

22.10.21

Dear parents and carers,

Firstly, thank you for your tremendous support this half term. We cannot thank you enough for the way you have helped children settle into school routines.

It has been good to have all our children back in school on Friday afternoons. Your children have worked hard this half term and certainly deserve the break next week at half term.

It has been a great pleasure this term seeing our children participate in some very exciting curriculum activities. Our Year 3 and 4 pupils are enjoying learning how to swim.

We are pleased educational visits have started again. The children thoroughly enjoy visiting educational sites and working with visitors. These experiences enhance the learning that takes place in the classroom.

Year 1 participated in workshop sessions with a visiting historian. They found out about toys children played with in Victorian times.

Year 2 visited the Jame Masjid Birchfield Mosque. They have been learning about how Muslims worship. They also worked with a local artist to explore sculpture in Handsworth park. The children then created sculptures for a vacant plinth in the park.

Year 3 visited Thinktank and learnt all about rocks. They sorted minerals using a key and thoroughly enjoyed seeing the fossil of an ichthyosaur.

Year 4 participated in a workshop with Hands On Science. They learned about the function of different types of teeth, their structure and how to care for them. They also learned how to classify an animal from its teeth alone by handling and investigating skulls and jaws.

Year 5 have worked with The Welsh National Opera each week. We have some talented singers and musicians. This week they went on a visit to Birmingham Hippodrome to see the Welsh National Opera performance for schools. The children heard some fantastic music and learnt about the different sections within an orchestra. Year 5 also visited the Black Country Living Museum to explore how people lived and worked in Victorian times.

Year 6 visited The Imperial Museum, North to find out about how people lived during World War Two. They produced their own documentaries.

Mrs Basnett has recently updated curriculum information on our website. Do have a look at the new QR codes on our curriculum pages. Thank you to all the children who have contributed to sharing our curriculum with our families. We have plenty of curriculum surprises planned for next half term.

We are delighted to be able to offer an after-school club for cricket (Years 1 and 2) and football

(Years 3 and 4) next half term.

We had hoped to have parents’ evening in person but we are being cautious at the moment. Thank you to all parents who joined us for parents evening on the telephone. The staff in school really enjoyed the opportunity to talk to you about how your children have settled this term. Let’s hope we can all be meeting again in person at the spring term parents’ evening.

Justin Varney, Chief Medical Officer for Birmingham, has written to all parents. This letter has been emailed to you today and can also be found on our school website.

Our new phonics scheme, Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised, has got off to a flying start in September. I hope you are seeing improvements in your child’s reading at home. If you want to find out more about our phonics scheme follow this link:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

I would like to wish everyone a restful and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 1st November 2021 at 8:30am.

Yours sincerely,

 

Mrs P Matty Ms J Baker

Headteacher Deputy Head teacher

Dawson Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 9HB

Tel: **0121 464 4669** Email: [**enquiry@grove.bham.sch.uk**](mailto:enquiry@grove.bham.sch.uk)