



# GROSVENOR PARK C O F E ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

*'A voice for every child'*

Dear Parents and Carers,

11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

After nearly 6 months, our first full week of school with all our pupils has come to a close - I'm sure like many of us our children will sleep well tonight! Despite all the national uncertainty our children have shown incredible resilience and positivity. The team and I are incredibly proud of every single one of them. I visit every single classroom several times a day and it is wonderful to see the children engage with their learning once more. Year

5 are loving their new Space inspired topic; Year 2 have relished engaging with resources to help secure their understanding of counting in 10's and our youngest children are thriving as they learn by exploring and discovering their new environment. In every classroom sparks of learning are occurring.



At the moment our scope to provide extracurricular activities is limited but it was pleasing to see the return of Miss. Valentine teaching PE and Mr. Benson teaching Music to every year group. After a detailed risk assessment Forest School has commenced for Year 2 who thoroughly enjoyed

their session with Mr. Holland. As time passes it is hoped that additional extra-curricular activities will recommence. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Miss. Wilson who has joined the Year 3 teaching team. She has taken over the role from Mrs. Broster who left Grosvenor Park over the Summer. We thank Mrs. Broster for all her hard work.

Over the next few weeks the class teachers will be hosting virtual information meetings so you will get the chance to see new and familiar faces and hear about the plans for the year ahead in each class. Invites with a meeting link will be emailed to you. If you don't receive a link please contact the school office [admin@grosvenorparkacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@grosvenorparkacademy.org.uk)

## Diary Dates

<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	Year 2 Virtual Information Evening @ 4.45pm
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	Year 3 Virtual Information Evening @ 4.45pm
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	Year 5 Virtual Information Evening @4.45pm Year 4 Virtual Information Evening @ 5.15pm
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Sept</b>	Flu Nasal Spray Vaccine – this will take place in a Co-Vid secure way.
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept</b>	Year 1 Virtual Information Evening @ 4.45pm
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	Year 6 Virtual Information Evening @ 4.45pm

## Homework and Google Classroom

Together, during lockdown, we worked incredibly hard to develop our virtual school and the children became adept at using Google Classroom. Our virtual school has become a valuable resource and in the event of any periods of self-isolation or enforced lockdown teaching and learning will take place virtually. In order to keep our skills up to date homework will be set weekly on Google Classroom along with relevant resources to support spelling, phonics, times tables and basic skills. If you are having difficulties accessing the relevant class page, please let us know.

## Testing for Co-Vid

Following our return to school it is natural that children will pick up illnesses. A key part of ensuring that every member of our school community is kept safe anyone with Co-Vid symptoms should not attend school and seek a test. Understandably this causes confusion for us all. We received a letter this week from Public Health England which aims to clarify the situation – it states;

*The Department for Education has worked closely with Public Health England (PHE) and NHS Test and Trace to ensure that we are doing all we can to minimise the potential risks of spread. A key part of this is the appropriate use of testing to help identify people who are positive and subsequently their contacts. We have made testing available throughout the country and anyone with symptoms can book a test online or over the telephone through 119 to get the certainty they need to protect themselves and those around them.*

*Crucial to our overall support for schools and colleges is ensuring that everyone with coronavirus symptoms has access to a test as soon as they develop those symptoms. It is vital that we learn from the recent Scottish experience, where the return of schools saw a huge increase in demand for tests from people without coronavirus symptoms. We want to avoid a similar surge in test demand as England's schools and colleges return to ensure that we continue to prioritise our testing capacity for those **with symptoms** and to avoid children, students and their families self-isolating unnecessarily.*

*To ensure we identify those with coronavirus while avoiding a huge increase in demand for tests from people without coronavirus symptoms, we ask that you recommend to your pupils, students and staff who feel unwell, that they get tested if:*

- 1) they develop one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms: **a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell;** or*
- 2) they are recommended to get tested by a healthcare provider (e.g. GP or nurse).*

*If a pupil, student or staff member develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms described above, only they should be tested. There is no need for their households to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic.*

*Unless a pupil, student or staff member has one of the three main coronavirus symptoms, they should only be tested if instructed otherwise by the local authority, health protection team or their GP. As schools and colleges across England return, pupils and students may feel unwell for example with a sore throat, stomach upset or a headache. These pupils and students don't need to book a test but may need to stay off school or college and seek medical advice through their GP or pharmacist as usual.*

## Pick up and drop off

Just to remind you of our current procedures for these crucial times of day. In order to minimise risk and promote physical distancing we kindly request;

- at drop off children are encouraged to walk up the path independently.
- adhere to the staggered times for each bubble
- only **one adult** to collect and drop off and maintain a physical distance
- wear a face mask when entering school grounds
- keep to the left when entering and exiting.

As a team we are becoming increasingly familiar with recognising new faces and known faces that are covered with a mask - this will help us dismiss children and family groups quicker. Thank you for your support and understanding with this it is appreciated.

## Return of the GPA PTA

After many months apart it is brilliant to be able to think about future (Co-Vid secure) community events. Please see attached a letter and flyer from our wonderful PTA. The GP team and I thank them for their hard work, support and encouragement over the last few months.

Have a safe, enjoyable weekend.

R. Clark  
Head of School