



# GROVE ROAD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER – 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023



# NEWSLETTER



- I can't actually believe it's December already. Christmas has certainly arrived here at Grove Road today, we have a wonderful tree up in our hall. I would like to thank Horticap Garden Centre for delivering our tree, our staff and children love it.
- Reception and Key Stage 1 were absolutely amazing on their trip this week, I loved seeing them experience lots of new things, I am sure you have seen pictures on Seesaw. They were a real credit to our school community, thank you to all the staff for making this happen.



**horticap**   
*Growing Together*



## Highlights from the report



*"Pupils in this school are happy, friendly and confident"*

*"They embrace the school's 'PRIDE' values"*

*"Pupils attend school regularly"*

*"They have positive attitudes to learning"*

*"The school ensures that its pupils are safe"*

*"Bullying is not a problem"*

*"The school is ambitious for its pupils"*

*"The school prioritises the teaching of early reading and phonics"*

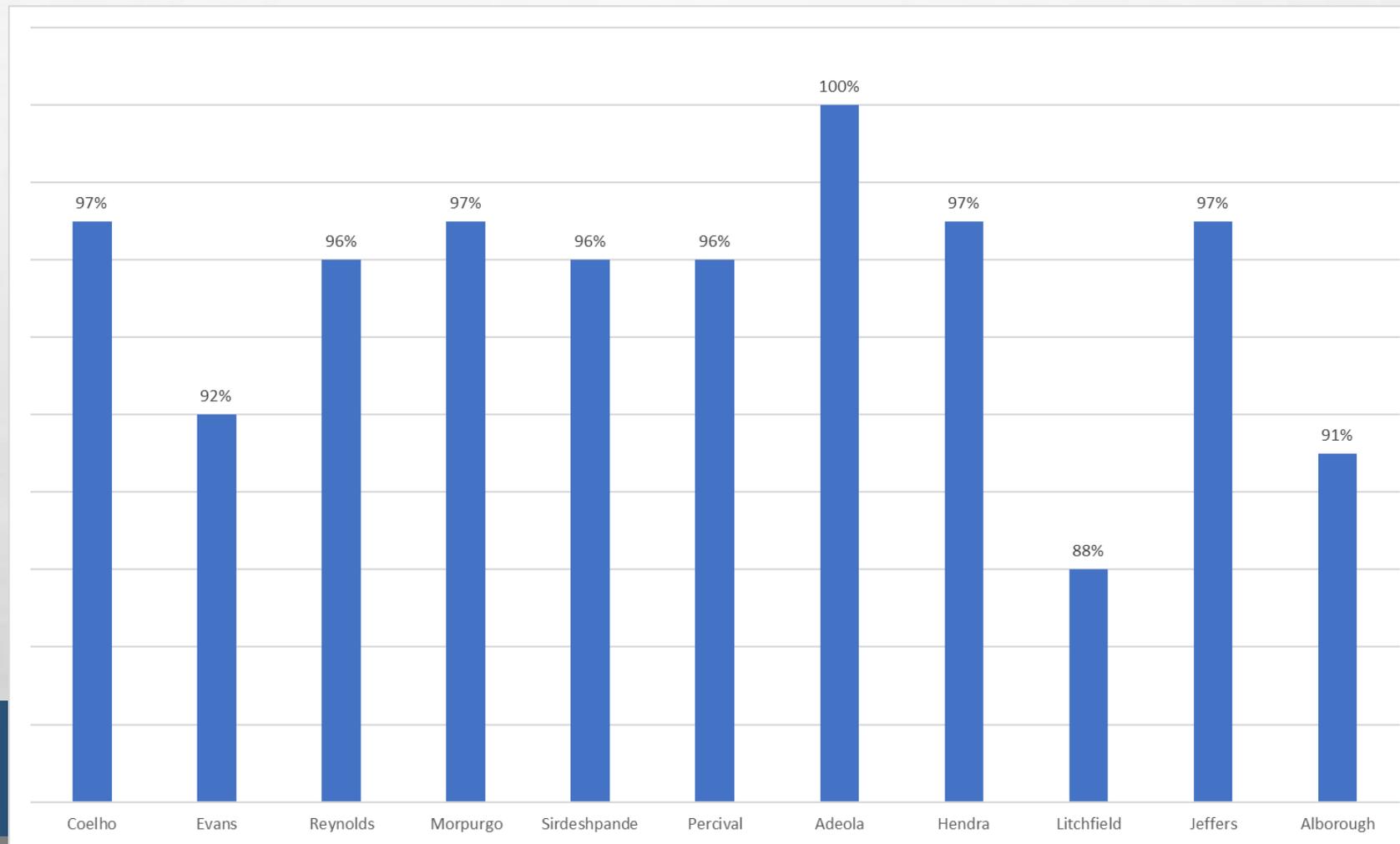
*"Pupils achieve well in the Year 1 phonics screening check"*

*"The environment in the early years supports children to get off to a good start"*

*"Pupils can take part in events in the local community"*

# ATTENDANCE

Attendance totals for each class – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December



# SAFEGUARDING



## Grove Road Community Primary School Safeguarding Team



Designated Safeguarding Lead  
James Grayston - Headteacher



Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
Dawn Winkley – Deputy Head  
& SENDCo



Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
Sue McGrogan – Parent  
Support Adviser

Lead Governor for Safeguarding – Margaret Beagle

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](#)



# STARS OF THE WEEK



JEFFERS	-	Ralph
LITCHFIELD	-	Emmy
HENDRA	-	Poppy
ADEOLA	-	Amelia
PERCIVAL	-	Cristian
SIRDESH-PANDE	-	Ruby
MORPURGO	-	Deakin
REYNOLDS	-	Eryk
EVANS	-	Freddie & Hector
COELHO	-	Laci-Mae

*congratulations*



Please click here to access more guides for parents



## 12 Smartphone Online Safety Tips FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

The Christmas season has finally arrived and soon many of you will be opening your presents in the hope that Santa has listened to your request for the latest mobile phone or smart device. Owning a mobile phone can be fun, but it's important to use it safely and responsibly. By following our safety tips below, you can make sure that you set up your phone securely, keep your personal information private and enjoy using your phone in the healthiest way possible.

- 1 ALWAYS SECURE YOUR PHONE WITH A PASSWORD**

This will help to keep your private information safe and won't allow others to access your phone without your permission. Make sure your password is memorable and personal to you but something which other people can't guess, and always share it with your parents just in case you forget it.
- 2 DISABLE LOCATION SETTINGS**

This can usually be done from the device's privacy control settings. Disabling location settings means that your phone can't be tracked by others and strangers can't tell where you are when you're using it. It also helps to save battery.
- 3 ALWAYS USE A SECURE WIFI NETWORK**

When you use your WIFI at home usually it is a secure network that only you and your family know the password to. Public networks, like those in coffee shops, can be accessed by anyone which means that people could potentially hack into your device and access your personal information without you realising.
- 4 ONLY PAIR WITH BLUETOOTH DEVICES YOU KNOW**

A Bluetooth connection with another device means that you can send and receive data wirelessly. For example, you could listen to music wirelessly or receive pictures and videos from your friends. However, pairing your phone with a device you don't know means that you could be sharing personal information with a stranger or could leave your device open to receiving viruses.
- 5 ONLY USE APPS WHICH YOU ARE OLD ENOUGH TO USE**

Before downloading any new apps, always check the age-rating of the app. If you need help, ask your parent or carer to make sure that the app is safe for you to use and never download anything which you are too young for as it may contain things that aren't safe for you to see.
- 6 BEWARE OF BECOMING ADDICTED TO YOUR PHONE**

Your phone can be fun to use and it's easy to become too attached, whether it's keeping in touch with friends, discovering new features or downloading the latest apps. Remember it's always good to talk in person, go out and have fun and get regular exercise. This will keep you fit and healthy and make you appreciate there's more to life than just your mobile phone.
- 7 LIMIT YOUR SCREEN TIME**

Using your phone for too long, particularly in the evenings, can make you feel tired at school, affect your concentration and make you lose interest in other things in life. Only use your phone at certain times of the day and don't use it close to bedtime. You can set a 'screen time limit' via the settings on your phone. This will help you stay fit and healthy and means that you will still be able to focus and perform well at school.
- 8 THINK OF OTHERS WHEN TAKING PHOTOS**

Don't take embarrassing photos of other people on your phone. If other people get access to the photo and share it with more people, it could make that person really upset and treated as a form of bullying. Always be mindful of the photos you take using your camera and who you share them with.
- 9 MAKE SURE YOUR PARENTS SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'**

This means that you will be able to use your phone safely and securely and won't accidentally do things you shouldn't do. The best time to do this is when you get a new phone or device so that you're protected from the very beginning.
- 10 ALWAYS TALK TO YOUR PARENTS IF YOU DON'T FEEL SAFE**

Sometimes, even though your phone is really secure, you might see something you don't like, or someone might contact you who you don't know. If this happens, always tell your trusted adult like your parents, carers, other adult family members or a teacher, all of whom will be able to support you and advise you on what you should do next.
- 11 DON'T TEXT AND WALK**

This might seem like a strange thing to say but it can be dangerous to stare at your mobile phone whilst walking outside alongside busy roads or bicycle paths. In some cases, children have been knocked over by cars or cyclists because they haven't been aware of their surroundings whilst texting or playing games on their mobile devices.
- 12 DON'T SHARE YOUR NUMBER OR YOUR DEVICE WITH PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW**

Never feel pressured into sharing your phone number with people you don't know and don't lend your phone to strangers or keep it where others could get hold of it. Look after your device and always keep it hidden from sight to avoid it being stolen or broken into.





National  
Online  
Safety®

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more guides for parents

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

### INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

### REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

### UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

### A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

### SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

### CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

### CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry, previously the editor of Tech tabloid The Register. Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS  
National  
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Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday





**What do we do?**  
We run fundraising events to raise funds to support the school

**Who are we?**  
FOGR is a group of parents/guardians with children who attend Grove Road

- School discos
- Bake sales
- Xmas Fair
- Summer Fair

**Want to get involved?**  
We would welcome any help you can give e.g.

- event preparation
- Set-up
- Running events

So we can run these fun events for our children

It's also a great way to meet other parents!

Get in touch for more information

Email us at [Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com](mailto:Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com)

or find us on facebook  
Friends of Grove Road C.P School



Friends of Grove Road are a group of Parent/Carer volunteers associated with Grove Road Primary School. We raise funds to support the school and enhance the education of the children

Please support FOGR raise vital funds for the school by signing up to the following online initiatives

**Easy Fundraising**

Sign up to support us  
Shop with your favourite brands  
We get a bonus £5 donation  
It's not magic, it's easyfundraising!

@easyfundraising

**Friends of Grove Road Fundraising Ideas**  
Help Friends of Grove Road raise free funds today by shopping online via [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk). Shop at no extra cost and raise free donations for Friends of Grove Road!



Your School Lottery

Email us at [Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com](mailto:Friendsofgroveroad@gmail.com)

or find us on facebook  
Friends of Grove Road C.P School



**We need  
your help!**

# CHRISTMAS FAIR

DECEMBER 8TH

3.15PM TO 5PM

THE FRIEND'S OF GROVE ROAD HOPE TO HOLD THE CHRISTMAS FAIR ON FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- BOTTLES FOR THE TOMBOLA (ALCOHOLIC AND SOFT DRINKS)
- SWEETS AND CHOCOLATES FOR PRIZES
- SMALL GIFTS SUITABLE FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN
- SOFT TOYS FOR THE TEDDY STALL
- RAFFLE PRIZES INCLUDING 'BIG TICKET ITEMS' & DONATIONS FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES/COMPANIES FOR THE RAFFLE
- SENDING IN SOME CAKES ON THE DAY FOR THE CAKE STALL

**DONATE**

**CHRISTMAS LUCKY BOXES - WE WILL BE SENDING THESE HOME SHORTLY! PLEASE DECORATE YOUR BOXES, FILL WITH FUN ITEMS AND RETURN TO SCHOOL TO BE SOLD AT THE FAIR**

PLEASE BRING LUCKY BOXES AND DONATIONS TO SCHOOL BEFORE MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER

- PREPPING IN THE RUN UP TO THE FAIR (VARIOUS DATES/TIMES TBC)
- SETTING UP ON THE DAY
- RUNNING A STALL
- HELP WITH TIDYING/CLEANING UP

IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE EMAIL [FRIENDSOFGROVEROAD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FRIENDSOFGROVEROAD@GMAIL.COM)



# PARENTPAY

Feedback about our new system ParentPay has so far been overwhelmingly positive. We are aware that there are some technical issues with booking for Sammy's den and we appreciate your patience while we iron these out.

Reminder - we will be moving payment for school meals over to the new platform from the 8th January. Please can you make sure that any balances for school meals are paid on iPay Impact before the end of term.

## What are the benefits to parents & pupils?

ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7

The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely - offering you peace of mind

Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint

Full payment histories, balance alerts and statements are available to you securely online at anytime

**More information, including your activation/login information has been sent out via email if you have not received this, please contact the school office**

## What are the benefits to our school?

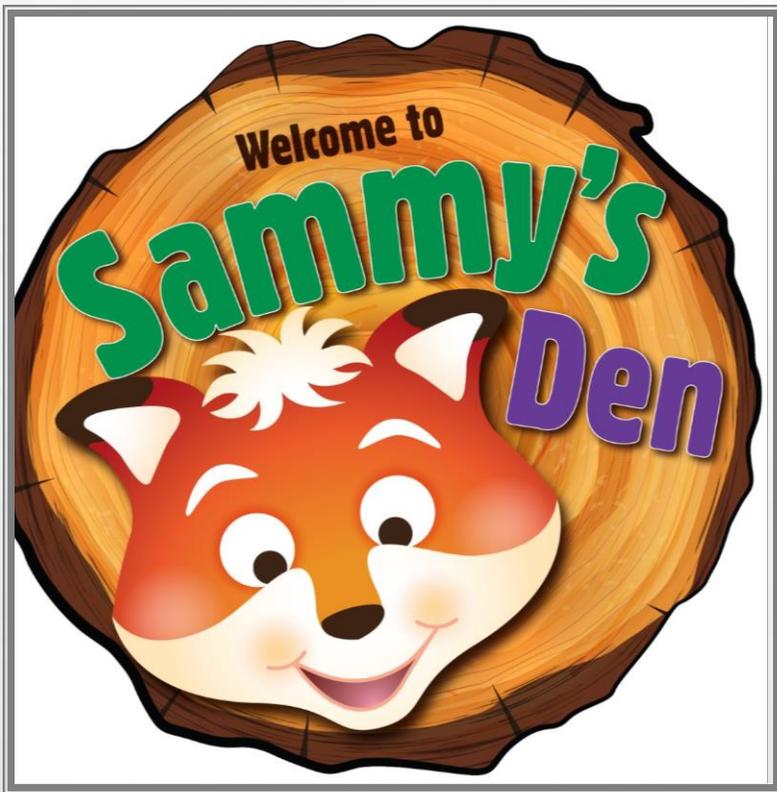
You can help us reduce workloads for all staff as no more counting cash, chasing debt and stop cash collection services

Creates more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school

Improves school security

Using ParentPay also ensures that all financial transactions are safe and secure - helping us to remove costs associated with us having to manage cash securely on the school premises

The more parents that use ParentPay, the greater the benefit is to our school.



## Reminder - Please Book Sammy's Den Sessions In Advance via ParentPay

- Breakfast club is very popular, and we are full most mornings which is lovely, however it does mean that it's extra important to make sure that you have booked a space in advance of attending.
- To help us with planning and so that we know which children will be joining us, bookings close 2 days before the session takes place. (If you need a short notice booking, please call the office and we will try to help)
- If the club is full, we might not be able to accept children who are dropped off without a booking.
- The same applies for afterschool club. All children attending must be booked through ParentPay.
- If you are having any problems booking spaces, please contact the school office

# IMPORTANT DATES



When	Event
<del>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November</del>	<del>Friends of Grove Road – Quiz Night</del>
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Rec/ KS1 trip to Kirkstall Abbey Museum
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Key Stage 2 visit the panto!
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fair – 3:15pm to 5:00pm (Please see poster in this newsletter)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December – 3:15pm	Carols on the playground with Singing Club
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December – 6pm	Rec/ KS1 Nativity
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December – 2:30pm	Rec/ KS1 Nativity
Wb. Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party Week (More information to follow)

