



Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School

Grand Avenue
Surbiton
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Friday 16th November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Supporting the Voluntary Fund

The Voluntary Fund was set up in 2001 to provide educational and additional resources for the children which cannot be met by the main school budget. The Voluntary Fund receives no income from the local authority, and is self-funded, relying on donations from parents. Over the last year the Fund, amongst many other things, has paid for the following:

- **Bee Bots Foor Robots (ICT Equipment)** for Key Stage 1 and Early Years. We were able to add to our current computing resources and purchased additional Bee Bots for the children to use. They introduce the children to coding and are used for inputting and debugging algorithms, as well as creating short coding sequences.
- **Pro Bot Floor Robot class bundles (ICT Equipment)** for our KS2 children to develop their IT skills such as inputting codes and debugging programmes. Supports children in their maths and art curriculum.
- We were very happy to be able to offer **Scooter training** by the Royal Borough of Kingston for Year 1 children once again. The children enjoyed themselves immensely in November learning how to be safe on their scooter at all times. They learnt how to be 'pavement polite' and were introduced to some basic Highway Code.
- Ongoing supply of **free fruit and milk** provided to all children. The fruit supplied is fresh, varied and sourced from a local supplier. The children enthusiastically eat their fruit at snack time and having free fruit and milk available encourages healthy eating. There has been such a phenomenal uptake with this by the children, but the school needs your help to keep this initiative running successfully.
- **The Peer Massage Project.** This initiative aims to teach children the benefits of positive touch, develop trust and respect for others, build positive relationships and help them to relax and cope with anxiety and stress.
- **Emotional Resilience Programme**, which helps older children to develop resilience and encourage self-confidence before their move on to high school.

None of these would have been possible without your help, and thank you again to all those families who have contributed last year. In the year ahead we hope to continue with all the above initiatives, as well as introducing new ones. The more you give, the more opportunities we are able to provide for your child!

If you do feel able to support us financially we ask you to donate **£35 per family** this year (less than a family ticket to the cinema!). However, we understand the financial constraints on many families, and any donation, no matter how small would be greatly appreciated



Irresistible learning – inspiring minds



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How to Donate

To make it as easy and convenient for you as possible, we offer a number of ways for you to donate:

- **Online via our School Gateway** where you have the option to pay by instant bank transfer, debit card or credit card. It can be done as a one-off payment or paid in instalments. You will find it listed under 'my payments' as 'Voluntary Fund contributions'.
- Set set up a **Standing Order**, so that your bank makes a payment on a monthly, termly or annual basis. Please see attached form and return it along with the completed gift aid declaration form to the school office.
- **Cheque or cash** (*cheques made payable to Voluntary Fund for Grand Avenue*), please place it in an envelope marked 'Voluntary Fund', along with the completed gift aid declaration form.

If you are a UK taxpayer we can boost our income by claiming Gift Aid, which means that the Inland Revenue give us an additional amount proportional to your donation. (This does not affect your personal tax position). Basically our status as a charity means that if you can give us £1.00, the Government will give us 25p as well. **A £35 donation will equal a £43.75 total at no extra cost to you!**

If you make a donation online via School Gateway, you can indicate if you wish to gift aid your donation by simply ticking the consent box with your payment. Please also complete the gift aid declaration form and return to the school office

Thank you for supporting the school. The Governors, staff and most importantly the children are very grateful.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Barrington
Head Teacher

Erik Boesten
Chair of Trustees – Voluntary Fund



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