

15th May 2026

Dear Parents,

SATs Congratulations

I would like to start today by saying huge congratulations to our Year 6 children who have completed all of their SATs tests this week! At Grendon, with our vision highlighting the importance of both academic and pastoral curricula, we certainly recognise that success is measured in many different ways, but also know that sitting these tests is a challenge that all Year 6 children face. Having been involved with the tests all week, I have been thoroughly impressed by our children's resilience and attitudes. Whatever their outcomes, I know they have given their all and I am very proud of them all...and our staff as well!

Summer Term Dates

As ever, Summer Term is very busy. Here are the dates that we have so far:

18th May Reception & Y6 Height & Weight Screening

19th May Y4 Parent Share Session at 9am

22nd May SCHOOL CLOSES FOR HALF TERM

01st June SCHOOL RE-OPENS TO STAFF & PUPILS

02nd June Sports Day for KS2 (Years 3 - 6). Gates open at 1:45pm

03rd June Year 3 visit to Botanical Gardens

03rd June Sports Day - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Gates open at 1:45pm

04th June School Photographer in - Individual Photos

09th June Y1 & Y2 Multi Skills Competition

8th -10th June Blackwell Court Residential

15th June Reception Class - Ducklings arrive!

19th June Non Uniform day - bring a donation for the Summer Fair

23rd June Y6 Share Session at 2pm

25th -26th June St Briavels Residential

29th June Music Concert (Choir and Orchestra) 2pm

30th June Y1 Parent Share Session at 9am

01st July 'Moving Up' Day. Year 6 visit secondary school and children move to new classroom and meet new teacher.

02nd July Summer Fair from 5pm - 7pm

07th July Whole School House Day (non uniform - wear House colour)

09th July Y2 Drumming Workshop

10th July Annual Reports issued to parents

13th July Parents Evening (Drop in only to collect books)

14th July Y6 Leavers Assembly 9:15am

15th July Y6 Leavers Disco 6-8pm

Y6 Bikeability - various dates given on Year 6 letter

Y6 Fiver Challenge TBC

17th July SCHOOL CLOSES TO PUPILS FOR THE SUMMER BREAK

20th July Teacher Training Day (school closed to pupils)

1st and 2nd September 2026 Teacher Training Days (school closed to pupils)

3rd September 2026 CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL

Parent Survey Outcomes

Finally, many thanks to all those who completed our School Improvement Plan parents survey last month. They backed up our own views and those held by visiting professionals that Grendon is a great place to be.

Most importantly, 100% of responses agreed that children felt safe at school. In terms of our priorities for this year, it is also great to read that 100% of responses felt that school do all we can to ensure good attendance and punctuality and in a big increase from last year, 100% said their children had the option to participate in our clubs and activities offer. This is good news and shows that we are making strong progress against one of the Key Issues that Ofsted left us when they visited at the end of 2024.

We are also pleased that 94% said that pupils behaved well and nobody disagreed that if there were any cases of bullying, they were dealt with quickly and effectively.

94% also agreed that communication between home and school was good and that any concerns raised are dealt with efficiently and effectively.

The questionnaire also asked for your thoughts on what we can do to improve further. Again, many thanks to those who responded to that section. While we continue to discuss all responses during the process of planning for school improvement from September, there are a few that I wanted to comment further on today.

More than one parent identified the need for Wraparound Child Care Provision at Grendon. We agree! I outlined the latest developments in this mission in the last newsletter and know that we are on track to offer this provision from January 2027, if not before.

A couple of you mentioned more trips and more residential or making each residential available to only one year group. We understand that those opportunities are really important but have to balance this with financial implications both for yourselves and us. We currently make a loss on most trips and do not enjoy chasing payment informally first and then formally when needed. We feel that more opportunities would make this harder for all of us. As we offer residential visits as an optional experience, we would not be able to fill the places available if we only made this opportunity available to one year group only. That would then result in us having to cancel, which we are obviously keen to avoid.

School lunches and the choice of meal options was raised by one parent. This is something that Mr Darby, Miss Caro and our Junior Leaders have been working on in terms of collecting pupil voice and that we are keen to develop and improve during the next academic year.

Finally, one parent asked us to close Grendon Road during drop off and collection times. Given our work over many years to improve safety on Grendon Road, this was a suggestion that we were interested to see. We have been working with Birmingham City Council, (BCC), for many years in regard to safety issues as you know, have been successful in getting double yellow lines painted, a speed reminder sign and air quality monitor to help us with evidence. We cannot close Grendon Road ourselves. This is under BCC's control. We have spoken to them several times in the past about this, as we are aware that this is a measure put in place at some other schools. Their response is clear; this isn't an option at Grendon. Grendon Road is a through road and there are several junctions on to it.

I will finish with my usual plea to you all then, that if you need to travel to school in a car, to please park further away and walk the last part of your journey to school.

As always, many thanks for your support

Mrs Ridley