

## Message from Shona Pitcher

As we come to the end of our first full week of the Autumn term, I am pleased at how well the children have been settling into their new classes and routines. The atmosphere has been very positive around the school – despite the terrible rain we have had!

This week, we have been focusing on our school GRAND values of Generous, Respectful, Aspiring, Neat, and Determined. We have also been reminding our classes of the new GRAND rules which we introduced last year. We expect all our pupils to follow these rules to ensure our entire school community can 'Enjoy Learning and Exceed Expectations'. Please see the attached poster which you can display at home to reinforce this.

There are welcome meetings in place for all year groups in the coming weeks, and we will look at the expectations for each year group during these meetings. We are looking forward to welcoming you into school. For those who are unable to attend, we will be posting the presentations on Google Classroom.

## Headteacher

### Rights Respecting School

#### **We are becoming a UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School**

Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School wants to be a school where children's rights are at the heart of our ethos and culture, to improve well-being and to develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential. As part of this plan we are working towards recognition as a Rights Respecting School, an award given to schools on behalf of UNICEF UK.

UNICEF UK works with schools to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive. The Rights Respecting Schools Award supports schools to put in place a set of standards based on equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation. These values stem from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

At our school pupils will learn about their rights by putting them into practice every day. You can find out more about the Award [here](#).

We really hope that you will support our school on our Rights Respecting journey. As an additional attachment to the newsletter you will find a few frequently asked questions along with more information UNICEF and the CRC.



Congratulations to Mr McHale and his family who welcomed their little girl Matilda, "Tilly" on the 4<sup>th</sup> September, weighing in at a healthy 10lb.

### Smartphone free childhood

As we settle into a new school year, it's always helpful to review our children's use of smartphones, the internet and social media. Our staff dedicate lesson time to discussing online safety and healthy use of technology but we also recognise that, as parents and carers, there are unique challenges raising children in this technological age.

Smartphone Free Childhood is a grassroots organisation aspiring to hold 'Big Tech' to account for the impact of smartphones and social media on children.

Please do have a look at the attached flyer to learn more information about this movement and its benefits for children.

The Reception team would be grateful for dressing up clothes. If you have any hats, scarfs, bags, waist coats that you would like to donate the team would be very grateful.

(Please do not send any princess dress/superhero's costumes as we have plenty).

### Piano and Keyboard

Free Piano/Keyboard Taster Sessions being run locally in the area



**SOUNDSTEPS**  
Music School

**Free Children's Piano/Keyboard Taster Sessions Available Now**

- Weekly 1 hour Lessons available Monday to Sunday for Children aged 5-13.
- Children Learn to Read, Write and Play Music in every lesson. We also provide the Keyboard at every lesson!
- Termly Exams and Certificates along with opportunities to sit internationally Recognised Exams and Perform at live events!

Contact us Now by Email, Phone, Whats App or via our Website/QR code to Book your FREE TASTER SESSION.

e: [office@soundstepsmusic.co.uk](mailto:office@soundstepsmusic.co.uk) t: 07926 371583  
[www.soundstepsmusic.co.uk](http://www.soundstepsmusic.co.uk)

### Help children get a healthy start to the new school year by ensuring they are up to date with all their routine vaccinations

When your child starts or returns to school, they will have increased contact with other children. If they are not up to date with their routine immunisations, they may be at risk of catching preventable diseases, including measles, whooping cough, meningitis, diphtheria and polio.

Please check that your child is fully up to date with their routine immunisations before they start or return to school. You can check if your child is up to date with immunisations by checking their Red Book or contacting your GP surgery.

For a full checklist of vaccines and when they should be given visit - **NHS vaccinations and when to have them.**

[Please click here for details on immunising primary school children.](#)

***We will be sending details of the 2024 flu immunisation programme at Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School next week.***



### Spotlight on attendance

Congratulations to **5L** who have had the highest attendance this week (99.3%).

# AVENEWS

[www.grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk](http://www.grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk)

Spring Term (page 3 of 3)

Friday, 13th September 2024

## Weekly House Points

Here are this weeks house points.  
Well done to Painshill.

Painshill	157
Norbury	140
Richmond	139
Claremont	114
Wisley	113
Kew	85

## Bag 2 School

We raised  
£116 in July -  
Let's try and  
beat this!

Thursday  
19 Sept

**What:** Free textile recycling fundraiser for the school

**When:** During morning drop off

**Where:** Please leave bags at the bottom of  
the main school gate, on the grass verge

**Please tie all bags with a double knot**

Thanks very much for your help!

Bag 2 School accept the following 'good quality' items for RE-USE:

Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing  
Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)  
Handbags, Hats, Bags  
Scarves and ties

## Dates for your Diary

Mon, 16th Sept	R-Y6	External clubs start
Thurs, 19th Sept	All	Bag2School
Fri, 20th Sept	All	Year 6 Cake Sale
Fri, 27th Sept	All	Year 5 Cake Sale
Fri, 18th Oct	All	Year 4 Cake Sale
Fri, 25th Oct	All	Last day of Autumn Term 1
Mon, 28th Oct— Fri, 1st Nov	All	Half Term
Mon, 4th Nov	All	Children return to school for Autumn Term 2
<b>Fri, 29th Nov</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>INSET DAY— School and Nursery closed</b>
Fri, 20th Dec	All	Last day of Autumn Term

## Cake Sale Dates

- ❖ Year 6 - Fri 20 Sept
- ❖ Year 5 - Fri 27 Sept
- ❖ Year 4 - Fri 18 Oct
- ❖ Year 2 - Fri 17 Jan
- ❖ Year 3 - Fri 24 Jan
- ❖ Year 1 - Fri 31 Jan
- ❖ Reception - Fri 7 Feb
- ❖ NurSery - Fri 28 Feb

### POLITE REMINDERS:

*Please can you remind your child not to play  
on the hills around the Year 1 and Year 2  
classrooms at the end of the school day.*

*Dogs are not permitted on school premises.  
Please leave your furry friends at the  
pedestrian gates whilst you collect your child.  
Thank you.*