



The Grove Junior School

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www.thegrovejunior.co.uk

Headteacher Miss Lorna Urquhart

16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A Big Thank You

It has certainly been a busy week with our Ofsted inspection! We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all our families for the wonderful support you have shown us. Thank you to everyone who completed the Parent View survey, sent messages of encouragement and wished us well.

We were also hugely grateful for the very generous treats and goodies that appeared during the inspection. They were very much appreciated and helped to keep us going!

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a supportive school community. The Ofsted report will be published later in the term, and we look forward to sharing it with you once it is available.

Open Classroom

It was lovely to welcome so many parents, carers and grandparents into school for our Open Classrooms this week. The children were incredibly proud to share their learning with you, and we hope you enjoyed seeing everything they have achieved so far this term.

For those who were unable to attend, you will have another opportunity to look through your child's books at Parents' Evening after half term.

Friendship Boxes

Following last year's successful delivery of 301 Friendship Boxes to Ukraine, we are supporting the Rotary Club of Harpenden's campaign again, aiming to fill 20 boxes with stimulating items for children aged 5–16. Donations of new or very good condition items, such as colouring materials, puzzles, small toys and games (A4 size or smaller), can be brought into school and will be collected in class. Please donate by Wednesday 4th November, remembering that food, liquids, powders, batteries, sharp objects, war-related items and soft toys cannot be accepted.

Parents' Evening

A reminder that our Parents' Evening booking system is still open for appointments on Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th November. Use this link to book your appointment <https://thegrovejunior.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Parents' Evening is a valuable opportunity to meet with your child's teacher, discuss how they are progressing and celebrate their achievements so far this year.

If you experience any difficulties making a booking, please contact the school office, who will be happy to help.

PTA News

Krispy Kreme Doughnut sale Friday 23rd October

Next Friday we are selling original glazed Krispy Kreme doughnuts to raise some 'dough' for the schools, save money and order 3, 6 or 12 doughnuts in advance via [Classlist](#). These doughnuts will stay fresh for a couple of days so bag a treat to celebrate the start of the holidays. We will also be selling individual doughnuts on the day until we run out, but please order in advance if you'd like 3 or more to avoid disappointment. Pre orders close on **Sunday 18th October**.



Fireworks tickets

Please use our link below and we will earn commission

Katherine Warington School low bang fireworks, on **Friday 7th November** will donate 10% of every ticket sold when you use our [link](#).

Harpenden Rugby Club Fireworks on **Sunday 1st November** will donate 25% of each ticket sale when you use our [link](#).

Christmas Wreath Making - Tuesday 1st December

Join us for a festive evening of wreath making with friends. We will provide everything you need to create a beautiful and unique wreath for your home. Tickets cost £45 each and are available on [Classlist](#) now.

Clothing collection

Thank you to everyone who donated bags of clothing and accessories last Friday, we raised £173. We will hold another one in the spring.

School lottery

Our school lottery is a great way to support our fundraising while having the chance to win some money for yourself. Each week one of our supporters will win a cash prize, plus there's a chance to win the 25k jackpot. Right now, each weekly ticket is also an entry into the super draw to win a brand new iPhone! Tickets cost just £1 each, get yours [here](#).

School Diary Dates

October

Friday 23rd October – Nasal Flu Immunisations

Half Term – Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

November

Monday 2nd November – INSET Day – School closed to pupils.

Tuesday 3rd November – Parents Evening 3:45pm – 6:45pm

Thursday 5th November - Parents Evening 3:45pm – 6:45pm

Monday 30th November – Year 5 Bikeability week

December

Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Dinner

Friday 18th December – End of Term finish at 2pm

The weather is definitely turning, please can you make sure that your child brings a coat to school every day.

Kind regards



Miss Lorna Urquhart