



Grove House School

End of year letter, July 2018

As the school year draws to a close again and we reflect back on this academic year we have seen a year of completion, further developments and a number of Grove House firsts!

- Our building works are now finished at least for the foreseeable future! Our final stage with the refurbishment and equipping of our science and technology block completed in April this year and have been used with great enjoyment and excitement by both staff and pupils.
- Our school playground was installed last summer and has been a huge success with the pupils over the course of this year.
- We extended the school field as this recently became our property under the terms of our lease and we were able to install the necessary fencing to begin use of this during the May half term.



There are a number of planned developments over the coming summer break which include:

- Further development and additions to the outside gym equipment on the playground – with equipment chosen by the pupils through the work of the school council.
- The installation of stage lighting in the school hall which has been funded by the very kind donations of parents and visitors to our school productions and to the particular fundraising by one of our parents that involved a very gruelling sponsored walk
- The installation of specialist equipment to create a Sensory room – items funded by the Brentwood a Becket Rotary club



Classes for 2018-19

As anticipated our pupil numbers will increase in year four and we plan to begin the year with an increase from 6 form groups to 7. This will consist of 2 classes in the lower school, 3 forms in middle school and 2 forms in Upper School. To reflect the school structure of Lower, Middle and Upper School our class names have also changed to the following:

**Lower School
Led by Mrs Rae Shearing**

Class LM – Miss Mills

Class LR – Mrs Rae Shearing

**Middle School
Led by Mrs Ellis**

Class MD – Mrs Duniam

Class ME – Mrs Ellis

Class MP – Mrs Potgeiter

**Upper School
Led by Mrs Hall**

Class UV – Mrs Viljoen

Class UH – Mrs Hall

A complete list of class teams is also attached.

We are already very close to our maximum roll for 2018/2019 of 95 pupils and it will be wonderful to welcome a number of new pupils and their families to our school community in September.



**Our fantastic staff team
continues to grow alongside our increasing roll.**

We have appointed 1 new form teacher; Mrs Viljoen who will also be teaching maths and ICT. Mrs Gaunt will extend her teaching time and Mrs Lee will continue to teach PE.

Mrs Ivey returns to her 3 days a week and has Miss Gosling and Miss Coles joining her full time on the Speech and Language Team.

In addition we have appointed a new post of full time Student Support Manager. Mrs Kirk will join the team in September and will be working closely with pupils, families and external professionals on areas such as EHCPs, reviews and transitions into and within the school.



Returning to this year, I would again like to offer my sincere thanks and gratitude once again for all your help and support. It really has been such a pleasure to see so large an audience at our Celebration assemblies, our open evenings, and our school production at Christmas and, of course, our very successful PTFA events including our amazingly successful Christmas Bazaar.





As mentioned above, it has again been a year of Grove House firsts such as:

- Our first school disco requested and organised to its successful outcome by some of our pupils.
- Our first Grove House football team complete with kit chosen by the pupils
- Our hugely successful first sports day
- Our first winners of the House Cup
- Our first group of pupils entering Year 10 and beginning their exam accreditations, successfully sitting a variety of formal exams this year.



I could not finish without mentioning again another first this year which was of course our Ofsted Inspection, the outcome of which was a tremendous achievement deserved by the entire school community. It was pleasing to note that the inspection team recognised the “passion and enthusiasm” of our staff team, the “outstanding behaviour” of the pupils, the “high quality therapeutic provision” and the overall progress made by pupils throughout all three strands of the school curriculum.



Again I would like to thank all of you for all your work in supporting the school so positively.

I wish you all a very happy Summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September

Yours sincerely



Lisa Christodoulides
Head teacher

