

4th July 2025

Dear Parents,

With only two weeks left of the school year, I wanted to say a huge thank you for everything you have done to support your children and Grendon over the last year. It really has made a huge difference and together we really have shown that WE CAN!

Huge congratulations to our Year 6 children. We have SATs results back and are so proud of you all. They reflect the strong progress children make at Grendon. Well done all. I will share these on our website once they are validated. Year 6, thank you for your hard work and dedication. You are ready to leave us and move on to the next stage. Always remember that WE CAN. We wish you all every success for your future - go get it and make it successful.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank and say goodbye to several key members of staff. You are all aware that Miss Jones and Mr Worrall both leave us at the end of term after many years at Grendon. They will both be hugely missed by us all and I would like to thank them both personally and on behalf of you all for all that they have done for our school and children during their time with us. I wish you both every good wish with your exciting future plans - always remember that WE CAN! We would like to welcome Mr Bates to Grendon as our Building Services Manager and congratulate Miss Caro who will change role to take on that of Pastoral Manager in September.

Miss Broughton will also leave us in the Summer. She is moving to New Zealand with her family. We are all very jealous, but of course wish her all the best on her exciting journey - send us a postcard please! Miss Bissell and Mrs Cheung will also be leaving Grendon at the end of term. We would like to thank them for their support provided for children since joining us.

In a final staffing update, congratulations to Mr Feely who will be getting married in the Summer. Mrs Prendeville our SENDCo will begin her maternity leave today. We hope all goes well and look forward to sharing news of the new arrival soon! Miss Clarke will take on the role of Acting SENDCo to cover Mrs Prendeville's absence and can be contacted through the school office or on lclarke@grendon.bham.sch.uk if needed.

End of Year Reminders and Key Dates

- 8th July - Year 1 Parent Share 9.00am
- 9th July - Y6 Leavers Assembly at 9:15am - please queue in KS2 side playground
- 9th July - Grendon Goals Awards Assembly for Years 3, 4 and 5 at 9.00am - please wait in KS1 front playground
- 9th July - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day 2.00pm
- 10th July - Y6 Leavers Disco
- 10th July - Junior Leader Day - House Day
- 11th July - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Grendon Goals Awards
- 11th July - Annual Reports to Parents
- 11th July - Feel Good Friday and Out of School Achievement Celebration
- 14th -16th - July Blackwell Court Residential
- 14th July - Drop in Parents Evening - collect books
- 15th July - End of Year Awards Assembly KS1
- 16th July - End of Year Awards Assembly KS2
- 18th July - School closes for Summer holidays at 3.20pm
- 21st July - School closed to pupils: teacher training day
- 1st and 2nd September - School closed to pupils: teacher training days
- 3rd September - School opens to pupils

Classes for Next Year

Your child will have bought an information slip home about their new teacher for September after Moving Up day this week. We would like to welcome Miss Locke to Grendon who joins us to teach Year 3 in September. I can confirm that classes are as follows:

Reception (RW) - Miss Wilson and Miss Boynton (enter and exit through Reception gate at the end of the front playground).

Current RW will become 1T - Mrs Thompson and Miss Roath (enter and exit through main entrance).

Current 1T will become 2P - Mrs Pollitt and Miss Campbell (enter and exit through main entrance).

Current 2P will become 3L - Miss Locke and Mrs Kaur (enter through Year 3 and 4 side playground, please say goodbye to children by the zebra crossing/bike shelters in the morning and exit through KS1 hall door, please wait in front playground).

Current 2B will become 3C- Mrs Collins and Miss Putnam (enter and exit through Year 3 and 4 side playground, please say goodbye to children by the zebra crossing/bike shelters in the morning).

Current 3J will become 4G - Mrs Godfrey and Mrs Barshan (enter and exit through Year 3 and 4 side playground, please say goodbye to children by the zebra crossing/bike shelters in the morning).

Current 3C will become 4J - Miss James and Mrs Suthers (enter and exit through Year 3 and 4 side playground, please say goodbye to children by the zebra crossing/bike shelters in the morning).

Current 4H will become 5F - Mr Feely and Mrs Fox (enter and exit through Year 3 and 4 side playground using the ramp to the top doors, please say goodbye to children by the zebra crossing/bike shelters in the morning).

Current 4G will become 5H - Mr Hedderley and Mrs Beedon (enter and exit through Year 3 and 4 side playground using the ramp to the top doors, please say goodbye to children by the zebra crossing/bike shelters in the morning).

Current 5B will become 6N - Mr Norris and Mrs O'Hare (enter and exit through Year 3 and 4 side playground using the ramp to the top doors, please say goodbye to children by the zebra crossing/bike shelters in the morning).

Current 5F will become 6B - Mr Bache and Mrs Shea (enter and exit through Year 3 and 4 side playground using the ramp to the top doors, please say goodbye to children by the zebra crossing/bike shelters in the morning).

Miss Gillard-Pee, Mrs Washbrook and Miss Weller will continue to support individual children throughout school.

Poverty Proofing Report Outcomes

You may remember that back in January, we participated in an audit led by leaders at other schools. The team spoke to all children in school, key members of staff and governors as well as many parents that they could chat to in the playground. There was also a parent's questionnaire shared at the time.

The process was designed to suggest further actions that we could take to 'poverty proof' our school day and overall experience for our children and families. It was a really positive experience and highlighted many of the processes that we already have in place to support our families. We have had the suggestions for improvement, based on what was said on the day. We are going to take action as follows. Remember, it is you and your children that have identified these issues. As always at Grendon, we are always keen to act on your feedback whenever we can.

- Except for our Residential visits, children will not be given a choice to bring additional spending money on any school trip. The cost of the visit is all that we will ask for funding for.
- We will change the way that we recognise and celebrate birthdays in school. **From September, we will ask families not to supply sweets or cakes if it is a child's birthday, nor send children into school in wearing tiaras, badges or sashes.** We will recognise your child's birthday in school and mark their special day. Each child is currently designing a birthday card. We will give these out on birthdays next year. We hope that this reduces just a little financial pressure on families and does not make children feel that bringing items is expected. They told us that this worries them if they can't. It also addresses the allergy and dietary requirements agenda as well as our Grendon Goal about nurturing our health and wellbeing.
- For children who have a school packed lunch for trips, we will purchase some lunch boxes/backpacks/draw string bags that are far more appealing and inclusive than the 'brown paper bag' that is currently offered.

Email Communication

IMPORTANT! Please don't try to contact staff using the year group emails (for example, year4@grendon.bham.sch.uk) from Friday 11th July. During the last week of term, we are preparing for the changes needed to be up and running for new year groups from September. School contact via phone or using the office email address (enquiry@grendon.bham.sch.uk) will continue as usual, please use this route of communication for the last week of term.

Trips and Workshops for next school year

As part of our curriculum, we add additional opportunities to excite and engage children and make learning come to life for them. As part of this, each class has one trip and one workshop each year. Unfortunately, we cannot fund this ourselves and you will know that we ask for a parental contribution towards these events.

We understand that financially, things are not easy at the moment and want to give you as much notice of these costs as we can. Your child brought home information about this on Moving Up Day in order to give you as much notice as possible about upcoming costs. We will make this live on school money from September in order to offer as long a payment opportunity as possible. You can make part payments on school money if this suits you.

We know from feedback from yourselves and the children just how worthwhile these opportunities are. They link directly to learning and work children are completing in class, both before and after the event.

Without your support with this, we simply will not be able to continue to offer such opportunities and that will narrow the experiences for our children. Please support us to continue to offer this programme in the next school year.

Best wishes

Mrs Ridley