**Grove football team** Congratulations to the school football team who have participated in a range of matches against local schools during this half term. We are very proud of our team who represent Grove School very well.

**After school clubs** After school clubs across school have been very well attended this half term by pupils in all year groups. The wide range of clubs include sports clubs, cycling club, maths, reading, phonics, African drumming, Dhol, violin, code clubs, puzzle clubs and many more. We hope pupils continue to enjoy this extensive range of clubs as we move in to the second half of the autumn term.

**Parents evening** Thank you to all the parents who attended parents evening, it was very well attended and delightful to talk to so many of you.

### **Reception admissions for September 2017**

If you or your family are a parent of a child born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013 they will be starting Reception in September 2017.

To apply online visit [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) or return your completed preference form to School Admissions and Pupil Placements Service, their address is:

Birmingham City Council  
Directorate for People  
School Admissions and Pupil Placements Service  
PO Box 16513  
Birmingham  
B2 2FF

You can telephone them for further information on 0121 303 1888.

Parents and carers are advised to return your application for a Reception place by **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2016.**

### **Car Parking**

Staff and governors continue to be concerned about the traffic on Dawson Road. We respectfully ask that all parents take great care when travelling on Dawson Road. There is no parking directly outside the school. It is important that we all ensure that it is safe for pupils to move between the school buildings and when collecting your children.

We have successfully been awarded our the Modeshift STARS **bronze award for our travel plan.** Over the half term I have spoken to many parents who have raised the issue that the crossing warden is no longer on duty on Grove Lane. It would be good for interested parents to support the work of the school council in asking Birmingham City Council to review the situation, Miss Mills will be writing to you after the half term break to invite you to a meeting to discuss the arrangements for pupils crossing the roads local to the school, including Grove Lane and Dawson Road.



### **Celebrations this half term**

Over the term we have celebrated Eid al-Adha and Diwali through assemblies in school. We would like to wish happy Diwali to parents who will be celebrating the festival during half term.

### **October Half term**

We break up for half term on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016 at 3.15pm and school re-opens for pupils on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016** at 8.30am. I wish you a good half term break and look forward to seeing the children's half term projects when they return.

Yours sincerely,

P Matty  
Headteacher