



Dear Parents,

The start of this half term has been a great success with topic days across the school on Tuesday last week. Thank you to all the children who worked so hard on their holiday projects, they look amazing. We have a busy half term planned for our children, here are some of the events:

This week school council representatives will be selling poppies; we will be thinking about why we remember in assemblies all week.

### **Anti-bullying week 13-17<sup>th</sup> November**

We are really looking forward to actively participating in the national Anti-Bullying week led by the Anti-Bullying Alliance. This year's theme promotes difference and equality in schools with the tag-line '**All Different, All Equal**'. On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> children will have the chance to participate in wearing socks or tights that are not school colours – this could be fun! The children, for this day, can wear patterned and different coloured tights and socks. The idea is to help children and young people celebrate what makes them, and others, unique and help them understand why it's important that every child feels included in school and able to be themselves without fear of bullying. For more information see: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/curations/anti-bullying-week> and <https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk>

### **Children in Need**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November is Children In Need, we will be participating in this national charity event. We will be raising money before school and at the end of the day. This will be a non-school uniform day, a home clothes day. School councillors will be helping to organise this fund raising day.

### **Educational visits and visitors November – December 2017:**

*Reception RG and half of RY Tuesday 5th December 2017 Severn Valley Railway  
RR and half of RY Wednesday 6th December 2017 Severn Valley Railway*

*Year 1 Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 visit to Shri Venkateswara Temple, Oldbury  
Tuesday 28th November 2017 Major Mustard visiting Grove School*

*Year 2 Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 Hands on Science Light project  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 A visiting author, Robert A Brown  
2Y Tuesday 28th November 2017 Aston Hall  
2G Thursday 30th November 2017 Aston Hall  
2R Friday 1st December 2017 Aston Hall*

*Year 3 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 A visiting author, Robert A Brown  
Wednesday 22nd November 2017 Botanical Gardens*

*Year 4 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 A visiting author, Robert A Brown  
4Y Monday 4th December 2017 Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery  
4R Tuesday 5th December 2017 Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery  
4G Friday 8th December 2017 Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery*

*Year 5 Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 Hands on Science  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 A visiting author, Robert A Brown  
Welsh National Opera  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October Hands on Science*

Year 6      6B and 6P Wednesday 15th November 2017 Thinktank  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 A visiting author, Robert A Brown  
6G Thursday 16th November 2017 Thinktank  
6R and 6Y Tuesday 21st November 2017 Thinktank  
ICT writing code using Scratch project with Link2ICT

### **Author visit to Grove school**

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 pupils from Year 2 to Year 6 were privileged to meet Robert A Brown the author of 'William the Hedgehog Boy'. Robert worked with pupils in assemblies sharing extracts from his book and educating us all on how we can care for hedgehogs in our environment. The children were captivated by his stories and the knowledge he shared. Copies of the book are available in year 4-6 home reading areas for the children to read at home.

For parents who are interested here is some information about the book: *When William, a lonely, young schoolboy with a quick temper, comes across a group of boys hurling sticks at a defenceless hedgehog, he bravely chases them off and takes the injured animal to the vets. After nursing the hedgehog, who he names Lucky, back to health, William is heartbroken when the vet explains that he must release her back into the wild.*

### **Reception nativity performances Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017**

The performances of the nativity will be on Thursday 21 December 2017 at 9:30am and 2:00pm. Parents and carers will be invited to book their seats for this performance. Watch out for the letter from Miss Williams, Assistant Headteacher for Early Years.

### **The academic year, key dates:**

#### **Autumn Term 2017**

*Term Ends: Friday 22nd December 2017 at 3:15pm*

#### **Spring Term 2018**

*Staff training day, school closed to pupils: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018*

*Term Starts: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018*

*Half Term: Monday 19th February 2018 to Friday 23rd February 2018*

*Term Ends: Thursday 29th March 2018 at 3:15pm*

#### **Summer Term 2018**

*Term Starts: Monday 16th April 2018*

***Nursery to Year 4 (lower school building) closed to pupils for local council elections: 3rd May 2018***

*Half Term: Monday 28th May 2018 to Friday 1st June 2018*

*Term Ends: Friday 20th July 2018 at 3:15pm*

*Staff training days, school closed to pupils: Monday 23rd July 2018 & Tuesday 24th July 2018.*

### **Thank you to Mrs Cressey:**

Mrs Cressey, who has been an incredible member of our staff for over ten years has decided to spend time at home with her new daughter. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Cressey and her family all good wishes for their future. I will be inviting Mrs Cressey into the Nativity assembly at the end of term for the afternoon performance.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P Matty  
Headteacher

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