

### Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the last bulletin from me this academic year because our Trust bulletin will be sent next week. However, that does not mean that school has finished for the summer and your children should be continuing with their lessons as usual.

In school we are finalising plans for our reopening in September. Tutors will be calling you over the next week to outline our arrangements and to give you the opportunity to ask questions. This will be followed by an email from me with full written guidance on Friday 17 July 2020. On Thursday and Friday next week all teachers will be in school to plan for the new arrangements for September, therefore, students will be given tasks to complete for each lesson. You have been supporting your children brilliantly over the lock down so please do encourage your children to complete this work.

We want to celebrate the end of term with our students by hosting virtual assemblies. On Friday 17 July, each Head of Year will be holding a virtual whole year group assembly on Teams to share memories of the year, celebrate achievements and to wish students well over the summer break. All students will be emailed the time of their assembly.

### What do you need to do to prepare for the reopening in September?

#### Uniform.

A reminder that all students need to be wearing the blazer with the new school logo in September and no trainers or ballet shoes are permitted. [Please follow this link for the full uniform policy.](#)

Our uniform supplier will be in school on the following dates:

- Saturday 15 August 10am to 3pm
- Sunday 16 August 10am to 3pm
- Wednesday 19 August 5pm – 8pm

Alternatively, you can order online or visit the shop by prior appointment. Here is the link to book

[www.schoolsinuniform.setmore.com](http://www.schoolsinuniform.setmore.com)

#### Equipment.

Due to COVID 19 we are not permitted to loan equipment to students and so it is most important that **all** students bring the following equipment to school every day; a clear plastic pencil case, three blue or black pens, a purple pen, a green pen, a highlighter pen, a ruler, a pencil, a pencil sharpener, a compass, a glue stick and a calculator. We also suggest that students have a packet of tissues and a small bottle of hand sanitiser. We will have these available in classrooms, but it is also advisable for students to have their own.

#### What date will my child be returning?

Year 7 and Year 12 will return to school on Wednesday 02 September 2020 at 8:40am.

For the other year groups, I will give specific times and dates in the guidance that will be emailed out on Friday 17 July 2020.

Finally, I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you from all the staff at The Grove for your support, feedback, recognition, and praise during the lockdown. Coronavirus has presented many challenges, nonetheless, we have faced them together and grown much stronger as one school community as a result. Together we achieve so much more, and I want us to continue to build on this.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our students back in September.

*Mrs Sonia Taylor*  
Headteacher



### Transition

We've been working hard to help our new Year 7 students with their move to The Grove School in September. Our website has been updated with lots of information and we are also posting lots of information on our Facebook page. For information and to find out more, please click [here](#).

### Teaching & Learning

As we approach the end of term you might be thinking of what your child can be doing in the final couple of weeks and how to approach the summer break. We hope you find the following tips helpful:

- Avoid conversations around the ideas of 'catching up'. Children will not need reminders that they've missed schooling. Instead, focus on 'the here and now', exploring how children can make the most of their last two weeks of school and what they'd like to accomplish.
- Maintain the routine. Children will naturally want to ease off as the term ends - it happens in schools too. However, the summer break will be more enjoyable if students feel it has been earned.
- Remember how much you loved the summer holidays. Whilst it might be tempting and understandable to try to put measures in place to help your child best prepare for September, don't put pressure on them. Give them the space to enjoy their break as though it were any other summer break.
- Remember the praise ratio. It is natural to have to nag and all part of parenting; remember though that children love to be praised and whatever you say (whether it is praise or a telling off) will make a difference to how they feel. This time will have been stressful for all, so shift feelings onto a more positive footing over the summer. 'Experts suggest that **we should be focusing on eight positive things that our kids do for every negative we tell them off for,**' says 'happiness expert' Andy Cope.
- Plan together. More and more places are opening up so include your child in building summer plans.
- Ignore social media. Don't put pressure on yourself for achieving the perfect summer break with your child. We all know that there is a mass of airbrushing online and images are carefully selected. Don't compare yourself to others and what they're doing; instead, focus on you, your family and how they're feeling.

### Competitions & Challenges

**Sport challenge:** Richard Whitehead MBE Double Gold Paralympic medallist and 4 times World Champion, is challenging students from across the Marches Academy Trust to complete as many star jumps as they can in 1 minute. To win a medal upon return to school, post a video of your attempt in the comments of the post on our Facebook page.

**Biology Competition:** The Nancy Rothwell Award celebrates specimen drawing in schools and highlights the benefits of combining Art and Science. The competition challenges entrants to draw, paint, sketch or digitally create artwork capturing plant and animal anatomy. Open to students aged 7 to 18 years old, closing date for submissions 31 July 2020. [Click here](#) to view full details and prizes available.

**History Competition:** Focus Games Ltd are challenging all age groups to create a unique piece of work; drawing, poster, short story, video, or artwork to celebrate 100 Great Black Britons and their legacy. Entries close on 30 September 2020, [click here](#) for more information.

**Current Affairs Competition:** UCL open Democracy are running a competition for students aged 14 years+. To enter they need to share their vision of the future by submitting either a written article, short video or image that describes their vision for the world after the coronavirus crises has passed – entries close 10 July 2020. There are some great prizes up for grabs! Please [click here](#) for more details.

### WEBSITE QUICK LINKS

Please click on the following useful links to find out more.

- [News.](#)
- [Home Learning](#)
- [Term Dates.](#)

### FACEBOOK

Please follow us on Facebook [@GroveSchoolShropshire](#) for supplementary home learning ideas, news, competitions and feel good stories. We also encourage you to share your ideas and interact with our posts!



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