



Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School

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Dear Parent/Carer

Supporting the Voluntary Fund

Your annual donations to the Fund are much needed – even more so this year, when the school has had additional costs due to keeping children and staff safe and well during the Covid pandemic.

As you know, the Voluntary Fund provides educational and additional resources which cannot be met by the main school budget. The fund has no local authority support and relies solely on donations from parents. *When these individual donations are pooled together, the Fund can purchase resources that make a huge difference.*

In this extraordinary year, the fund has already provided:



- **Support for a new Year 1 Canopy outside the classrooms.** A creative solution to extend the classroom space for the children and for ongoing use in bad weather. Resources are placed outside to help children transition from Reception to Year 1.
- An annual subscription to [Times Table Rockstars](#), an online maths resource. Children complete times table activities (logging in either at home or at school), and earn 'money' to buy things for their customised avatar. It's a great way of developing children's multiplication facts whilst making learning fun.

- **Multiple copies of books for Year Group bubbles. Additional SEN reading books** ensure the reading scheme is accessible to all and **new books by popular authors** encourage children to extend their vocabulary and understanding.
- **Additional art and craft supplies and culturally diverse toys** to keep children's attention and interest whilst they are able to access fewer spaces in school and during the winter.

The Fund has also supported the school with less visible solutions during lockdown, such as:

- **Upgrades for the school server**, allowing better use of the broadband for faster connection and communication. This has been of particular use during the recent virtual Parent/Teacher meetings.
- **More iPads and Chrome Books** so that more of the children can access information more quickly.
- An investment in more **efficient, long-lasting batteries** for the new class laptops.

Meanwhile, past purchases continue to enrich the children's school life providing:

- **Bee Bots Robots (computer equipment)** for Key Stage 1 and Early Years and **Pro Bot Floor Robot class bundles for KS2** to introduce the children to the essential skill of coding, creating short coding sequences, inputting codes and debugging programmes.
- **Ongoing subscriptions to magazines** which offer varied and current reading



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materials to encourage reluctant readers to engage and discuss with friends. In 2019, a Year 6 pupil entered a Science Innovation Competition in First News and WON! Her prize included ten new iPads for our children to enjoy in school.

- **Spellcheckers to help children in KS2** develop the ability to check and correct their spelling independently and accurately. These are of particularly use for children with dyslexia.

So how can you help again this year?

Previous donations from parents and carers have proved even more important this year. **That's why we're asking each family to donate now** – and the more you give, the more opportunities we continue to be able to provide for your child.

How to donate

We are asking every family to donate £45 (that's about £1 for each week in school). However, we understand the financial constraints on many families, and any donation, no matter how small would be greatly appreciated. **And if every family donates what they can, the Fund can do so much more - as experienced this year.**

What's more, if you are a UK taxpayer, the Fund can claim **an extra 25%** on every eligible donation – and at **no additional cost to you**. Simply ensure you complete the Gift Aid section when you donate.

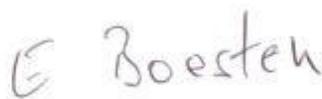
To make it as easy and convenient for you as possible, either:

1. have your **BANK** details to hand and **donate online** at <https://bit.ly/32BeqvP> (please ensure you click the **DONATE** button only) or
2. **complete the attached form** and return it with your cash/cheque (made payable to **Voluntary Fund for Grand Avenue**) to the School Office, in an envelope marked "Voluntary Fund".

You can choose to donate as a one-off payment or set up a regular direct debit. And of course, the sooner your donation is received, the sooner we can use the funds to benefit the children.

Once again, thank you for your continued support. The Governors, staff - and most importantly, the children at Grand Avenue - are very grateful.

Yours sincerely



Margaret Barrington, Headteacher **Erik Boesten, Chair of Trustees – Voluntary Fund**

PS Please do **sign up for Gift Aid** if you are a UK taxpayer. Remember the Fund will receive an additional 25% on any sum you donate (**so if you give £45 the Fund will receive £56.25**) at no additional cost to you. Thank you.



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Please complete this form for all **cheque and cash** donations to the **Voluntary Fund for Grand Avenue**

When you sign the **Gift Aid Declaration**, the Fund can also reclaim **an additional 25p for every £1 you donate** - and at no additional cost to you!

Once complete, please return your signed form to the School Office, together with your donation, in an envelope addressed to "Voluntary Fund". **Thank you.**

Part 1: Donor's details

Child's name: _____ Class: _____

Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms Other _____ First name or initial(s) _____ Surname _____

Full Home Address _____

Postcode _____ Donation: **£45/ Other £** _____ Cash/Cheque

(Please make cheques payable to **Voluntary Fund for Grand Avenue**)

Part 2: Gift Aid Declaration (for a single donation)

I want to **Gift Aid** my donation to the Voluntary Fund for Grand Avenue (Reg. Charity No. 1086349).

I am a **UK taxpayer** and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

I confirm that **this donation is my own money**. It has not come from anyone else e.g. a business, friends, family or a collection; it is not the proceeds from the sale of goods or provision of services e.g. a cake sale, auction or car wash; and I am not receiving any benefits from this donation e.g. entry to an event, raffle or sweepstakes.

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Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please notify the charity if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

