

Volume 5|
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Newsletter

Have a wonderful break!

I am once again amazed that we are here, in December, ready to close out the Autumn Term. It is amazing to think that the children have completed a third of this academic year!

It has, as ever, been a very festive month at Grove Road. The children delighted us with their songs and performance of 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw', which made everyone extremely proud. I was especially impressed at how many children had a speaking part and delivered their lines brilliantly.

We also had our annual Christmas dinner this week, where we sit down as a whole school together! I had the pleasure of sitting with Mikaeel, Glyxander and Levin of Indigo Class this year, who were asking me what my favourite school value was – I said Empathy, but they had other thoughts. Opportunities to sit like a school family such as this are truly heartwarming and it was a pleasure to share the afternoon with the whole school.

I'd also like to thank the community for the incredible generosity that has been shown to the staff – it is always so greatly appreciated, but entirely unnecessary. Teaching your wonderful children is in itself, a true gift.

Thank you for all of your support this year and we look forward to welcoming you back to school in 2025!

Best wishes,

Mrs Grace Beckford

Acting Headteacher

School Council Trip to Cloisters Care Home

Written by School Council themselves!



On the 13th December, School Council visited Cloisters Care Home.

School Council had been practising a Christmas song to perform and made them a Christmas poster, in which the residents loved.

We played a few games of Animal Bingo which we got to have some treats and juice with.

After Bingo, we got into discussions and we had the opportunity to ask the residents about their Christmas when they were younger and how it is similar or different to Christmas today. We discovered that one of the residents was an evacuee, she told us stories about what her life was like during World War Two. This was extremely interesting, we then told some of the residents our best jokes. Before leaving, we sang them our Christmas song again, wished them a Merry Christmas and a happy new year. We were honoured to have spent time with our local care home as much as they were glad to have us there.

Save The Children Christmas Jumper Appeal



Save the Children
**CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY**

We managed to collect £111.72 for the Save the Children appeal this year! Thank you for your generosity.

Staffing Updates

We say goodbye to Mrs Griffiths this week, who has been teaching Orange Class this term. We thank her for giving Orange Class such a super start to the year.

In January, we welcome Mr Hume to Grove Road, who will be Reception Class teacher, as well as EYFS and KS1 Leader. The children have already met Mr Hume and I know they will do a fantastic job of welcoming him to our school!

Christmas Dinner!



Positive Point Champions for Autumn

It has been a tight race all week, but as of this moment, the positive point totals are...

Gavin: 4212

Rosen: 4377

Potter: 4388

Seuss: 4410

Congratulations Seuss House!

House captains for the winning house will be coming round in the new year to ask what reward the children would like to receive!

In January, we will reset the house counters and see who are the Spring champions!

Class Charts Communication



According to our system, every child now has a linked Class Charts account associated with them. By downloading the app, you can get real-time alerts about your child's day as well as receive notifications. This will replace the office manually emailing this information.

You can also access Class Charts using:
<https://www.classcharts.com/account/login>

If you cannot access your account, please press 'forget password' first. If this still does not work, please email your class email account and we can look up the linked email address.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

EDUCATING CHILDREN ON SPENDING AND SAVING

Evidence shows that children's spending habits begin to form as early as seven years old. With primary schools in England not required to teach financial literacy, many young people are reaching adulthood without knowing the basics of budgeting. This guide explains how to teach young people about money in a practical way, giving them the understanding to become savvy spenders and savers.

1 PROVIDE POCKET MONEY

Giving children money – even a small amount – can help them learn to make their own budgeting decisions about how to spend or save it. Research shows that youngsters who receive pocket money are more likely to become adults with strong financial skills and significantly less debt.

2 USE A PREPAID CARD

Being able to pay by card is essential these days, with some retailers not accepting cash since the pandemic. Prepaid debit cards are available for children from the age of six, allowing them to get used to spending like they will as adults with no risk of dipping into an overdraft. Learning about money is like learning to swim – you need to get in the pool and have a go!

3 PRACTISE BORROWING

Although official borrowing is only available to over 18s, kids need to understand how debt and interest works before they become adults and are exposed to credit cards or 'buy now, pay later' schemes. For a safe means of teaching them about this, parents could offer them extra pocket money but explain that it needs to be paid back by a certain date, plus an extra couple of pounds as interest.

4 ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATION

Chatting about money and how much things cost will teach children that finance is a part of everyday life and not some "scary adult thing". Parents can involve them in budgeting for the weekly shop, for example, working together to get everything on the list while keeping the total below a certain number. Letting young ones make spending decisions in a safe space can build up their confidence regarding money.

5 DISCUSS THE PRESSURE TO SPEND

Whether it's YouTube ads or a hint of envy at a friend's recent purchase, spending triggers are everywhere. Encourage children to notice how clever shop design (like placing sweets at the checkout) and offers such as '2 for 1' deals entice us to spend more. Challenge them to resist impulse buys by getting them to sleep on it before deciding to spend.

6 TELLING 'NEED' FROM 'WANT'

Learning how to prioritise spending is an important life skill: the difference between life's essentials and "nice to haves" is key to budgeting. If children pester you for treats while shopping, it's the perfect time to say "That's a want. We're getting our needs first." You could show how you budget for food, electricity and so on before buying fun things.

7 ENCOURAGE SAVING

Getting children saving early can set them up with a useful habit for their adult life. Suggest that they set something aside every time they receive money and help them set a target for how much to put away, so they feel motivated to continue. For example, encouraging them to save for a friend's birthday gift can get children much more invested in what they buy.

8 SPARK INTEREST IN INTEREST

Motivate children by telling them about interest; you can describe it as a reward for saving money. Explain how everything they put away will grow over time. As an exciting example, explain that 1p doubled every day for a month would amount to approximately £10 million. Some prepaid cards for young people also offer interest; parents and carers could also add a little to supplement what their child saves and show how it works.

9 PAYING FOR CHORES

This is a complex debate with no right or wrong answer: it depends on what works for each individual family. However, it can be one of the best ways to teach children that money needs to be earned and helps to create more mindful spenders. If parents aren't keen on paying for everyday chores, they could ask the children to suggest their own ideas for earning a little extra.

10 PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SCAMS

Scams are a terrifyingly easy way to lose money, and children are generally more likely to be taken in due to a lack of experience with these financial criminals. As a minimum, make sure they're aware of the most common scams they could be exposed to – by text, email and phone, for instance. Young people should tell a trusted adult about any unexpected message or call and never give out their personal information.

Meet Our Expert

GoHenry is a prepaid debit card and financial education app with a mission to make every young person smart with money. Co-founder and CEO Louise Hill is a passionate campaigner for better financial literacy among school children and strongly believes that money management is a crucial life skill.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/spending-and-saving>



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Class Emails

We continue to have class mailboxes for you to contact your child's class teacher. **There is no need to also copy in the office to your emails** – this can sometimes confuse the lines of communication. Class inboxes are monitored daily but please allow up to 48 hours for a response. For anything urgent, including reporting your child absent, please continue to contact the school office.

Red Class: red@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Orange Class: orange@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Yellow Class: yellow@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Green Class: green@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Blue Class: blue@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Indigo Class: indigo@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Violet Class: violet@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Gold Class: gold@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

Rainbow Class: rainbow@groveroad.hounslow.sch.uk

January Upcoming Dates

6th – INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN

7th – Start of Spring Term

13th – Gold Class Centre of the Cell Trip

14th – Blue Class National Army Museum Trip

21st – Gold Class First Aid Workshop

28th – Green Class Boston Manor House Trip

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