



Another very busy half-term here at Grove! There has been so much happening and you can see what we have been doing here.

Covid has still been extremely challenging this half-term, with a great deal of staff and pupil absence. I want to say a massive thank you to my staff for the way in which they have been so flexible. Plans change daily as we find out who is and isn't in school. Staff have to cover different classes with hardly any notice. This is not easy for children either as we always endeavour to provide as much stability as we can. However, staff and children have pulled together, as always, and continued to provide a good education for everyone. Massive thanks to parents and carers too for your ongoing support in this pandemic, it really is much appreciated.



As well as all of the things you will see in this newsletter, where we have photos to capture the fantastic opportunities for children at Grove, there are so many other aspects of Grove that make me so proud of our children. Here are just a few of the highlights for me:

- Lizzie saying hello to me every morning on the gate, asking me how my day is going and wishing me a good day!
- Tommy holding the door open for me as I walk through the corridor
- Harrison jumping out in assembly to celebrate his birthday
- The children's smiles in assembly when they are awarded a certificate
- Hearing the children singing in the hall
- Hearing the music which accompanies PE lessons now, and seeing children dance whilst playing badminton!
- Children smiling as they happily skip into school

Sometimes it's the small things!

Wishing you all an enjoyable, safe, Covid-free Easter holiday, I really hope the weather is kind to us all. Thanks as always for your support, it is greatly appreciated.

Mrs Carrigan

Grove Academy

SAFE PARKING

Dear Parents/carers

We strive to make the routes to and from our academy as safe as possible for all road users and pedestrians. Unfortunately this still remains a real issue due to a minority who simply disregard simple road safety rules, so here is a reminder for us all

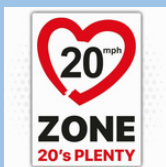
LET'S PROTECT CHILDREN'S SAFETY GETTING TO AND FROM SCHOOL EACH AND EVERY DAY

You **MUST NOT** wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on school entrance markings. The yellow zig zags are there to provide an unrestricted view for approaching drivers and children and wait to cross.

REMEMBER! to slow down past our academy at all times of the day, weekends and school holidays

Please do not obstruct the pavement outside of school. Keep the path safe so that children **DO NOT** have to walk on the road

• Do not run across busy roads with your children – use the crossings



EXIT AND ENTER children on the kerb side of the vehicle where possible

What are we doing about this?

- We have already secured a small staff car park, which takes 13 cars off the surrounding roads, easing congestion.
- We continue to report every incident to the local council
- We regularly request the CCTV car to patrol at busy times
- Most importantly, we are working with the local council to implement some measures, particularly on Turner street, to make our environment safer. Unfortunately these measures are making very slow progress as they will impact on the local community. We have been discussing these measures since September 2021 and they still have not been approved. Again, I reassure you that we report every incident / near miss into the team dealing with project, and request regular updates on the work.
- We are working with the council to secure Park and Stride permits for parents to park at Forrest Park and walk to Grove (a very short walk – good for everyone's step count!). Due to us changing the time of our school day recently, the permits offered to us at the moment do not cover the times we need but we are confident of reaching a solution so watch this space!

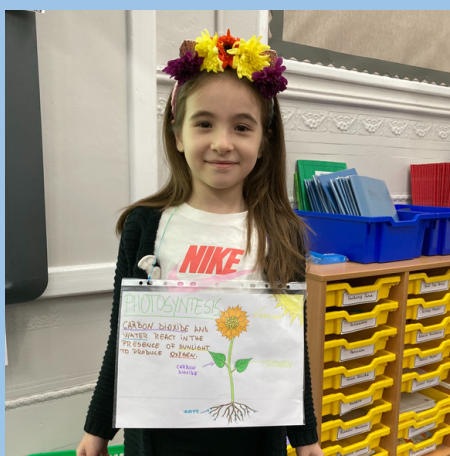
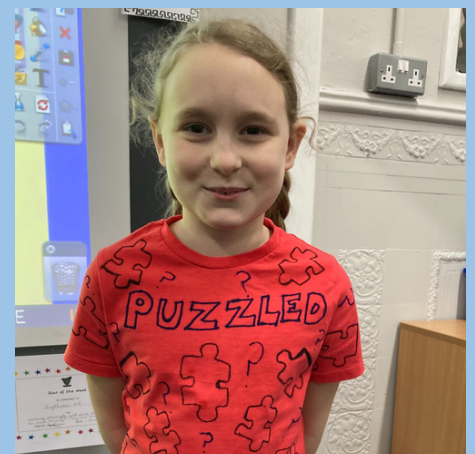
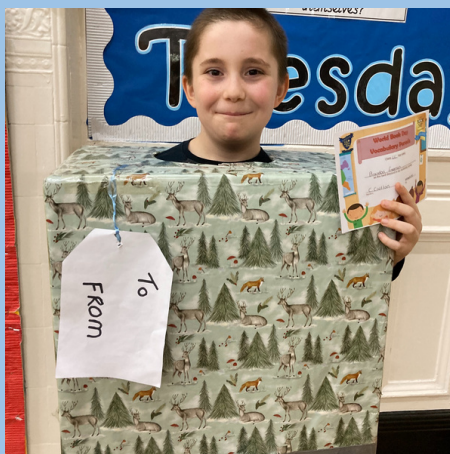
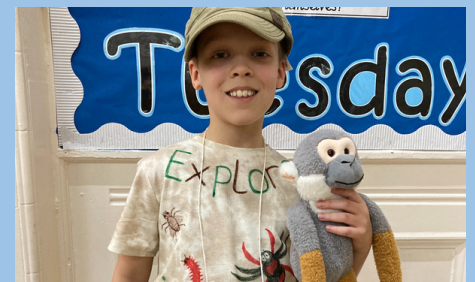
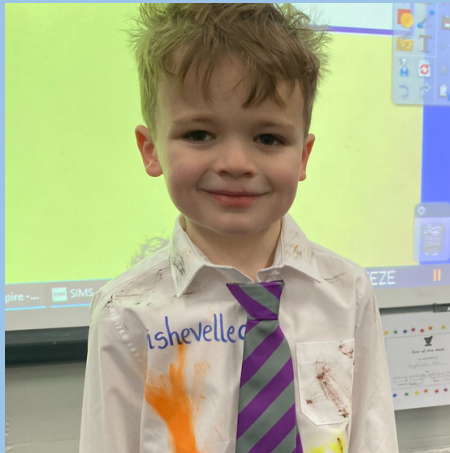
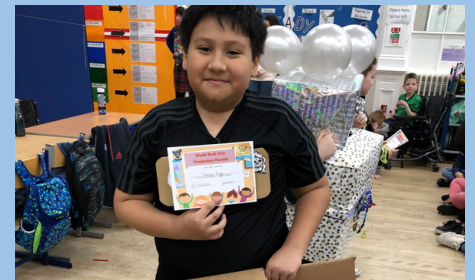
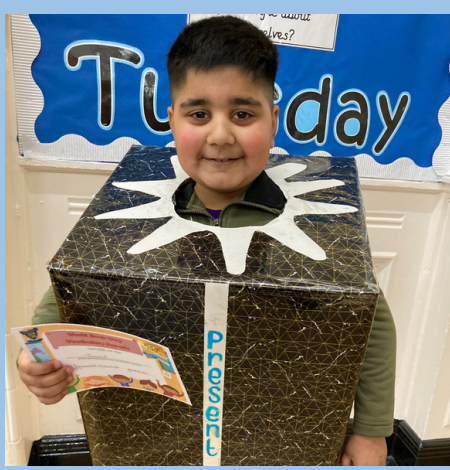
• Teach your child about road safety if they are walking to school on their own

Please **DO NOT PARK PARTLY OR WHOLLY ON THE PAVEMENT**. This can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians as well as wheelchairs, pushchairs, young cyclists and prevent children being seen when crossing

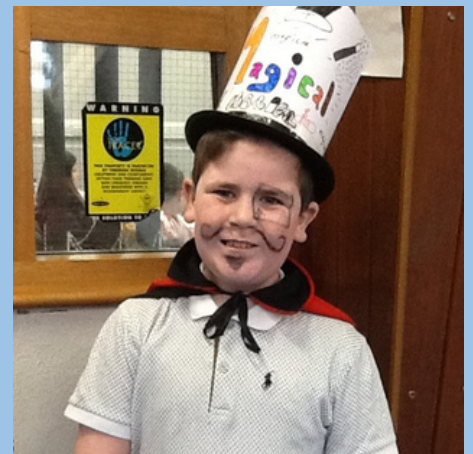
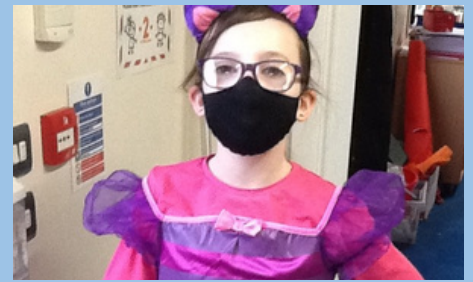
THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO DOES PARK AND DRIVE RESPONSIBLY AND HELPS US ALL TO STAY SAFE

NO STOPPING , NO EXCUSES. IGNORANCE OF ROAD SAFETY IS SELFISH AND DANGEROUS

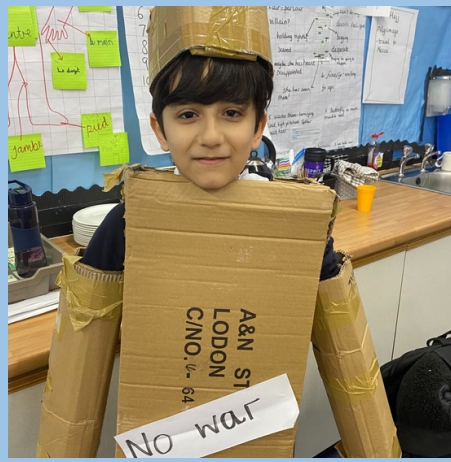
LET'S KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE -THANK YOU!



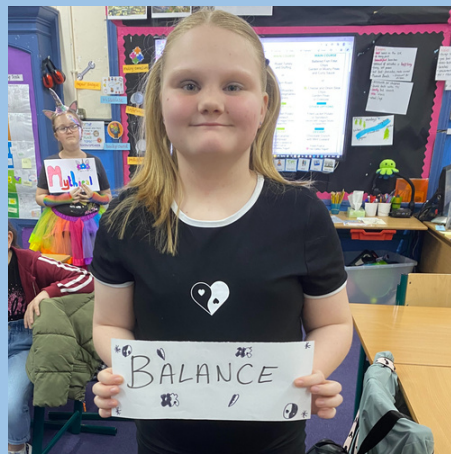
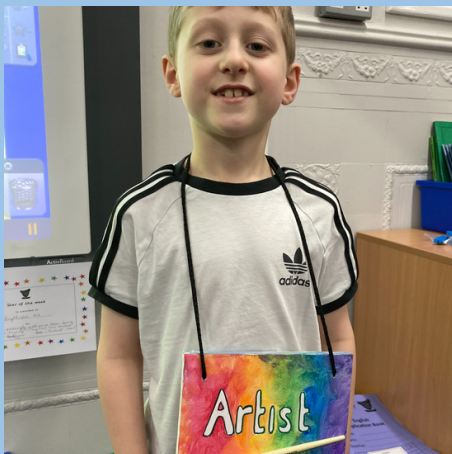
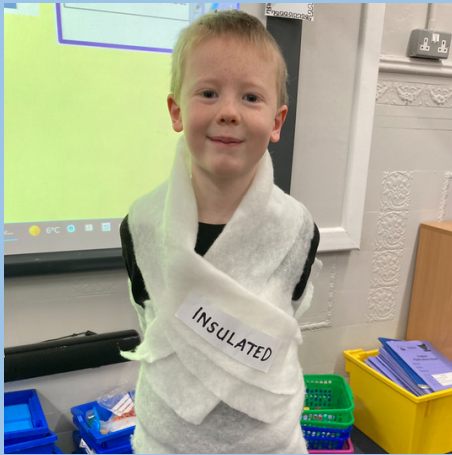
WORLD BOOK DAY 2022



W O R L D B O O K D A Y 2 0 2 2



This year, we took a different path for our World Book Day celebrations: all children were asked to come in dressed up as a word of their choice. As a school, we have placed an emphasis on building our exposure to new words and so it was wonderful to see all of the children sharing their nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs as they paraded around the school. Each class completed a vote to choose their best dressed word; these children then completed a parade around the hall where one person from each year group won a £5 voucher for the book fair. It was an absolute pleasure to see all of our wonderful words.



W O R L D B O O K D A Y 2 0 2 2



TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR

3RD MARCH 2022

We were delighted to welcome back our parents and children into school to visit our school book fair. There were so many titles to choose from and it was a pleasure to see all of the children rummaging through to find a text of interest. Through running our Scholastic book fair, we are able to claim for free books for our school: you have helped us raise £335 towards this. We know the children will love finding new texts for their classrooms to continue their growing love for all things reading.



Let's Dance!

DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA



DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA



Dance Extravaganza

31 Year children represented Grove Academy at the Dance Extravaganza on 7th March. This was held at the Victoria Hall. Miss Mountenay, our dance teacher, choreographed the dance – the theme this year was ‘The Future is in your hands’. The children danced to ‘Better When I’m Dancing’ and their message to the audience was that the future is better when you’re dancing! The children were absolutely amazing! They have worked so hard to learn the routine, and performed it with lots of energy and big smiles! They were so excited to be performing at such a big venue, and did really well to overcome a few nerves! Thanks so much to all the family and friends who came to cheer us along, and to all staff who helped out. Special thanks to Miss Mountenay for choreographing the routine. This song has now become one of Mrs. Carrigan’s favourites, so you may spot her singing it around school!





GYMNASTICS





SHOOT THOSE HOOPS

BASKETBALL CLUB





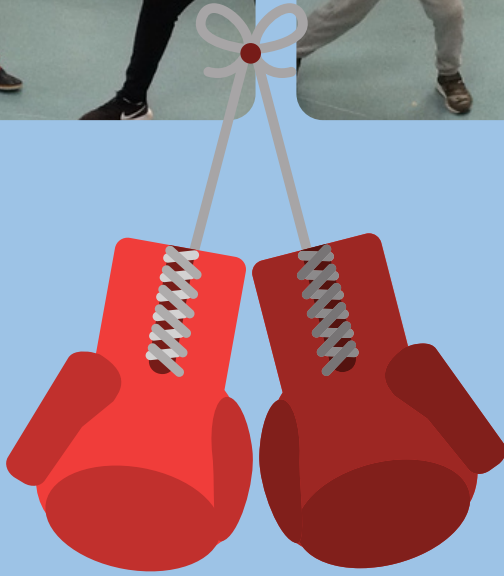
**#LET GIRLS PLAY FOOTBALL
FOOTBALL INITIATIVE 11TH
MARCH 2022**



Let Girls Play

The Football Association led a week to encourage more girls to play football. We have been running girls' football clubs at Grove since October. We were thrilled that local MP Jo Gideon was so impressed with our girls that she asked if she could come and play a game with them. I think they gave her a run for her money! The girls have made great progress and are fabulous ambassadors for the sport. Well done girls, keep it up!

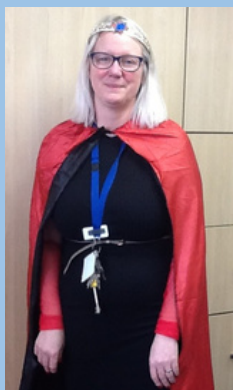
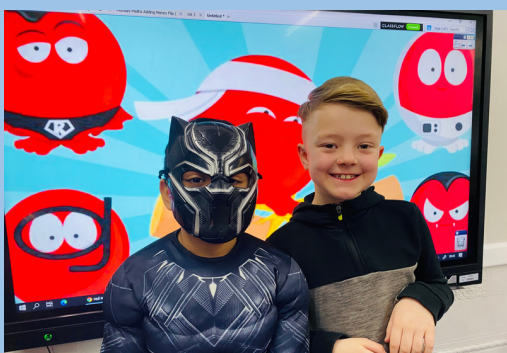
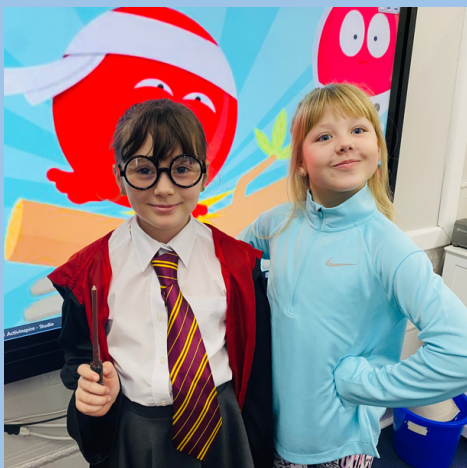




BOXERCISE CLUB



COMIC RELIEF



Our Comic Relief day 2022 took on a 'Super' focus with staff and pupils taking part in a 'Super Hero' dress up day. It was fantastic to see our children taking part in such a wonderful day and raising important funds for a fantastic charity. During the day the children took part in animal yoga poses, a fun class quiz, super hero mask making plus much more. Our leadership team were ready on the gates during arrival and dismissal to collect all the donations and all funds raised will be going straight to Comic Relief. We would like to thank everyone for their donations, every penny really does count and will help to improve the lives of many people. You helped to raise a generous amount of £275.86

COMIC RELIEF



COMIC RELIEF



LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES

'We are particularly proud of how we have developed our lunchtime provision. Children now have a choice of activities each day including basketball, football, relay races, chill zone, dance, adventure playground, cinema, construction. We are constantly reviewing our activities in response to children's feedback, and seeing which areas are the most popular. This gives our children so many fun things to do at lunchtime, and lots more incentive to be active! Plus the chance to just chill if that's what they want to do!'



LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES

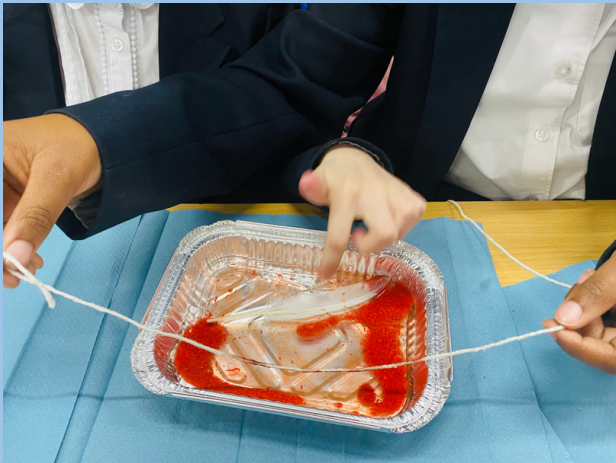




BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK



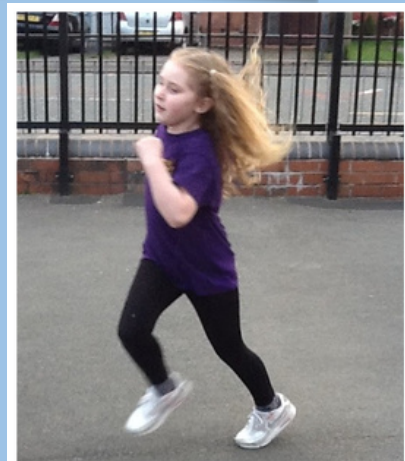
From 14th-18th March, we celebrated British Science Week! This year's theme was 'Growth'. We decided that we would explore the growth of cities; we investigated how cities must grow with the help of STEM developments to be able to cater for an increasing population. In Year 3 and 4, we looked at how companies have developed strategies for clearing oil spills when they occur in the oceans. We made a practical representation to show this and worked to clear up our 'spill' using a variety of methods. In Year 5 and 6, we explored the need for renewable energy sources; we discussed the advantages and disadvantages of energy sources used regularly in Britain today, and the challenges these could cause for us in the future. We created our own wind turbine to generate wind energy, following a design brief and trialling our ideas. We also had some fantastic entries for the BSW Poster competition which have been entered into a national draw. Keep your fingers crossed for a Grove winner!



Cross-country trial

We have decided to enter a cross-country competition for the first ever time at Grove! So we have started some trials to pick our teams. We were wowed by the amount of children who signed up to have a go. It certainly wasn't easy for most children, but the determination they showed to keep going was fantastic. It was lovely to see on their second attempt, a week later, that children were already finding that they could run more laps. I am so proud of everyone for giving it a go, and can't wait for the competition at Northwood Stadium at the start of May. Many thanks to Mrs. Sheldon for helping, and special thanks to her children Alfie and Xanthe, who came along too to help out. Alfie is a cross-country runner and he was fantastic in helping children to set the pace and not run too fast at first.

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS



Chocolate Bingo



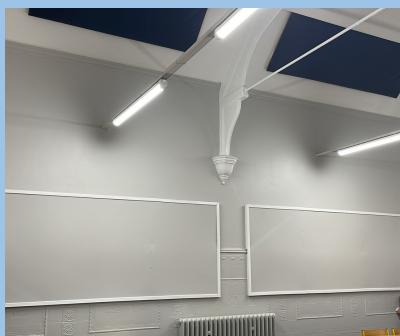
On the 31st of March the Easter bunny paid a visit to Grove and we held our 'chocolate bingo' event. All eyes were down, as the children were looking for one line, two lines or a full house. The school was filled with excited children shouting, "Bingo!" and "only one left!" as their numbers were read out by our fantastic bingo hosts (the teachers). The children left with smiles on their faces and at least one chocolate egg each. We raised £411 in total. Thank you for all your donations of prizes.





Some of you will be aware that we have been undergoing considerable renovation to improve classrooms. This has involved classrooms being repainted with new display boards. This has been a huge project, ongoing since the beginning of November. It should all be finished by 8th April. This has meant that many classes have had to relocate to either the hall or a temporary classroom for 2 weeks at a time. The children have coped brilliantly with this, and I'm sure you will agree that this provides a much better environment for children to learn in. I am aware that for many of our families of children in Year 3 and 4, they haven't ever been inside the school, due to Covid, so I am hopeful that we will now be able to start creating opportunities for parents to have a look around! Massive thanks to the site team and decorators who have worked tirelessly on this project, every single day for the last 20 weeks! .

CLASSROOM REFURBISHMENT UPDATE. MEET THE TEAM HARD AT WORK





Grove Academy would like to wish you all a

**HOPPY
EASTER**

