

Message from Shona Pitcher

Headteacher

We have enjoyed meeting lots of parents and carers this week at our Year Group Welcome meetings. Thank you to all the staff who have presented so far. If your child's year group hasn't had their meeting yet then we look forward to seeing you soon! The slides from the meetings which have taken place this week have been shared on your child's google classroom. If you have any questions please do speak to your class teachers.

Some of our Year 6 children have been out on the roads of Berrylands this week taking part in the Kingston Council's BikeAbility course. I am very proud to share that the children have shown what GRAND learners they are and the instructors were very complimentary about the children's behaviour and attitude to developing their cycling skills.

I have been amazed by the fundraising efforts of GASPA already this term. I wanted to thank you all for your continued support in raising these additional funds which support the school. I look forward to seeing many of you at the next event, the Bingo evening, with your dabbers ready!

We were very fortunate to have Pamela Butchart the author of many famous children's books such as 'The attack of Demon Dinner Ladies' visit our school. She was amazing and she really engaged the children with her amazing stories. It was lovely to see the children laughing out loud and taking so much interest and inspiration from her presentation. She was able to get the children and staff involved, with a surprise from our own Grand Avenue Dinner Ladies popping in. Do ask the children what happened. Mr Williams and Miss Baga were brilliant 'Dinner Ladies, with Mr Williams winning a prize as being the best dinner lady. Good Job Mr Williams.

I was so proud when Pamela said how polite and well behaved the children at Grand Avenue were. She said she has visited many schools and our school has a very calm and happy vibe.

We would like to thank Pamela for coming and making it very special for us and to Mrs Maqsood for organising such a wonderful experience for the children.



We are delighted to inform you that our new school website is now live! Please log in using this link: <https://www.grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk/>

If you follow this link and still get our old website then please clear the cache and cookies on the device that you are using. We advise to also carry out a hard refresh (CTRL + F5 / CMD, SHIFT + R) when first visiting the URL.



We have been working hard on the new website and new content is being added all the time. We hope you find the new website easy to navigate and the information presented is a useful and accessible manner. If you do come across any broken links then please do let the office know so that they can correct this. We look forward to hearing any feedback you have on our new website.

A message from Miss Williams and Mrs Maqsood

We were very happy to welcome our Year 1 parents to the Reading Café this morning. It really is a very special time for the parents and children to share a story in our Grand Library.

Thank you for coming and we hope to see you again.



Drop off and pick up reminders:

Drop off times are as follows:

Reception—8.45am registration at 8.55am

KS1—8.30am registration at 8.55am

KS2—8.30am registration at 8.45am

Please can we remind you that if you will be late to collect your child please could you call or email the School Office before 3pm in order that we can advise their class teachers before the end of the school day.

Thank you.

We welcome Claire Fowler to Grand Avenue Nursery & Primary School as our Assistant Headteacher and SENCO.

Before I started my career in teaching I worked for the London Ambulance Service, when I decided on a career change I initially went to work at a local SEN school as an unqualified teacher. I taught students with profound multiple learning difficulties and working there made me realise that teaching was a career that I wanted to move into. After completing my teacher training, I have been fortunate enough to work in many different types of schools including a variety of specialist settings.

What do you like about Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School so far?

There are so many things that drew me to Grand Avenue, everything from its community, the impressive grounds and the immediate welcome feeling you get as you walk into the school. The whole Grand Avenue community (parents, staff and children) have been overwhelmingly welcoming to me.

What is your favourite subject to teach children?

When I was at school my least favourite subjects were Literacy and Maths. Ironically they are now my two favourite subjects to teach.

I have a real passion and focus on finding multiple ways to deliver new concepts and make the learning memorable and accessible for all students, whilst at the same time helping students to build up their independence, resilience and perseverance when they find subjects challenging.

What is your favourite chocolate bar?

Anything to do with salted caramel is a winner

What is your best memory of primary school?

Like the majority of the Year 6 students who have come through Grand Avenue, my favourite memory of school was of course PGL. I got to try so many different activities that had never been available to me before. Even though it hasn't necessarily informed my teaching, it has definitely made me passionate about creating as many different learning opportunities and activities for students to participate in. Grand Avenue has a wealth of extra-curricular activities delivered by external agencies and staff. It is a fantastic opportunity for the students to try different things and find hobbies they are passionate about.

What is one thing you would like all students at Grand Avenue to learn before they leave?

To learn to be the best version of themselves, and that this is more important than academic achievement.

AVENEWS

www.grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk

Spring Term (page 4 of 4)

Friday, 27th September 2024

Weekly House Points

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

Kew	135
Norbury	105
Painshill	96
Claremont	92
Richmond	88
Wisley	83



Spotlight on

attendance

Congratulations to **Badgers** who have had the highest attendance this week (100 %).



Friday 18th October 7.45pm

Get ready to shout "BINGO!" and win some amazing prizes (adults only)

£4 per ticket (includes 3 games)

£15 for a LARGE Domino's pizza (margarita / pepperoni)

Buy tickets at:
<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/gaspa/>

Dates for your Diary

Tues, 1st Oct	YR4	Welcome meeting (6PM Annex Hall)
Wed, 2nd Oct	YR3	Welcome meeting (6PM Annex Hall)
Wed, 9th Oct	YR2	Welcome meeting (6PM Annex Hall)
Wed, 16th Oct	ALL	GASPA OGM
Thurs, 17th Oct	3FB	3FB Class assembly @ 10.30am
Fri, 18th Oct	ALL	Year 4 Cake Sale
Fri, 18th Oct	ALL	GASPA Bingo Night
Fri, 18th Oct	ALL	Year 4 Cake Sale
Thurs, 24th Oct	YR2	Tower of London trip
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
Thurs, 14th Nov	3S	3FB Class assembly @ 10.30am
Thurs, 21st Nov	3W	3FWClass assembly @ 10.30am
Fri, 29th Nov	ALL	INSET DAY— School and Nursery closed
Sat, 30th Nov	ALL	GASPA Christmas Fair
Fri, 20th Dec	All	Last day of Autumn Term