



# GROVE ROAD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER – 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024



# NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our newsletter, we hope you find everything you need. If there is anything else you would like to see in here, please let us know.

**This week we have celebrated kindness across school and taken part in the NSPCC Kindness Challenge. Across school we have created posters, sang songs and engaged in discussions around how we can show kindness and empathy. It was great to see lots of children and adults wearing yellow to mark 'World Mental Health Day.'**

Thank you for your help at home time on the playground. For safety reasons, we must keep adults from entering the ball court, under the shelter and crossing the dotted line for KS1. As you can appreciate, it is so important that we can see where each child is going and who with.

**Thank you for all your support.**





# MATHS ROCKS DAY



We are excited to announce our whole school Maths Rocks Day will be on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October. This day is designed to celebrate the fun and exciting world of Mathematics.

All staff and children are invited to come to school dressed up as either rockstars or in a number themed costume of their choice.

We would also like to take this opportunity to invite parents/carers into school to play some maths games with their children and if you're feeling brave enough, maybe even take part? We will be hosting a parent TTRS Battle!!

If you can attend, please drop your child off as normal and then come to the main school reception.

**Please see Seesaw for further information and ideas for costumes.**





## IMPORTANT - SAFEGUARDING

Please can we ask for your help at home times. It is so important that we can see where all of our children are going and who with. We appreciate this can sometimes take a few minutes, but we must ensure it is right.

If you are collecting from the shelter, and the ball court, could I kindly ask that you walk round and not enter where the Year 3 & 4 children are waiting.

Thank you for your understanding and support with this.



# YEAR 5 & 6

## Walking permission:

We take the safeguarding and welfare of our children very seriously and as such, we wanted to take the opportunity to remind you of our policy regarding Year 5 and Year 6 children leaving school at the end of the day.

Children in Year 5 and Year 6 can only leave the school site and walk home unaccompanied if we have written permission

This includes any arrangement to meet your child outside the boundaries of the school.

**If you would like your child to be able to leave the school site and walk home unaccompanied at the end of the school day, please complete this form.**

[Permission to walk home unaccompanied](#)



# ATTENDANCE

We know that sometimes the children are poorly and need to stay at home to get well; did you know that you can report a pupil absence via the school website?

[Report an absence](#)



# STARS OF THE WEEK



BRIGHT	-	Zlatka
HENDRA	-	Freya
GRAY	-	Ned
PERCIVAL	-	Felicity
PILKEY	-	Toby & Mason
MORPURGO	-	Amy
REYNOLDS	-	Deakin
RUNDELL	-	Genevieve
KLASSEN	-	Theo

*congratulations*





# FRIENDS OF GROVE ROAD



FOGR  
Committee Meeting

SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL WHEN YOU SHOP!

There are several ways you can help raise money for Grove Road just by doing your normal shopping!

## ASDA CashPot for Schools

What I need to do: sign on to the app.

RUNS TO END NOVEMBER.

1. In the app, it tells you that you can save the money you already earn as you shop and give it to your nominated school.
2. Choose Grove Road Primary School!
3. Now every time you shop and earn rewards, you can pass the rewards to Grove Road.
4. Anyone can check on the app how much money has been raised. So far (to 06/09/2024) we have already raised £104 (thanks to Emma Forsyth for checking this for us)

## EASYFUNDRAISING

What I need to do: sign up on <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/create-an-account/>

(Info taken from the easyfundraising website)

1. Launched in 2005, the community of over 2 million supporters has raised over £50 million for thousands of causes across the U.K.
2. Brands pay a commission because when you start your shop from the easyfundraising website or app, they can see they sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and they turn that into a donation - magic!
3. You tell the app which shops you want easyfundraising to pass on the commission and they will make sure it goes to Grove Road.
4. FOGR gets regular updates on money made this way.

## YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

What do I need to do: go online and purchase as many tickets as you wish for £1 each.  
[https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/grove-road-community-primary-school?utm\\_campaign=cause-page-social-share&utm\\_source=cause-page&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_content=Hyperlink](https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/grove-road-community-primary-school?utm_campaign=cause-page-social-share&utm_source=cause-page&utm_medium=social&utm_content=Hyperlink)

(Info taken from the Your School Lottery website)

1. Your School Lottery is a fun and effective way for your school to raise funds. Joining is easy and FREE. Send your supporters to your very own Your School Lottery page and collect 40% of all ticket sales made.
2. All supporters will get the chance to win amazing cash prizes every week. Including a jackpot prize of £25,000. All for just £1 per week. The draw is made every Saturday.
3. We had a (small) winner in August.





# School Uniform

We are proud of our uniform at Grove Road. We encourage the children to look smart as we believe that it gives them a sense of belonging and pride in our school. Ask for your co-operation in supporting the uniform policy at Grove Road.

We expect all children to wear our school uniform every day:

- **Maroon jumper or cardigan**
- **White shirt, blouse or polo shirt**
- **Dark grey trousers/shorts or skirt**
- **Grove Road School tie (optional)**
- **White, black, grey socks**
- **Checked or striped red dresses for summer wear**
- **Sensible black school shoes (not trainers.)**

**Please note that trainers are not allowed as general school footwear.**

P.E. clothing is essential. Plimsolls are only appropriate for outdoor PE for Early Years pupils. Children come to school in their PE kit on the days when they have PE your child's class teacher will tell you what day this is.

They will need to wear:

- A plain T-Shirt
- A pair of shorts or joggers/leggings
- Pair of plimsolls or trainers
- School jumper or cardigan

**Football kits should not be worn for PE lessons**





# National Online Safety®



## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

### DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat, a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

### DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasize that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

### BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These trolls often lean on racial abuse, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

### POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

### COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful trash talk and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

### REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

### CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

### COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of @GRecon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including iDn, TechRadar, and plenty more.



WakeUp  
Wednesday®

The  
National  
College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at [nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat](https://nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat)





# SAFEGUARDING



## Grove Road Community Primary School Safeguarding Team



Designated Safeguarding Lead  
James Grayston  
Headteacher



Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
Sue McGrogan  
Parent Support Adviser



Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
Dawn Winkley  
Deputy Head & SENDCo



Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
Charlotte Davison  
Assistant Head

Information about our Lead Governor for Safeguarding is on our website.

For further advice / referral information, please contact:  
North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership  
<https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk>

- Please visit our school website for more information and links to safeguarding websites.
- [Grove Road Safeguarding Page](#)
- For more information about keeping children safe please click here:
- [NSPCC – Keeping Children Safe Online](#)
- These websites have wonderful advice about children keeping safe on Instagram and other social media sites
- [NSPCC – Share Aware](#)
- [CEOP Police Safety Centre](#)



# IMPORTANT DATES



When	Event
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	<b>School Closed — INSET DAY</b>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	<b>School Closed — INSET DAY</b>
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>School Open</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September — 3:30pm — 4:00pm	Meet the Teacher — Come into school, see the classrooms and chat with teachers
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> — Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Scholastic Book Fair afterschool — bottom hall
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>School Closes for Half Term</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>School Open</b>
Week Commencing 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent Consultations – Details to follow
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual School Photographs
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Friends of Grove Road – Quiz Night (Details to follow)
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fair (Details to follow)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>School Closes for the Christmas Break</b>

More dates including Christmas events coming soon!