

Message from Shona Pitcher

I am delighted to welcome you to the 2026/27 academic year. I hope that you all enjoyed the summer break. The children have returned to school full of excitement for what the new year has to hold and are all settling well into their new classes. A special welcome to all our new families in Nursery, Reception and across the school.

The beginning of the new school year is always a busy time whilst everyone settles into their new classes and routines. If you have any questions please do speak to me or another member of the Senior Leadership team. We are always at the lower gates during drop off and pick up times, alternatively please speak to your child's class teacher or a member of the office team.

Please check the dates for the diary on the last page which has details of any upcoming events including the Year Groups Welcome Meetings which begin next week. Please do not worry if you are unable to attend these sessions, the Google slides will be shared with you after the session and class teachers are always happy to speak to you should you have any questions.

All that is left to say is that I wish you and your children a wonderful year at our school. I am proud of the strength of our school community and I look forward to meeting you all over the coming weeks.

Headteacher



Smart phones/devices

Following guidance issued by the local authority, smart phones or smart watches are no longer permitted on school grounds.

Children are permitted to bring non smart phones into school which must be handed into the class teacher.

If you have any questions please speak to a member of the Senior Leadership team.

Year 3-6 Author Visit

A reminder for children in Years 3-6 that Rob Biddulph will be visiting the school on Monday, 21st September to talk to children about his new book, The Last Wolf.

The book order deadline has been extended to **9am on Tuesday, 15th September.** Please order via the School Gateway.



Extra-curricular clubs

Our extra curricular clubs commenced this week with some clubs that will be starting next week. The following external clubs have advised that they have spaces available.

- Art
- Ballet/Cheerleading
- Beyond Blocks
- Dodgeball
- Jam Coding
- Karate
- Netball
- Recorder
- Sewing
- Street Dance
- Tennis

All flyers are available on the school website: [Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School - Clubs](#)

Keeping your children healthy this school year - a guide for parents and carers

As children are now back at school and we move closer to winter, now is a good time to think about some of the common illnesses that can affect children's time in school during the colder months.

For more information please see this UKHSA guide to keeping kids healthy this school year for parents and carers.

Free online SEND workshops for parents, carers and young people

Join SENDIASS for free, confidential online workshops delivered by experienced SEND support professionals. These sessions provide independent, impartial advice, practical guidance, and the opportunity to connect with others on a similar journey.

- Free support for families of children and young people aged 0–25 with SEND
- Confidential sessions – not recorded
- Peer support and shared experiences
- Guidance from experienced SEND Support Workers

Whether you are considering an EHCP, responding to a draft plan, exploring SEND support available in school, or preparing for an appeal, these workshops are designed to help you feel informed and empowered.

[To join just click on the Teams 'join us' link on the day.](#)

Dates for your Diary

Mon, 14th Sept	YR 2	Welcome Meeting—Main Hall @9.10am
Tues, 15th Sept	YR 6	Welcome Meeting—Main Hall @9.10am
Weds, 16th Sept	REC	Welcome Meeting—Main Hall @9.10am
Thurs, 17th Sept	YR 4	Welcome Meeting—Main Hall @9.10am
Thurs, 17th Sept	ALL	Bag2School Collection
Fri, 18th Sept	YR 1	Welcome Meeting—Main Hall @9.10am
Mon, 21st Sept	YR 3-6	Rob Biddulph Author visit
Tues, 22nd Sept	Nursery	Welcome Meeting—Main Hall @9.10am
Weds, 23rd Sept	YR 3	Welcome Meeting—Main Hall @9.10am
Fri, 25th Sept	YR 5	Welcome Meeting—Main Hall @9.10am
Mon, 28th Sept	YR 6	Kew Gardens visit
Thurs, 1st Oct	YR 1 & 3	Science Dome Visit
Thurs, 1st Oct	YR 2	Tower of London visit
Fri, 2nd Oct	YR 4	Richmond Park visit

A polite reminder that dogs should not be brought onto school grounds/into the school building.

Only guide dogs and assistance animals are allowed on site.

Thank you for your understanding.



Please can we remind all parents/carers/childminders that children should not play on the hills in the KS1 playground and we ask that you leave school grounds promptly at the end of the school day.

Thank you for your cooperation.

May we remind you that children in KS2 should bring their own healthy snack for break time. Any snacks brought into school should be **fresh fruit only**. If the snack has a wrapper, it is not suitable!

Please see attached our guidance on Healthy Eating Snacks.

