

## **Representations to the statutory proposal about Grimsdyke School**

The Statutory Proposal to expand Grimsdyke School was published on 3 November 2014 for a four week representation period which ended on 1 December 2014.

The following representations were received:

- 65 emails to the [SchoolReorganisation@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolReorganisation@harrow.gov.uk) email address
- Letter dated 24 November 2014 from The Hatch End Association
- Four letters from local residents

### **Emails to the [SchoolReorganisation@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolReorganisation@harrow.gov.uk) email address**

#### **Thursday 6 November 2014**

1. Whilst I fully appreciate the need to provide additional primary school places within Harrow, I have some concerns over your plans to permanently expand Grimsdyke School. As a local resident, my concerns are over the inevitable increase in traffic on the surrounding roads. Many people have already raised the issues of inconsiderate parking, increased pollution, dangerous three-point turns, single-road access to the area for emergency vehicles etc.  
Given the amount of school traffic at drop-off and pick-up times, it's hard to believe the statistics about how many pupils live within a 1/2 and 3/4 distance. I know the school has a School Travel Plan but that's at odds with the reality of how many children get to school, particularly during the colder & wetter months.  
Provided you can devise and implement a suitable traffic management plan which will address these issues, I'd be happy to support the school's expansion.

#### **Saturday 22 November 2014**

2. I am very sorry but I object to the Grimsdyke expansion program. The traffic congestion is already bad as it is. The drivers are not courteous and when vehicles are parked on both sides of the road it becomes very difficult to manoeuvre your own vehicle. Any more cars on that road and it going to become a nightmare.
3. Correct I did not receive notification of the proposal to increase numbers of students a bit like the Harrow Arts Centre which notice came from the H E Association.  
I happen to live of Sylvia Ave  
My view is positive about the the increase but there is always a but and it is the traffic chaos now and the could not care less about where we park attitude.  
For residents from Hillview and off find it a no go area at school times.  
If this is to work Hillview has to become one way in and one way out with possibly the first entrance being the exit and the second being the entrance.  
Parking in the recreation ground with an increase in the hard standing is the only option and double yellows on Colborne Avenue entrance that leads to the recreation ground to stop arrogant parking.  
If not this will not work and congestion will ensue and tempers and trouble will be created and that is without proper access for emergency vehicles.

If a proper proposal is not forthcoming then I am sure a campaign similar to the Arts Centre will appear against the idea.

#### **Monday 24 November 2014**

4. I am writing to register my concerns regarding the proposal to increase the pupil places by 50% over a seven year period. I am aware of the need in the borough and that Grimsdyke School has sufficient land to accommodate new buildings. However I strongly object on the the grounds of severe traffic congestion around the school and nearby streets. Every day there is utter chaos as parents and local residents try to negotiate the blocked streets at the start and end of the school day. Also these streets are totally congested at the end of the day as some parents arrive up to at least 45 minutes early in order to park as close as possible to the school. Harrow Council has done very little, if anything, to better manage the chaos. In fact the introduction of paid parking locally has made the situation even worse as Hillview Road is almost impossible to use for much of the day. As a resident of Newland Close I strongly object to the proposal to increase pupil places at Grimsdyke School.
  
5. With reference to the proposed expansion of Grimsdyke school, we would like to support this proposal as it is clear that Harrow Council needs to provide additional Primary school places and, given the space issues across Harrow, has a sound strategy to expand popular schools, which we have benefitted from in the past and would wish other parents to do the same in the future.  
We know that traffic management issues are raised whenever school expansion proposals are made and we know that the Council has tried hard to address these issues in previous proposals. We are assuming that the same attention will be given to this proposal and that a sound traffic plan will be produced to alleviate the concerns of local residents.
  
6. I would like to register my **OBJECTION** to the proposed expansion of Grimsdyke School on the grounds of Traffic Congestion. As a resident of the estate it is currently very difficult to leave or enter the estate at times that coincide with the beginning or end of the school day.  
With the congestion also comes risks to the safety of pedestrians (adults and children) walking to the school as they often have to walk in front or out from behind motor vehicles at pace as they do not want to be late to drop off or collect children from the school. Please consider this objection.
  
7. I would like to take this opportunity to strongly oppose the proposed expansion of the school, from 420 pupils to 630, a 50% increase! Even as it is, we always try to avoid using our own transport when the pupils arrive or depart the school in the afternoon as the traffic congestion is really bad. All traffic to and from the school has to be via Hillview road with probably 90% of the traffic trying to get back to Uxbridge road to turn either left or right. This junction would become an absolute nightmare, a real bottleneck which I do not think that any one has really understood yet. All those concerned with this proposal should first try visiting during those two busy times and see for themselves just how many cars turn up looking for places to park and drop off children, and see how many cars interfere with residents driveways.

I have absolutely no doubt that if this proposal goes ahead, it will cause gridlock from the Uxbridge road, through Grimsdyke road, which is always difficult to negotiate at any time, all the way through to Sylvia avenue. This nightmare scenario must not go ahead!

8. As a resident of Hatchend and also living right by Grimsdyke School (Lyndon Avenue), I am total against the expansion of the primary school from 420 intake to an outrageous 630 children.

The council that has propose this increase - do any of them live in Hatchend??? I am assuming NOT - if they did, they would already realise the struggle of everyday traffic the residence have to go through during school drop offs/pick ups.

Please accept this email as a vote to be against the school expansion.

The council need to stop building flats in every open space, and maybe consider in building a new primary school to accommodate the extra 200 odd children!!!!

9. We **strongly object** to Harrow Council's proposal to expand Grimsdyke School as it will have major effect on the local area, particularly the severe traffic congestion which already exists and has adverse effects on our daily commute.

#### **Tuesday 25 November 2014**

10. We live at XX Derwent Avenue Hatch End which is in the network of roads around Grimsdyke School with only one access road. At 10.15 last night we were notified by road stewards of the Hatch End Association that the council had completed a consultation process on 16th. October. Not only were we not consulted, we have never received a consultation document, consequently we had not even heard of the proposal. Surley all residents affected by the appalling traffic congestion created by the school should have been consulted? Each morning and afternoon at school times it would be impossible for emergency vehicles to access the area quickly, let alone for residents to come and go.

We strongly object to this ill considered and poorly communicated proposal.

11. To whom it may concern. I vote strongly **AGAINST** the school expanding as you can imagine for a number of reasons. I also did not receive a consultation document and am really surprised that it's gone this far without any of the residents knowing.
12. I have only just been notified of the school expansion, and I strongly disagree with the proposal. I won't go into the many reasons because I know we all agree on the same issues. **TRAFFIC**. It is hard enough now to drive up or down the roads close to the school, due to parked cars, and getting onto the Uxbridge Road is a nightmare. One has to wait until some-one is using the crossing, then take life and limb, yours and others, and try to get to the centre. (Where one hopes a driver will give way for you) Traffic is extremely bad now, but the school expansion would make it intolerable. I sincerely hope this proposal will not take place.
13. Have just received a letter concerning the increase of pupils from 420 630. As it is already a problem at times when pupils are coming and going i strongly object. The problem is cars bringing their children in mostly one pupil per car thus causing traffic jams. If the increase of 50% more pupils takes place it will make things that much worse. As their is only one way in and out it is not at all right to residents.

14. I have just learned that it is proposed to increase the intake of this school by fifty percent. As a resident of Hillview Road, I object to this proposal because as usual, no thought appears to have been given to the effect of increased traffic congestion in local residential roads. Perhaps the planners should visit this road in the school rush hour periods. When we were consulted about parking in the Broadway, I suggested a one way traffic system in the horseshoe of Hillview Road. Not wishing to be negative to the current proposal I would like to repeat my suggestion for it to be ignored again.
15. I would like to object most strongly to the proposal to increase the intake at Grimsdyke school. Traffic in Hillview Road at school times is already unbearable. The decision by the Council to start charging in the car park behind the shops off Grimsdyke Road has caused so many people to park in Hillview Road and made driving conditions almost impossible during the day. In today's environment every one drives their children to school. The thought of this extra traffic is totally unacceptable. I do hope you will reconsider this decision.
16. Alas, we are against the expansion of Grimsdyke School, for one main reason – traffic congestion.  
Even at present, out of school hours, traffic can be very bad, to the extent that, not uncommonly there total jams where at least one car has to reverse.  
The only way to avoid this is to make Hillview Road a one-way system with cars coming out of Colburn Avenue having to turn left into Hillview Road.  
Even this won't solve the problem of traffic jams which often occur at the junction of Colburn and Sylvia.
17. I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposals to expand Grimsdyke School in Hatch End (in response to your request for views on the proposal by the end of this month).  
The reason for my opposition is the public nuisance that results from the excessive traffic, and anti social behaviour, associated with the school.  
Despite repeated requests (see one such email attached below) the school governors and management have failed to take their share of the responsibility for these problems, and taken no effective measures to address or even mitigate the problems. The school seem to take the view that their responsibility and jurisdiction starts and ends at the school gate - something that we as local residents find unacceptable. The problems which are too numerous to detail here fall largely into two areas (traffic, and anti-social behaviour), and before any expansion takes place at the school we would like to see these problems addressed at a minimum by the following actions.  
Traffic: double yellow lines one side the full length of Grimsdyke Rd, Hillview Rd, and Colburn Ave, and residents parking on the other side of the road. Free parking during "school run" hours in the Grimsdyke car park, and an expansion of parking spaces in Shaftesbury Park. The provision of traffic or community police daily at the junctions of Grimsdyke / Hillview, and Colburn Ave / Hillview Rd during "school run" hours.  
Anti-social behaviour: a public statement by the school management on their commitment to address the problems; a "charter" to be signed by parents on joining the school on being a good neighbour; and more waste bins in the park play area & entrance, and in Colburn Ave & Hillview Rd emptied frequently.

We ourselves try to be a good neighbour and would like to see the school take the same approach - but in the absence of such a plan we remain opposed to the expansion plan - not because we object to increased numbers per se or in principle. We hope the Local Councillors take note of this negative public mood to the expansion plan (which also reflects our voting intentions). I would be grateful for the acknowledgement of this note, albeit I understand a collective reply to the issues raised might be required given the number of such responses you are likely to get.

"Dear Headteacher,

This quick note concerns the increasingly anti-social behaviour of the parents who drop their children off by car at Grimsdyke School. I should say at the outset that I write from the point of view of a local resident in Hillview Road, a "friend" of Grimsdyke School, and someone who is grateful and proud to have had their daughter at the school only some 5 years ago.

The behaviour I refer to includes the following anti-social behaviour of the parents encountered during a typical school week: people "barging" their way on the wrong side of the road whilst driving up Hillview Road; people refusing to let residents pull out of their drive; people pulling onto the grass and driveways to pass others down the road; people arguing and hooting their horns at each other as they "face off" driving up the road; blocking the car park within the park (not helped by the illegal parking of the ice cream van on double yellow lines used by parents daily in the entrance), and people today actually parking high up on the grass at the rear of the car park amongst the shrubbery overlooking our garden; people hooting their horn repeatedly to "call" their children from the playing field; the people throwing litter and food out of children's lunchboxes into the road. I could continue.

One view of this of course is that it isn't the school's problem - after all it happens outside the school gates - but I don't think a sensible person or responsible organisation would argue this, since all this traffic and associated problems relate to the school journey and day. Notwithstanding this can the school do anything about it even if it wanted to? Well ultimately maybe not effectively, but a reasonable response might be to communicate the problem via the PTA, during Parent Teacher evenings, via the website, and or other parent newsletters, asking for respect for the local residents. I also think the problem should be shared with the Governors, since this is also a reputational risk issue for the school, and damages the school's relationship with their broader stakeholders.

When all said and done a sense of proportion is of course important, and whilst it is tempting to respond by equally inconveniencing parents access to school and the park, this seems as unreasonable as parents own behaviour - at least until giving the school a chance to respond. I'm happy to pop in and see you and / or chairman of the governors if it helps - but I haven't much to add and hope I've made the issue reasonably clear.

Meantime, I send the school my best wishes for their real task or continuing your excellent educational role - and will continue to enjoy the annual fairs!"

18. Unfortunately we were unable to attend the consultation meeting regarding the expansion of Grimsdyke School. Therefore did not receive a consultation document. We live at XX

Colburn Avenue and are closely affected by this. Our neighbour told us what had been discussed at the meeting.

We are against the above expansion due to the major effects that it will have on the local area particularly the severe traffic congestion that already exists, due to narrow roads around the school and only one road that you can come up to the school.

Also one of the plans for the expansion showed the building coming right up to our rear fence. There will be a lack of privacy to the garden and house.

We would vote against these proposals.

19. I have only just become aware that there is a proposal to increase the intake of pupils at Grimsdyke school.

I am against this proposal as the current traffic congestion to and from the school is horrendous.

The junction of Grimsdyke road and Uxbridge Road is a real concern already as are the turnings into Hillview road from Grimsdyke road and out of Hillview.

20. I oppose the above mentioned expansion due to the increased traffic congestion this will cause. As a long term resident of Sylvia Avenue I have always avoided leaving/returning to my home when the children are being dropped off or picked up due to the parked vehicles and congestion in Hillview Road, plus the time taken trying to get out on to Uxbridge Road.

I trust consideration will be given to the concern of local residents before any decision is made.

21. We understand that there is a proposal to increase the intake by 50%

As residents of Upper Hillview Road we are very concerned that the consequent increase in traffic will exacerbate the already serious congestion that the twice daily school run is causing in the locality.

Additional problems will be caused by the extra staff parking required.

Were the expansion to go ahead the proposed traffic plan would require robust solutions.

22. As a resident of Sylvia Avenue for over 11 years, I strongly oppose the expansion of the Grimsdyke School expansion on the grounds of the additional traffic, congestion and chaos this will cause.

I have experienced, and been involved in, a number of altercations with parents who drop off their children at the school completely ignoring parking restrictions and or double yellow lines making it difficult to see on-coming traffic. There have been numerous near misses because parents insist on parking as close to the school as possible completely ignoring the inconvenience caused to residents, drivers or pedestrians. I continue to see cars reversing in to driveways in and around the school totally ignoring the requests of the school not to.

Increasing the size of the school will only exacerbate this situation. It will make this area an absolute nightmare even more so that it already is, by inconsiderate parents, who don't give a second thought about the residents.

23. I very strongly disagree about Grimsdyke School expansion.

I have lived in Sylvia Avenue for over 12 years and have seen no improvements in the traffic congestion that we experience when parents drop off or pick up children from School. If anything it is even worse. Many of these parents are even more inconsiderate than they used to be and have no respect for residents whatsoever.

They continue parking in double yellow lines near the school, making visibility of incoming traffic very unsafe. If you say something to these drivers, I have had some of them swearing at me in return. They do u-turns in any drive they like, making it also very dangerous for walking children or their parents. They park in the pavement green areas, destroying the grass and if you point it out they blindly ignore you.

We have not seen any enforcement from Harrow council to ensure that the flow of traffic decreases or that people respect the road safety regulations.

The maintenance of the road and pavements are also not up to scratch, specially in Sylvia avenue which seems to be the forgotten road.

The ignorance shown by these parents is quite astounding.

24. I live at XX Hillview Road and have just received notification that the above school would like to increase its intake. I am incredibly disappointed that I have received this information on a slip of paper pushed through my letter box - why were we not approached officially by the council? How can this happen?

The current level of traffic is high enough and to live in a road where you have to cope with 'rude' speeding car drivers - albeit only twice a day is enough. I seriously oppose the increase of this school in size.

### **Wednesday 26 November 2014**

25. I wish to protest that the proposed enlargement of Grimsdyke School. Will cause more traffic problems and local parking with such an increase in the school. If higher buildings are built this will spoil my natural light, and also effect the value of my property.

26. My concern is that traffic at school times blocks the roads especial at the 1-8 Colburn Avenue end and Hillview Road. Drivers do not think. Having once had an almost head on collision with one and several times been overtaken in Hillview Road while I was waiting to give precedence to oncoming traffic I can well see that an extra 50% more traffic at school times will make matters much worse. I have often thought it would not be a good time to have a heart attack or stroke as emergency vehicles would have great difficulty getting through.

Unfortunately there is only one road in and out of the Grimsdyke school area. In the 1930's that was not an issue now when everyone seems to drive their children to school it is another matter. Do we have to wait for a fatality caused by the congestion and inability of emergency vehicles to get through in time!

Also where would the extra vehicles park while dropping off their children. Across my and other peoples drives no doubt. Trying to get on or off ones own drive at school time is difficult at best and sometimes impossible. You have to wait for the traffic to subside.

27. We did not receive the previous consultation document.  
AGAINST the the Expansion.

28. I have not been consulted with regard to the school expansion plans for Grimsdyke school. As a local resident I am against expansion. Please ensure the local residents are consulted in future.
29. I would like to inform you that I have not been formally consulted about the proposed expansion and from what little I have heard would like to announce my objections. I am a resident of Grimsdyke Road and already suffer from the traffic and bad parking that results from both the school and high street.
30. I would like to object to this proposal on the grounds of traffic congestion which is already very bad and would just become unacceptable if this expansion goes ahead.
31. I received a news letter on 26/11/14 from the Local Steward for Grimsdyke area Hatch End about the Grimsdyke school expansion. Until this time I was not even aware of the expansion from 420 to 630 consultation process concluded on 16/11/2014. My Bungalow (garden) falls right behind the school play ground on XX Sylvia Ave. I have the following concern and questions:
- a) **How come we have not been sent a letter during the consultation process? How can residents like us can be this missed out?**
  - b) The traffic volume in the morning and afternoon during the school term is very bad as it is with 420 pupils. Parents park the car all over the place and ignore the double or triple or even zigzag yellow lines.
  - c) Drive ways are blocked, Three point turning is done. Schools entrance is blocked by parents dropping the pupils.
  - d) The Hillview Road /Sylvia Avenue /Coburn Avenue is very congested due to cars parked on both the side of the road. In the mornings and in the afternoons the roads are very congested. The cars coming off the Grimsdyke to join Uxbridge Road tails back to the end of Hill View Road and can take up to 10 minutes to join Uxbridge Road. I have seen Drivers using the car park and coming out of the no entry to avoid the long ques. Drivers often drive one wheel on the pavement. You can see the wheel imprint on the grass verge on Grimsdyke Road.
  - e) The big delivery lorries at moment struggle to get through and may be in emergency Fire brigade would struggle to reach the destination in quick time.
  - f) I have occasionally seen CCTV cars patrol but to be honest, its waste of public resource and ones in a while it does not make any difference.
- I would like to object the proposed expansion very strongly. I suggest that you should visit the school area during peak time (few times) to get the flavour of what I am highlighting and would appreciate my comments bit more.
32. I have before me as I write a page from an old issue of the Midweek Observer and Gazette dated 28th July 1970 the heading which reads THE STREET OF HAPPY FAMILIES with a photograph of Hillview Road, Hatch End showing a beautiful tree lined road with hardly a car to be seen. I know this is a long time ago, but I wonder how many really 'happy families' still remain nowadays due to the road having turned into a car park. This, mainly due to the car park at the bottom of the road in Grimsdyke Road, being changed by the council from a free to a fee paying area.



Now we have the possibility of extra traffic due to the proposal that the intake in Grimsdyke School be increased by a substantial number. Unfortunately, instead of walking children to school, many Mothers prefer to make the journey by car making the traffic problem in the area even more difficult.

I, therefore, object very strongly to this proposal not only taking into account the extra traffic but also the pollution caused by all the extra cars, which must surely be a consideration as to the children's health and require a rethink by you as to the current proposal.

33. I have not received any consultation documents but I am emailing to register my objection to this proposal because traffic congestion at the present is high and will be much worse if there is expansion at the school.
34. We have recently been made aware of plans to expand the capacity of Grimsdyke School from currently 420 pupils to somewhere in the region of 630 pupils in the coming years. Bizarrely, we did not receive any notification from Harrow Council in respect of this plan even though we reside in Hillview Road and will be directly affected by any change. We wish to place on record our strong objection and utter horror at this proposal. The current situation, without the addition of extra capacity, is a catastrophe waiting to happen. It would be virtually impossible for any vehicle to navigate through the traffic congestion on the one and only route via Colburn Avenue to Sylvia Avenue, Colburn Avenue, Lyndon Avenue, Derwent Avenue and Newlands Close in the event of an emergency during school opening and closing times. Please do not for one minute think this is a quick 15 minute interlude at each end of the school day. We have witnessed numerous roadblocks over the years from Sylvia Avenue right down to the Uxbridge Road lasting 45 to 60 minutes because of backed up of traffic. Any proposal to compound this situation even further by increasing the school capacity is ludicrous. Are we the residents to be put at an even greater risk of a failure to receive effective emergency care? We understand that if the expansion is approved, a traffic plan would be put in place. Unless this plan were to provide for a completely new access road from Oxhey Lane to Sylvia Avenue, then it would not be worth the paper it is written on. We have grave concerns that one day an emergency vehicle will be unable to attend a resident or residents for the reasons outlined above and that the result could be fatal. Surely individuals with the power to influence such a decision have thought this through????
35. Firstly, we are angry to have not received the Consultation Document you have completed on the proposed expansion of Grimsdyke School, especially as we live in the part of Grimsdyke Road which would be most affected by the increase in school traffic. We are completely against the expansion of school numbers from 420 to 630. As you are well aware the only access by road to and from the school is via Grimsdyke Road. At present, we find it impossible to get out of our drive and onto the main Uxbridge Road for at least half an hour leading up to the start of the school day and half an hour at the end of the school day, as the sheer weight of traffic causes a jam outside our house. An increase in numbers will certainly mean an increase in car traffic to/from the school. This is further aggravated by the fact that the Asquith Nursery on the corner of Hillview and Grimsdyke Roads only has one entrance, so parents block these roads in their cars

waiting for someone to come out enabling them to drop their toddlers in the Asquith car park.

The two situations often come together causing havoc and we have personally witnessed several arguments and car scrapes resulting from this.

Also, occasionally, cars park on both sides of Grimsdyke Road causing a blockage both ways as only one car can drive through. This is dangerous enough in itself, but with the increased flow of traffic from the school it turns into chaos.

An ambulance or fire engine would find it extremely difficult to get through in those circumstances. This is totally unacceptable, as, again, there is no other way of getting into any of the roads leading off of Grimsdyke Road.

We therefore wish to object to these proposals and hope the Council will reconsider.

36. I received a note through my letterbox today advising of the proposed Grimsdyke School expansion.

I am writing as I did not receive a consultation document and would like to register a vote against the proposed expansion.

I am voting against as we already suffer from considerable traffic congestion at school times and this, in the absence of a proposed traffic plan, can only get worse.

37. I strongly object to the proposed expansion of Grimsdyke School as this will increase traffic congestion even more. I am a resident on Colburn Avenue and it is a problem even now with so many parents dropping their children by cars.

38. I am writing today regarding the Grimsdyke School Expansion. Firstly I have to say that I Am disgusted that I never received a consultation document regarding this scheme and as a Council Tax payer I find this really insulting. How can a Professional London Council make such a fundamental mistake, considering I live 100 yards from the School it should have been hand delivered.

The School traffic around Hallam Gardens is pretty bad most mornings and is used as cut through also from Altham Road. (No speed humps and small children). The roads around the School are seriously congested currently and adding another 200+ more pupils would be a big mistake. After all this is where I live and many mornings I cannot get out of my own drive.

I am therefore against the expansion programme for Grimsdyke School.

#### **Thursday 27 November 2014**

39. I am a resident of Hillview Road and attended the recent meeting at Grimsdyke School.

My initial impulse was to object to the expansion. Having listened to the reasons behind the decision I understand the situation more fully and have changed my mind.

However, I would urge the council to consider the traffic implications. Realistically, no amount of requests for parents to be considerate is going to work - I say this from nearly 30 years experience!

I'm sure you have had many suggestions regarding one way systems in the surrounding roads and no right turn out of Grimsdyke Road onto the main road.

Mine is a more expensive solution. Making another road from the end of Colburn Avenue, over the farm land, through to Albury Drive, so easing the traffic on Hillview road.

Certainly worth a thought I should think.

As a former Grimsdyke parent I want nothing but the best for the school, but at the same time, the needs of local residents need to be taken into account.

40. I am writing to object to the Council's proposal to increase the intake of pupils at Grimsdyke School over the next seven years on the basis that there is currently no published traffic plan relating to the expansion of the school.

Having read in the local press only recently that Harrow Council invited parents of pupils and some of the nearby residents to the consultation meeting, I am writing to advise you that there has been a serious misjudgement by the Council of the number of local area residents that needed to be issued with the consultation document. It is understandable that there was a low response to the initial consultation when so few residents were aware of the plans.

Bearing in mind that current pupils come to the school from all around the Borough of Harrow, the proposed expansion will have a major effect on the whole of Hatch End particularly in respect to the impact on the severe traffic congestion that already exists. As a resident of Grimsdyke Road we currently see a high volume of traffic during the morning and afternoon school runs, with many of the parents parking in this road and the nearby streets such as Hallam Gardens and Hillview Road, and then walking their children across the Shaftesbury playing fields. I believe this is also the case on the other side of Hatch End in the Avenue where parents park and walk their children across the railway footbridge.

The decision to expand Grimsdyke School can not be made without a thorough review of the current traffic/parking problems and a subsequent approved plan for solutions to these issues that effect the majority Hatch End residents and not just those in the immediate vicinity of the school.

41. I have recently become aware of the proposed Grimsdyke School expansion. From the information provided, it is stated that schools across the borough are being expanded for local children.

However, more and more children are being driven to school from ever increasing distances, especially to well achieving schools. So it is not always the case that local children attend local schools.

I have certainly noticed the increase in traffic congestion from Uxbridge Road to Sylvia Avenue, through Grimsdyke Road and Hillview Road.

I am a local resident who has lived on Hillview Road for nearly 15 years, and, increasingly, it has become more and more difficult to leave my house at 'school rush hour times'.

The traffic congestion at 'school rush hour times' is already a major problem, affecting Hillview Road and Grimsdyke Road. With the proposed expansion plans to increase the size of Grimsdyke School by 50%, the local roads will be brought to a virtual standstill at peak times!

I am making the strongest of objections against the proposals to expand Grimsdyke school.

I trust that the Council and other authorities will take the views of local residents seriously.

42. I write to inform you that we have not been consulted about Grimsdyke School Expansion and would like to object to these proposals.

The congestion and traffic in the area is already very high causing complete gridlock in Hillview road and Colburn Avenue around school drop off and pick up times.

Over last two years there has also been an increase in the number of cars parked in these roads due to the introduction of pay and display car park in Hatch End which has already added to congestion. There is no through traffic in the roads around the school which means that cars have to drive in and out during school traffic times making it very difficult for local residents to use the roads at the same time.

43. I am a resident of Grimsdyke Rd, Hatch End and I am alarmed at the proposed expansion of Grimsdyke School.

Firstly, traffic is, at present, at an intolerable level particularly at the Grimsdyke Rd-Hallam Gardens junction where parents park to walk through the park en route to the school. The safety aspects at this point are considerable and will only be exacerbated by an increase in school numbers.

Secondly, the queue to exit Grimsdyke Rd at the junction with the Uxbridge Rd. is already lengthy particularly as many drivers persist in turning right, which in itself is a major cause of traffic congestion when leaving Grimsdyke Rd.

The road networks around the school were not designed to cope with such a substantial increase in school numbers and I doubt that plans for more pupils to walk to school will ever come to fruition.

The school numbers are, as I see it, are now at a maximum and I personally object to the numbers being increased.

44. WE LIVE AT XX SYLVIA AVE

WE OBJECT TO THE IDEA OF 230 MORE CHILDREN AT GRIMSDYKE SCHOOL  
IT WILL MEAN MORE CARS AND NOISE THE ROAD CANT TAKE IT  
WE HAVE HAD CARS PARKING IN OUR DRIVE AND ACROSS OUR DRIVE

45. We strongly object to the intake of Grimsdyke School getting increased from 420 to 630!

The first we heard of this was in the paper when the plans were already in place! The residents have not been consulted about the expansion plans at all.

Firstly Grimsdyke School is situated in a quiet built up residential area. We had moved to the area for that reason. The traffic is already a huge problem in the area. Even when I reverse out of my driveway in the mornings (in a quiet cul de sac consisting of 8 houses), there is traffic and it takes me 10 minutes just to get onto the main Uxbridge Road during term time! This is already not acceptable and the council plans to add to that problem as opposed to alleviate the problem.

I agree there needs to be more school places but strongly feel that Grimsdyke School is not the right school to expand. The roads are too congested already and school is situated in a quiet residential area. Grimsdyke is a good school in Harrow with a great reputation and that seems to be the main reason for expanding it - the residents have not been given any consideration. Pinner Wood has been granted permission to expand which should take many pupils from the hatch end area. What about Pinner Park school on headstone lane? That school is more accessible and is on a main road.

I know Grimsdyke School (as with other schools) has looked at travel plans and ways of controlling congestion in the surrounding roads, such as encouraging pupils to walk to

school, however there has been no improvement. The general culture is dropping children to school by car and that will not change instantly.

I do hope residents' views are seriously considered. I am happy to discuss this in more detail with you.

#### **Friday 28 November 2014**

46. I would like to bring to your attention that I live in Sylvia Ave ( No. XX post code. HA5 4XX ) and did NOT receive a notice of the above changes.

My objection is based on traffic flow .

At the present time , student and staff arrival and departure times , are absolutely chaotic , and the only roads to arrive and leave by , simply cannot take the current volume of traffic. Therefore , any expansion of school numbers in my view and of my family , would make the traffic situation impossible and even dangerous .

I hope you will reconsider this proposal

47. We have been made aware that the Council is proposing to increase the number of pupils attending the above school by 50% from September 2015.

Should this plan be approved, it would have an appalling effect on local residents. During school opening and closing hours, the traffic on the surrounding side roads is dreadful.

The adjacent roads become gridlocked every day and which would certainly become worse as the traffic alone would be increased by 50%.

Quite frankly as residents we already have to factor into our day to avoid leaving or coming home during these times.

We understand that should the expansion be approved, a new traffic plan would be proposed, however this could not possibly be satisfactory as the surrounding roads are narrow side streets and cannot be expanded.

Due to the above, we strongly object to these proposals, which would have a severe negative impact on local residents

We have not been consulted by yourselves regarding this proposal, even though we would undoubtedly be affect, there would you please ensure that we are placed on the mailing list for future Consultations?

48. We are residents on Derwent Avenue for over 20 years. We have been witnessing the traffic jams and chaos at the start and closing times of the school, and have always wondered why this has got worse over time.

As a society, we now have more cars and bigger cars. Children now are dropped by parents in their cars, and a low percentage of pupils walk to the school. All this translates into traffic. In particular for Grimsdyke, there is only one road into and out of school area which is always jammed up and causes chaos, especially in wet and winter conditions. All the residents have more cars parked on roads making it more difficult to manoeuvre, and causing much road rage as well.

By expanding the school, the above scenario can only get worse, even if plans to alter the road network are approved. This area does not need more traffic.

Consequently, my wife and I are opposed to the increased school size, and vote against the proposal.

49. I DID NOT receive the consultation document for the Grimsdyke School expansion.

I would like to document that I want to VOTE AGAINST the school expansion because of the major effect it would have on the local area especially on the severe traffic congestion. Please kindly record my objection to the expansion plan

50. As a long term resident of Grimsdyke Road (1986 to the present day) the first I heard of the proposed expansion of the school was two days ago when Pinner News dropped through my door.

Both my two sons attended the school and most of its success and family atmosphere conducive to learning was the fact that it was not a massive school. I am horrified to discover that within the next few years it will be half as big again. I am puzzled – where are all these extra children coming from? Out of the school's catchment area I guess, there are certainly not that many school age children in Grimsdyke road. Many of the residents are elderly (like me).

Grimsdyke road on a week day in term time is chockablock with cars parked for the school – umpteen children can be seen piling out of the badly and selfishly parked 4x4s and other large cars and heading off to cut through the Shaftesbury playing fields. Many of the cars are left in Grimsdyke road till the end of school (presumably the parents head off to catch the train to complete a day's work). Where are all these extra cars to be accommodated?

I object to these proposals most strongly. Please spare a thought to the long suffering residents who can really remember when Grimsdyke was truly part of a tightly knit local community that gave local children a chance to be educated at their nearby school.

51. As a long term resident of Sylvia Avenue for over 30 years, I strongly object to the proposal to increase the intake of pupils from 420 To 630 in the next few years. The traffic congestion is currently a big problem and it is often impossible to find parking near our homes. Parents and visitors often block driveways or park without due regard for other road users. There is also only one way in and out for the residents of Sylvia, Lyndon, Derwent and Colburn Avenues. In addition we experience problems driving along Hillview Avenue, because of inconsiderate parking by commuters. The situation is currently horrendous. The increased traffic that will result from increasing numbers will put intolerable strain on the residents of these roads. It is very stressful trying to get through in the morning and afternoon. It is often apparent that in case of an emergency, the emergency vehicles will be restricted from getting through quickly. Safety of pedestrians would also be questionable.

In view of the problems we are already experiencing, I do hope you will be able to reconsider this plan.

52. We regard it vital the Borough presents traffic management and road plans in conjunction with the proposal to expand the local school.

#### **Saturday 29 November 2014**

53. We did not receive a Consultation Document.

However, we would like to point out the school expansion programme will cause severe traffic congestion in the area. As it is, parking our cars has become a lottery, particularly

with the rapid building extensions taking place in the area. Gone are the days when we were able to comfortably park our cars in front of our house.

Furthermore, the school authorities, we believe, have not taken sufficient trouble to impress upon the parents of the children not to park their vehicles on streets near the school and sometimes across private driveways.

They have been, I believe, allocated space for parking in the park area. The problem is very much aggravated during school function days.

If the school expansion is to go ahead, please put in place a strict traffic arrangement and enforce it. It is not uncommon to see parents parking cars on yellow/double yellow lines and on the road humps, particularly at the beginning and end of school. We believe the privacy of the residents around the area need to be respected and resident parking is not interfered with.

54. Reference is made to the ongoing consultation about the Grimsdyke School Expansion. I am not so sure if I have received and returned the consultation papers. Anyway, to be on the safe side, I am hereby informing that I am against this school expansion.
55. Whilst appreciating the ever burgeoning need for more school places we feel that to increase the current intake from 420 to 630 i.e. 50% is far too large an increase bearing in mind the present scale of school vehicle traffic. This would result in the already over-burdened roads being horrendously over crowded. The previous road re-organisation scheme which was implemented 2 years ago and at vast expense has resulted in clogged roads around the immediate area at school times bearing in mind the school is in a residential estate with limited ingress and egress. However, no notice was taken of residents' views at that time and doubtless the same will apply this time.
56. Further to your plans to expand Grimsdyke School from a 2 form entry to a 3 form entry. I am a local resident who lives on Lyndon Avenue which is part of the small estate which serves Grimsdyke School. The estate has limited access as it can only be entered by car from Hillview Road. At present residents experience severe congestion issues at school drop off and pick up times. This issue has recently increased since the reception and year 1 classes at the school have been expanded to 3 form entry. There are regular problems with the parents who chose to drive their cars to drop off their children. I have witnessed them parking on the school zig zag/yellow lines, parking across people's drives, double parking on the roads, parking on the grass within the park and driving onto the school entrance drive the reversing out whilst children are arriving at school. As well as the parking problems I have observed anti-social behaviour. Parents shouting and swearing at local residents who complain when somebody parks across their drive. At present this has not been dealt with by Harrow Council. I have only ever seen one parking warden during drop off and pick up times at the school. In my view this lack of enforcement by the council has supported and empowered these parking issues. As well as the above I am seriously concerned that if there was an emergency on the estate it would be nearly impossible for an ambulance or fire engine to get to and from the

estate quickly. Therefore, it is my view that Harrow Council's decision to expand the school is putting local residents at risk.

In my view Grimsdyke School would only be suitable for expansion if Harrow provided another access road onto the estate. Please note any idea that parents can be educated not to drive cars to the school is ludicrous.

Before any decision is made a proper survey of the number of cars currently coming onto the estate needs to be undertaken. With this data it should be easy to predict the increased congestion. This type of work will support the fact that this is not a suitable school for expansion. I would ask that the decision to expand the school is delayed until this investigation is conducted. I would hope the outcome of any investigation is shared with the local residents at this point a further consultation should be conducted.

It is Harrow Council's and its elected members duty to ensure any decision made in relation to this issue is investigated properly, well thought out and that it is in the benefit of the School and the local community. Therefore, I hope my concerns are taken seriously?

### **Sunday 30 November 2014**

57. As a local resident (Newland Close) I object to the proposal on these grounds:

- a) Traffic congestion -this is already bad, local residents are held to ransom by the school run around 8-9 am and 3-4 pm with tail backs from Uxbridge Road up Grimsdyke to Hill View. Perhaps Council staff and councillors should view this for themselves.
- b) What is Harrow's catchment area that encourages this school run? A recent case of dubious local residency entitlement also come to mind.
- c) Why isn't the money being invested in other schools.

Related to the topic of congestion is that of traffic management.

So called recent road improvements and the restrictions on parking (eg Westfield and the resulting overspill into other roads) have not improved the locality.

I suggested to the council and HERA that Grimsdyke road be slightly widened at the Uxbridge Road with a left and right/straight lanes be established, this would help in the congestion referred to in a) above. An additional idea is to make Hill view a circular one way road.

58. We live in Grimsdyke Road and understand that we could be affected by major effects of traffic congestion if this is approved.

We have not seen any consultation document regarding this but would like to object most strongly to this proposal going ahead.

59. I wish to object to the expansion of Grimsdyke school by 50%.

The effects on the local area due to severe traffic congestion that already exists will be unfair on local residents!

60. We are writing to object to the proposals for the expansion of Grimsdyke School from 420 to 630 pupils in the coming years. At the moment traffic congestion in the morning and evening at school opening and picking up times is already very bad and as local residents who live opposite the school we feel that the area could not cope with the huge increase in traffic that this expansion would incur. As you know there is only one way into the Sylvia Avenue estate and it is not fair at all for local people to have to put up with even more



travel congestion. It is a nightmare leaving for work at 8.30am or coming home at 3.30pm due to the amount of cars. The area quite simply cannot cope with more traffic and we fear that it would lead to more accidents and the safety of everyone, especially children, being put at risk.

We believe Grimsdyke to be a great community school. However we are completely against the expansion of the school for the negative impact that it will have to residents in Syliva Avenue and the surrounding roads.

61. We are writing to express our objection to the poorly planned expansion of Grimsdyke school.

Whilst appreciating that there is a need to provide extra school places for a rapidly expanding population, we do not accept that Grimsdyke should be one of the schools chosen to expand based purely on the increased volume of traffic that this will inflict on the residential area around the school. Apart from the increased noise generated by parents usually driving their children to school, there will be considerable traffic congestion around the school, increased nuisance parking in residential areas and congestion from all roads leading onto Uxbridge Road. The planned programme is ill-conceived, plain crazy, increases pollution and ignores the health & safety risk to local residents.

62. We, my wife and I, both strongly object to the expansion of the Grimsdyke school. Our primary objection is based on the for the amount of additional traffic.

#### **Monday 1 December 2014**

63. We recently sent communications to Harrow Council regarding the above.

The first document was a letter in response to the planning application for change of use of the School House which overlooks our property.

The second was an e-mailed letter regarding the development of the school. This was duly acknowledged with a request to add the comments to the website, but I did not do this, due to lack of available time to repeat the exercise.

However, having studied all the comments on line and, in the light of a letter recently circulated by the Road Stewards for Hatch End, I am again submitting some of our opinions, as follows.

The comment that "Grimsdyke School is well located to help meet the increase in demand for school places in the North West Primary Planning Area" clearly illustrates the total lack of comprehension and forethought that has gone into this scheme. Well located it is not.

This expansion will have a profound impact on the neighbourhood. I calculated that the intended increase of 90 children next September alone, if you generously assume that a third of these may walk to school, would mean that 60 pupils would be driven to and from school each day. This represents a total of 240 additional movements on

Grimsdyke/Hillview/Colburn and Sylvia Avenues (2 movements per journey as ingress and egress to the site is over the same route). This would lead to the whole area becoming totally landlocked on a regular basis. The outcome of this would be heightened stress levels for all concerned with roadrage incidents extending right to the junction with Uxbridge Road. Occupants of all houses in these side roads would be obliged to leave for their workplace, wherever it may be, un-necessarily early to avoid the chaos.

It is currently akin to living next door to the factory and we have to try and arrange our day to avoid returning home at school-leaving time, or for any goods being delivered to our house.

It is pointless even suggesting any expansion unless or until problems with the current situation is addressed, Unpleasant incidents with cars parking on driveways has increased considerably this term, with their driver's arrogance and attitude being quite objectionable. We believe that the current number of pupils are receiving a reduction in amenities due to the limitation of available space. It is unfair to expect compromises to be made by the residents in solving the problems. I think the fact has to be accepted that Grimsdyke School has exceeded its full capacity and will require improving just to satisfy its current requirements. Greater expansion than this is too ambitious and other schools in Harrow, not situated in a completely residential area, and with limited access, will have to be considered to fulfill such needs.

64. I am a resident of Hillview Road and did not receive the consultation document.  
I am against the school expansion.

65. It has just been brought to our attention that there was a consultation process regarding the proposed expansion of Grimsdyke School. We did not receive the consultation documents.  
We live on hillview road and the traffic is already terrible. If the school expansion goes ahead this will have major impact to the local area especially the severe traffic congestion that already exists.  
We object to and vote AGAINST the proposal for the expansion.

# The Hatch End Association



The Avenue  
Hatch End  
Pinner  
HA5 4

24 November 2014

Johanna Morgan,  
Education Professional lead, Education Strategy Service,  
Harrow Council, Civic Centre  
PO Box 22,  
Station Road,  
Harrow HA1 2UW

Dear Madam,

## **Full Statutory Proposal for prescribed alteration to expand Grimsdyke School.**

The Association has reviewed the response to the consultations, and the Officer Response in the Council proposal document. While the number of responses might be considered disappointing it is clear that the principal concern, in an increase of fifty per cent in the number of pupils, is traffic volume, congestion, parking and road safety in the residential roads surrounding the school. This concern is supported by feedback reported to the Association representing over 1600 residences and businesses containing Harovians of varied ethnic groupings, ages and sexes in the Grimsdyke School catchment area.

The Association considers the Officer Response to the consultation to be inadequate on the question of Traffic and Congestion issues. No solutions or mitigations are indicated. The response is all about what will be presented in the future which does not meet or indicate proposals to deal with the concerns expressed in the consultation.

Because vehicle access to Grimsdyke School is only by one road, Grimsdyke Road, the solution to the traffic problems is paramount in the viability of expanding the school. The Association feels it is unwise for the council to proceed with the expense of drafting planning proposals, which include traffic assessments and school travel plans, before they have been fully considered by the school and local residents.

The Association recommends that the Council rejects the proposal until a satisfactory Traffic Assessment and School Travel Plan is provided with a revised proposal for consultation.

Yours sincerely

Mr Julian Maw  
Co-Chairman, Hatch End Association

Lyndon Avenue  
Hatch End  
Pinner  
HA5 4  
Middx

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16 November 2014

Johanna Morgan  
Education Professional Lead  
Education Strategy Service  
Harrow Council  
Civic Centre, PO Box 22  
Station Road  
Harrow HA1 2UW

Dear Ms Morgan  
Grimsdyke School Expansion Proposals

I am writing in response to the Full Statutory Proposal for the Expansion of Grimsdyke School as published on Harrow Council's website. You have asked for people to support, object and make comments on the proposals which will then be reported to the Harrow Council Cabinet at its meeting on 15 January 2015.

As I am not sure whether my comments on the Consultation process will be taken into consideration at this stage I am writing to you to repeat much of what I said then.

Grimsdyke School is excellent with Exceptional from the Schools Inspectorate, therefore has high demand. I understand that children from the other side of the Uxbridge Road can't attend this excellent school and have to go to Pinner Park School. The whole reason Grimsdyke School was built and opened in 1939 was because there was no primary school in Hatch End and children had to go to Pinner Park School. So it is ironic that 75 years after it opened children still have to go to Pinner Park. **For this reason I am not against expansion of the school.**

But I say it with a heavy heart as I live in Lyndon Avenue, which is one street away from Grimsdyke School, which is slap bang in the middle of an estate with basically one entry point. Already, due to most houses having more than one car, parking is a breaking point, which is exacerbated each morning and afternoon by parents driving their children to the school gates with no respect or concern for the people who live beside the school. At these times, residents, myself included, are virtual

prisoners as to try to leave involves a difficult drive and the rudeness of many parents who see driving to the school gates are their right. If I leave my house around 8am I don't have a problem with the extra traffic. If I leave a bit later, say 8.20am until 9am, I have a huge problem. I really do not see why the will of people who do not live on this estate should overrule the people who do live here.

I know a traffic plan will go with the planning permission but will it be enforced? We are told that the Council has a CCTV van – I saw it for the first time last week – but once in a blue moon is no good. It would need to come every day but then I don't know how much good that will do. I understand that parents will be told they can park in The Avenue or in Grimsdyke Road or Grimsdyke Car Park. But how do you enforce this, especially in winter or on a wet day? It is not just a matter of 20-30 more parents for Reception but once they move through the school this number will increase exponentially. There is **NO WAY OUR NARROW 1930s ROADS CAN COPE WITH THIS.**

I see a lollipop person has been suggested but perhaps a parking/traffic attendant to keep cars moving, only dropping off rather than parking might help. Parents should be encouraged to walk with incentives as happens in other parts of the country. Road safety awareness and a zebra crossing could ease some problems for parents who step out in front of cars.

More importantly, perhaps times of drop off and pick could be staggered which would not only make life easier for residents but parents as well which might just leave everyone satisfied.

Now for emergency vehicles – twice this past week there have been two police cars and an ambulance in the area: in Hillview Road and Grimsdyke Road. The incident in Grimsdyke Road snarled up the traffic and caused huge jams. Imagine if this happened during the school start and finish times?

Something needs to be sorted out now because once the expansion is in place and the roads are gridlock there will be no turning back.

Yours sincerely

21st November 2014

Lyndon Avenue  
Hatch End  
Pinner  
Middx. HA5 4

Johanna Morgan

Educational Professional Lead  
Education Strategy Service  
Harrow Council  
Civic Centre  
P.O. Box 22  
Station Road  
Harrow  
Middx. HA1 2WW

Dear Madam,

**Proposed Intake at Grimsdyke School**

Having been a resident in Lyndon Avenue for many years I have seen a vast increase in the traffic especially over the past few years and especially at school time in the roads around Grimsdyke School.

To my mind this proposal would make matters much worse at school time, with the parents parking wherever they see fit and causing absolute chaos, and often refusing to give way when there is obviously nowhere for them to go. Should any of the emergency vehicles try to get through at this time, it would be nigh impossible, possibly causing a life threatening situation.

The other morning I walked through Shaftesbury Playing Fields at 8.20 and counted 42 cars in the car park there, presumably all of these having negotiated Grimsdyke Road, Hillview Road and Colburn Avenue. Why on earth isn't it possible for these people to park on the other side of the park and WALK their children to the school? Unfortunately this is something that is impossible to enforce. I have actually witnessed a resident in Grimsdyke Road driving their child to the school! To my mind the only drastic solution is to ban all school traffic and issue residents' permits and bus the children in. Very difficult to instigate I agree.

One of the other problems would be with the construction traffic for the additional buildings at the school which will obviously add to the traffic chaos, as well as causing upset to local residents with the noise, etc.

I have a feeling that residents' objections won't make much difference to the Council's decision which has probably already been decided!

Yours faithfully,

PS. Apparently a lot of the houses in Lyndon Avenue and Hillview Road did not receive notification of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October at the school. Either a very bad oversight or a deliberate ploy!

HILLVIEW ROAD  
HATCH END  
PINNER  
MIDDX  
HAS 4

TO: MS JOHANNA MORGAN

26-11-14

Re: Proposed increase intake of Pupils  
from currently 420 - 630 at Grimsdyke School

As a resident of Hillview Rd the above proposal is not viable bearing in mind the existing excessive road traffic. Another 100 to 200 cars daily would be virtually impossible in this residential area.

Hillview Rd is already pot holed continually throughout the year due to the already existing traffic & is constantly in need of repair

This proposal is totally unacceptable

Yours Faithfully

For the attention of Johanna Morgan (Education Strategy Service)

### Grimsdyke School Expansion Proposal

I'm a local resident and a parent of a child currently attending Grimsdyke School and although I have already previously commented on the proposal (see attached), I should like to object once more.

Firstly, I should like to repeat the fact that the consultation letter sent by the council wasn't widely distributed. I feel it's grossly unfair that non-school residents of various other local roads (e.g Hallam Gardens; Derwent Avenue, etc) were not advised of the proposals and, in particular, the meeting which took place on 14<sup>th</sup> October.

I also thought it unfair that the meeting was held at 6.30pm when most working residents and parents would have found it fairly difficult to get time off to attend. I can tell you that whilst I was walking to the school to attend that meeting, I noticed that the Chair of Governors himself struggled to make it on time. I could see the stress and anxiety on his face, which was clearly caused by the rush to be at the school by 6.30pm!

Like many other local residents and parents, I'm **completely against** the proposal to permanently expand Grimsdyke School. In the current circumstances, there are far too many parents dropping off their children by car which creates an unacceptably high volume of cars in a densely populated area. There is only one road (Colburn Avenue) leading into and out of the school area.

Frankly speaking, the **continued aggressive** driving and bad parking habits leaves a lot to be desired. It happens on a daily basis and this is even before the school has expanded any further!

With this letter, I'm also attaching numerous sample pages from the Headteacher's regular newsletters which clearly shows parents flouting rules and regulations.

Three point turns in the middle of the road are also a daily feature. In fact, at the meeting, I came across one very local resident whose drive way wall was supposedly damaged at least twice by careless parents. This is not acceptable and the situation will only worsen if the expansion proposals proceed. It's only a matter of time before someone gets injured as a result of increased traffic; bad driving or aggressive behaviour!

Contrary to what I felt previously, I'm now strongly convinced that a major revamp and re-design of the roads will **not** alleviate the problem. The current site is simply **unsuitable** for any further expansion.

As I said in my original comments, I think that the best solution would be to split the school into two locations. I still feel that the 2<sup>nd</sup> site should be at the Harrow Arts Centre.

Considering that that the council is under immense pressure to save money, it makes perfect financial sense to make use of the fantastic listed building (which was originally a school many years ago). This would also allow Harrow Arts to continue in a limited way, thereby satisfying the wider community at large.

Public money would also be saved in not having to construct a new building on the current Grimsdyke site to house new children. This would also help those local residents who might have been concerned by the prospect of heavy building trucks and construction noise.

In fact, as I commented previously, the caretakers building could be sold off to raise funds for a new kitchen at the current site and also help finance the cost of a new school minibus.



In summary, I appreciate that there is heavy demand for primary school places, However, the current site is not practical for any further expansion and I **strongly** urge you to look at other alternatives (in particular the two site option).

I was at the meeting held at the school on 14<sup>th</sup> October and would comment as follows.

Firstly, I felt that the meeting should have been held at a slightly later time of 7 or 7.30. This would have allowed a lot more working people to attend.

Secondly, I thought it unfair that those residents from Derwent Avenue and the remaining part of Hillview Road were not included in the postal consultation.

Moving on, as a local resident and parent of a child currently at Grimsdyke, I don't agree with the current proposals.

As it stands, the school is quite unique in that it is effectively located in a big "cul de sac". This alone creates major problems in terms of traffic flow and, potentially, makes it very difficult for emergency vehicles to pass through during school mornings and afternoons.

In addition, the roads surrounding the school are heavily residential, meaning that car parking for school parents is somewhat limited.

Furthermore, the car park in the local playing field fills up quite quickly and a lot of parents continue to park on grass verges (and on the playing fields!) overlooking neighbouring gardens. In addition, the road leading into the car park is quite narrow, which creates its own problems. The Ice Cream van parking on double yellow lines close to the car park entrance also doesn't help!!

Despite continued warnings and requests by the Headteacher, people continue to disregard the zigzag/yellow lines and also park across driveways. Careless driving and 3 point turns in the middle of the roads are also a regular feature of daily life.

Whilst the gentleman from the council explained that every school has an annual travel plan which encourages parents to avoid using cars, in reality this is not enforceable and people will continue to do as they please. He also mentioned that the council has 2 CCTV cars to monitor illegal parking. Unfortunately, this is grossly inadequate as I rarely see these vehicles (or any parking wardens) around the school.

Frankly speaking, unless the council undertakes a major revamp of the local roads and provides improved (and increased) car parking facilities, the expansion will lead to unnecessary tension and conflicts between residents and school parents (and even the school itself).

The Headteacher also mentioned that, every year, the school has to keep turning down local applicants because of a lack of available places. To me that sounds strange because I've come across many Grimsdyke children who seem to live in excess of a mile away.

Do they gain admission because their parents have rented local accommodation on a short term basis (thereby denying the more permanent local residents) or is it simply a case of an ever widening catchment area? An expanded school will only serve to increase the volume of cars in a densely populated and claustrophobic area.

Whilst I agree that there is heavy demand for school places across all ages, I think the best solution to expand Grimsdyke School is as follows:

- 1) An expanded Grimsdyke School should be based across two separate geographical sites

- 2) The current site should remain as it is and would house 4 year groups (from Reception to Year 3). This would accommodate 360 children (i.e, 90 children x 4 year groups)
- 3) Create a second site on the Harrow Arts Centre location. In other words, use the main Harrow Arts building (and any surrounding mobile classrooms) for teaching purposes. My understanding is that this main building was used as a school many years ago and is, therefore, ideal for that purpose.

My proposal is that this second site should house 3 years (i.e. years 4 to 6), thereby accommodating 270 children (i.e 90 children x 3 years).

Whilst I don't know how many classrooms it contains, the building appears to be quite large and I'm sure it could easily accommodate many children.

Elliott Hall would make a sizeable school hall and a fantastic showpiece for wonderful school plays and concerts. The swimming pool nearby could be used more extensively by the children and the adjacent fields could also be turned into a playground area.

In addition, the local community could continue to benefit by allowing the site to be used for arts and recreational purposes during weekday evenings and weekends.

In terms of parking, an arrangement could be reached with Morrisons to allow parents to use their car park for drop offs and pick-ups. No doubt, this will potentially benefit the supermarket in terms of increased trade and commercial exposure.

- 4) One possible issue with the above proposal is finding a solution for families with children across both sites. This potentially creates a problem in terms of drop offs and pick-ups. The answer would be to create staggered opening and closing times. For example, the Sylvia Avenue site could start and finish at least 15 minutes earlier in order to allow parents sufficient time to drop/collect any children to/from the 2<sup>nd</sup> site
- 5) With the above proposal, the caretakers house at the Sylvia Avenue site could be sold to a private buyer. With a buoyant housing market, sizeable proceeds could be achieved and utilised in providing a new dining and kitchen area, as well as a school minibus to allow for a speedy transfer of staff, equipment and children across both sites.
- 6) Equally (though unlikely), any surplus remaining land at the Harrow Arts site could be sold off privately and the proceeds ploughed back into the school and community (e.g. to provide capital improvements, etc)

Having heard recent reports and rumours about the council's intention to close Harrow Arts in order to save money, I'm convinced that the above approach will not only allow the school to expand, but also preserve the arts and community facilities. It will go a long way in satisfying the needs of the local population.

I know that some local and national decisions are undertaken for political reasons, but I very much hope that, in this case, common sense prevails. It's a win-win scenario.



**Grimsdyke School**

Sylvia Avenue  
Hatch End  
Pinner  
HAS 4QE

**Mrs G Caroli—Headteacher**

020 8428 1324

office@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk

@GrimsdykeSchool

## Newsletter 6 21st November 2014

Dear Parents,

School has been very busy during the last two weeks but especially this week as it was our 'Keeping ourselves Safe Week'. Many Year 6 children took part in the Cycling Proficiency training and we hope that this will mean more children cycling to school to cut down on the traffic. Unfortunately we are continuing to have parents ignoring the zigzag lines which is quite distressing as obviously some parents don't think about the safety of the children!

We are having the School's Christmas Fair on Friday 28th November. The FOGs Committee have been working hard to organise this and it should be a fantastic evening. All the money raised will go towards fitting the new kitchen as part of the expansion. I know many of you appreciate the implementation of hot school meals but having our own kitchen will be more efficient. It will also mean the staff will be ours which is always better. So I hope as many as possible will attend this event and make it a financial success. See you there and we are having a special guest for the young children!!

We had some very positive feedback on the Curriculum Update included in the last newsletter and I hope everyone else found it useful. We welcome all feedback as we shall be reviewing this next term.

Have a fantastic weekend and see you at the Christmas Fair.

Best Wishes

Gwenda Caroli  
Headteacher.

# Grimsdyke Christmas Fair



**Friday 28th November 2014  
3.30pm—6.30pm**



Don't miss the :

- \* Stalls with seasonal gifts
- \* Mulled wine
- \* Delicious winter food
- \* Gifts for parents
- \* Lucky dip
- \* Tombola
- \* Face-painting
- \* Nail/Henna Bar
- \* Crafts for sale
- \* Cakes
- \* Tattoos
- \* Scalextrix
- \* Name the teddy
- \* Money Tree
- \* And much more.....

### Raffle Tickets

Please return your raffle tickets.

Any unused tickets should be returned to the office as soon as possible.



### FOGS NEEDS YOU

FOGS are still looking for helpers, so please contact Philippa via email [fogs.events@gmail.com](mailto:fogs.events@gmail.com) if you are able to assist in any way.



**Grimsdyke School**

Sylvia Avenue  
Hatch End  
Pinner  
HA5 4QE

**Mrs G Caroli—Headteacher**

☎ 020 8428 1324  
✉ office@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk  
🐦 @GrimsdykeSchool

## Newsletter 5 7th November 2014

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after half term and I hope you all had a fantastic break. We have had a good start to the half term apart from the on-going parking situation. It is very disappointing for us as a school to see parents parking on the zig zag lines which is illegal but then do not do so when Mr Sutherland and I are outside. This is not giving our pupils the correct message about sensible behaviour. We should be able to trust our parents to behave correctly whether we are outside or not!

**SURELY ALL OUR PARENTS WANT TO HELP US TO KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE.**

I am sorry that I had to postpone the Parents' Curriculum Evening later this month but the new curriculum has not been embedded yet and we do not know enough about the new assessment procedures to be able to share them. We hope you will find the Curriculum Update attached to this newsletter useful. This is a trial and we shall be reviewing it next term. We really do value the relationship between school and home.

I hope as many parents as possible will attend the Parents Disco on the 14th November. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to get to know other parents, have some fun and raise money for the school. I shall be there having fun! Mr Rafferty will be supplying the disco and many of you know him from the Summer and Christmas Fairs so it should be a great evening.

I am sure everyone is looking forward to the Christmas Fair on the 28th November. We hope as many parents will be able to help us for part of the evening especially with the tidying up. All the money raised will go towards furnishing the new school kitchen in our proposed new building and I know many parents have appreciated the introduction of hot school meals. Having our own school kitchen will ensure the quality and quantity of food is more consistent.

We shall be having the Junior School Carol Concert in St. Anselm's Church on Monday 15th December at 2.15p.m. Spaces are very limited and we will only be able to have 1 parent per family and absolutely no pre-school children. The School Choir will be singing but we have lost some of our singers. If your child is in Year 3 - 6 and would like them to join the Choir please encourage them to come to the rehearsals on Tuesday at 11.45a.m. They only last 30 minutes.

I am on Twitter and will try to use this more consistently. I can be followed on @GGcaroli. We are hoping this will also improve the communication between school and parents.

This half term will be very busy with many events and I look forward to seeing you at some if not all of them.

Best Wishes  
Gwenda Caroli  
Headteacher.

### Important News

Nick Gibb MP (Minister of State for School Reform) has written to Mrs Caroli, congratulating her, staff and pupils on the very high standard of achievement in this year's phonics check.

The DoE have ranked Grimsdyke School in the top 5% of schools with at least 95% of Year 1 pupils achieving the expected standard in the check. Statistics show that almost all pupils who achieve the expected standard in the check go on to achieve at least the expected standard in Key Stage 1 Reading, which underlines the value of developing the ability to decode words effectively at an early age.

✓ Headteacher, Grimsdyke School  
Transport/Parking Department, Harrow Borough  
Education Department, Harrow Borough

Unfortunately this letter has been received from a local resident. We urge you to be respectful of our neighbours when parking in the morning and afternoon in order to avoid this upset.

10 October 2014

**Something needs to be done before a child is killed on Sylvia Avenue outside Grimsdyke School**

Hello,

I am writing this in disgust but more importantly to stop a toddler being killed by a car. More than ever parents are now completely ignoring the yellow school markings and at the same time blocking residents' driveways.

There has always been a problem on Sylvia Avenue but with the new term this has got considerably worse. This afternoon as I was walking back home I had to shout across the road as a child had opened the door on the road side from a car that was illegally parked on the markings when another car was approaching that car. The mother (who was on the other side of the car) shall we say "challenged me".....I responded by saying that I was trying to draw attention to all parties otherwise the other driver would have clipped her car's door thereby hitting the child.

I am not giving my name because I have been abused by parents who have either blocked my drive and use it to do a 3-point turn. I have also seen parents reversing into the school approach road to turn their cars. The problem is made worse as a sizeable number of the vehicles are either 4X4's or MPVs/SUVs.

I understand that the school wants to expand – this will make it even worse!!

All I am saying is that something needs to be done before a child is hurt.

## Grand Anniversary Concert



Tonic Choir and Grimsdyke School Choir performed beautifully at the Great Hall in Hatch End High School. The performance of WW1 and WW2 Songs raised **£1490.**

All proceeds have been donated to the Royal British Legion.



Grimsdyke School

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Mrs G Caroli—Headteacher

020 8428 1324

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@GrimsdykeSchool

## Newsletter 2 19th September 2014

Dear Parents,

We are getting very excited about the school's 75<sup>th</sup> Celebrations and we hope you will be able to attend either the Thursday evening Open School or the Sunday Performance at the Great Hall Hatch End High School. If any parent would like to accompany us to church on Friday Morning please contact me by email.

We would like to remind parents about arrival at school:

- **All children should be in the playground before 8.45 a.m.**
  - Parents of Junior School Pupils should remain by the gates and not go into the playground. If a child is unhappy please take them into the Medical Room. Any urgent messages can be sent by email or given to the office.
  - Parents may accompany their children into the Infant School Playground. However parents are asked to leave the playground immediately when the bell rings. This allows the children to be taken safely into school by the staff.
  - Can I remind parents that children are not allowed to ride scooters on the school premises both before and after school. This is to ensure no child is hurt when accidentally knocked by a scooter.
  - The Adventure Playground is for school use only and can only be used when supervised by school staff. It must not be used after school by any child except After School Club.
- The safety of the children is paramount to the school and together we can ensure this.

### Parking

The complaints about irresponsible parking have started again. This causes us huge embarrassment. One parent not only parked across another parents drive but became rude when challenged. It is illegal to park on the zigzag lines and to cause an obstruction. Please park considerably and be good role models for our pupils.

### Hot School Meals

Thank you so much for your patience with the teething problems we are experiencing. We really want this to be successful as mostly the children are enjoying the meals. We are trying to support ISS as much as possible with Mr Sutherland, Mrs Pearn and I helping to dry cutlery on Wednesday!!

Mrs O'Reilly and Mrs McInern are working really hard to support this venture and I would like to say a huge thank you to them because without their hard work there would be even more teething problems.

The Support and Front of School Staff have been very supportive and again I must say thank you to them. Hopefully all the problems will be ironed out shortly.

### Expansion

I hope you have all received your paperwork and we look forward to seeing you at the meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30p.m. This is an exciting time for Grimsdyke but we understand many parents will have questions and some anxieties. The Chair of Governors Mr David Poole is also available by email to answer any of your questions.

Have a fantastic weekend.

Best wishes  
Gwenda Caroli  
Headteacher.



## Cars that are still parking illegally and dangerously



### Parkfield Youth FC

Parkfield Youth FC are holding a summer football camp on 28th July—1st August. For further details see attached or visit [www.parkfieldyouthfc.com](http://www.parkfieldyouthfc.com)



Last day of term—School closes early  
Wednesday 23rd July

1.15pm—Year 6  
1.30pm—Rest of School

### **REMINDER ABOUT CHANGES TO HOME TIME ARRANGEMENTS**

Please contact Mrs Patel by phone (02084281324 option 3) or by email—[attendance@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk) to report any changes to home time arrangements. Please note Mrs Patel will only be able to pass on messages received BEFORE 2.30 p.m. She has a number of jobs she needs to do in the afternoons and there is no guarantee she will be able to deal with messages received after 2.30 p.m. Thank you for your co-operation.

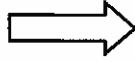


# Cars that are still parking illegally and dangerously

## Persistent offender

This car is regularly parked on yellow lines during prohibited periods. This endangers children trying to cross the road.

The owner of this car is breaking the law.



There is plenty of parking at Shaftsbury fields car park and on surrounding roads. Please park considerately.



JUNE 2014



CAR DOING  
3 POINTS  
TURN!!

CAR  
PARKED →  
FINING  
500.00

← CAR  
PARTY  
BLOCKING  
DRIVEWAY



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## Newsletter 20 9th June 2014

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a good weekend, especially as the weather was so glorious. Year 4 certainly had a fantastic time on their school journey. The children were very well behaved and a credit to the school.

I hope you have all kept Friday 20th June free for the School Carnival. The children are very busy rehearsing their songs and dances, which I am sure will be fantastic. No doubt you are all looking forward to the staff dance which will be the climax to the Carnival. Tickets will be on sale as of Monday 16th June from Mrs Caroli. The price is £1 per adult, children are free to enter. All money raised during the carnival will go towards building a kitchen so the hot school meals can be cooked on site. We hope everyone will give generously. If anybody can help, please contact any of the FOGS team members or myself as the more people we can get to help, the easier the event will be. Hope you can all make it.

As you can see from the pictures below parking continues to be an issue. We do not want any of our parents to get a parking ticket and obviously we do not want any of the children hurt! Please support the school by parking sensibly and ensuring the area around the school is as safe as possible.

I can only apologise that one of the gates is not working properly, but we are still waiting for a replacement part. However several parents and children are walking on the driveway. This is very dangerous as it can trigger the automatic opening of the gate and a child could get squashed behind it. Also the large double gates are for cars only, no parents or pupils should be entering or exiting through them. We do not want anybody hurt through misuse of the school gates. **PLEASE USE THE PEDESTRIAN GATES AT ALL TIMES.**

Looking forward to seeing everybody at the Carnival and fingers crossed for good weather.

Best Wishes

*Jovanda Caroli*

Mrs G Caroli  
Headteacher



### KS2 (Junior) Sports Day— Thursday 12th June

Please bring in a t-shirt in your house group colour to be worn at sports day.

Parents are invited to come along at 10 am to watch the children compete and then stay for lunch on the field after the event. Siblings not taking part are welcome to join parents on the field for lunch.





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## Newsletter 18 9th May 2014

Dear Parents,

We hope all the children have enjoyed their first few weeks back at school. Next week the children in the Junior School will be sitting their Annual Tests with Year 6 children sitting the end of KS2 tests. Please make sure your children are in school on time.

As you can see cars continue to park on the zigzag lines. Could I remind parents that it is illegal to park there between 8:30a.m. and 9:30 a.m. and between 3 p.m. and 4.30 p.m.

It is vital that this section is kept free to ensure our pupils can be seen crossing the road. Surely no one wants a child to be hurt.

Also please refrain from driving whilst using your mobile. It is dangerous especially around children and also illegal.

Best Wishes  
*Jocunda Caroli*

Mrs G Caroli  
Headteacher



### Sainsbury's vouchers

Thank you for all the vouchers we've had to date. If you still have any at home, please bring them in to the School Office before Friday 6th June



### Bags to schools - 14th May

Please donate unwanted textiles in the bag provided – this can include clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, bags, soft toys  
Bags can only be dropped off on Wednesday 14th May.



### REMINDER ABOUT CHANGES TO HOME TIME ARRANGEMENTS

Please contact Mrs Patel by phone (02084281324 option 3) or by email—attendance@grimsdyke.harrow.sch.uk to report any changes to home time arrangements. Please note Mrs Patel will only be able to pass on messages received BEFORE 2.30 p.m. She has a number of jobs she needs to do in the afternoons and there is no guarantee she will be able to deal with messages received after 2.30 p.m. Thank you for your co-operation.



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## Newsletter 16 4th April 2014

Dear Parents,

I am sure the children are all looking forward to having two weeks away from school and we hope everyone has a great time. Please look at the Parents' Room in Fronter as we have put 2 documents there which may be of interest to you - the minutes of the last Governing Body and an Updated Strategic Development Plan.

Unfortunately inconsiderate parking continues to be a problem and here are two more photographs showing it is continuing. Parking on the zigzag lines is illegal both at dropping off time and picking up from school time. The rules are there to keep the children safe.

Also we are having some difficulties with some of the toys the older children are currently bringing into school. As the school has plenty of equipment to occupy the children we have decided not to allow any toys or books from home in the school playground at break time or lunchtime for the Junior School Pupils. The Infant School may continue at this time to bring in small pocket toys for lunchtime.

A very big thank you to all of you who have returned the Parents' Questionnaire and I hope that we will receive the remainder after the holidays. Your feedback will be discussed both at the Parents' Forum and at Governing Body Meetings.

Please remember that school restarts on Wednesday 23rd April as the Tuesday is an Inset Day for school staff.

I hope the Easter Break is a good one for everybody. again we would urge our parents to act sensibly when driving and parking around the school.

*Gwendolyn Caroli*

Mrs G Caroli  
Headteacher



### **Dads Curry Night—a note from FOGS**

We raised a tremendous £870 which is the most ever raised from a single, parent event!! We, the committee would like to whole heartedly 'thank' everyone who came last night for all the support we received and a big thanks goes out to Robertson Phillips for their impromptu donation of £100, a most pleasant and unexpected surprise!!

Also a big thanks to Mumbai Gardens for hosting the event and for the great food. .... absolutely brilliant! !



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## **Newsletter 15 28th March 2014**

Dear Parents,

Well it has been an exciting time these last two weeks for the school. The Sports Relief Week was very exciting and thank you to all the Parents who supported the school. Also thank you to all the people who paid to sponge Mr Sutherland and myself. We raised over £90 on that alone. The sponsorship money is still coming in but the total raised so far is already over £2000.

The Ladies Night organised by several members of the FOGS Committee was a great success and raised a significant amount of money for the school. Please read Mrs Kotecha's account contained in this newsletter. I would also like to thank Emmanuel for hosting the event at his restaurant Donna Theresa. Any fathers who have not bought their tickets yet—Mr Sutherland and I are still selling them.

It is wonderful to be able to celebrate a positive event in this newsletter.

Parking however continues to be an issue plus inconsiderate driving. I am including an excerpt from an email I received from a former parent who lives locally in this newsletter plus some photographs a neighbour sent in. It is very embarrassing when the School's receives emails such as this and once again we would urge our parents to act sensibly when driving and parking around the school.

*Gwendolyn Caroli*

Mrs G Caroli  
Headteacher

### **Excerpt from neighbour:**

This quick note concerns the increasingly anti-social behaviour of the parents who drop their children off by car at Grimsdyke School.

The behaviour I refer to includes the following anti-social behaviour of the parents encountered during a typical school week: people "barging" their way on the wrong side of the road whilst driving up Hillview Road; people refusing to let residents pull out of their drive; people pulling onto the grass and driveways to pass others down the road; people arguing and hooting their horns at each other as they "face off" driving up the road; blocking the car park within the park (not helped by the illegal parking of the ice cream van on double yellow lines used by parents daily in the entrance), and people today actually parking high up on the grass at the rear of the car park amongst the shrubbery overlooking gardens; people hooting their horn repeatedly to "call" their children from the playing field; the people throwing litter and food out of children's lunchboxes into the road. I could continue.

Continued overleaf....

Excerpt continued.....

One view of this of course is that it isn't the school's problem - after all it happens outside the school gates - but I don't think a sensible person or responsible organisation would argue this, since all this traffic and associated problems relate to the school journey and day. Notwithstanding this can the school do anything about it even if it wanted to? Well ultimately maybe not effectively, but a reasonable response might be to communicate the problem via the PTA, during Parent Teacher evenings, via the website, and or other parent newsletters, asking for respect for the local residents.



This particular parent has been reported by another parent as well as the neighbours as a persistent offender.

### **Mums Night Out**

Written by Raksha Kotacha and Juliette Lewin of FOGS

The Mums Night Out on Thursday 20th March was a great success. FOGs would like to thank all the mums who attended for their support and enthusiasm, which helped to raise an amazing £421! Sincere thanks to Emanuel and all the staff at Doña Theresa restaurant (Hatch End) who made the evening run smoothly, and facilitated the music and dancing at the end.

The raffle prizes were generously donated by local businesses, FOGs members and school staff. Many thanks to:

- Julie Cass for 4 X-factor Live tickets;
- Virgin Active Health and Racquets Club, Northwood for the family weekend pass;
- Bliss, Hatch End for beauty products;
- Dermalogica, Hatch End for a luxury manicure;
- Mrs Caroli for a luxury manicure;
- HOB salon, Hatch End for a voucher;
- The Works, Hatch End for a voucher;
- Hair ID, Hatch End for luxury hair products;
- Doña Theresa, Hatch End for a restaurant voucher and wine;
- Mosfilo, Hatch End for a restaurant voucher;
- Rainbeau, Hatch End for chocolates;
- Genuine cakes, Hatch End for a box of cupcakes;
- Caroline Murphy, Sarah Ellis Barker, Raksha Kotecha for wine and champagne prizes. - who also did the organisation.

We hope to see more of the school mums at the next evening of good food and entertainment!

### **Zumba— Cancelled for foreseeable future**

Zumba at Grimsdyke is cancelled for the foreseeable future due to lack of attendance. If you would like to sign up for a 4 week course, then please contact Zoe.



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## Newsletter 14 14th March 2014

Dear Parents,

Parking continues to be a source of major frustration both to the school, our neighbours and some parents. Our neighbours in particular are getting very frustrated with cars constantly being parked over their driveways and on the zigzag lines. The school is being brought into disrepute by these actions. In this newsletter you will find pictures of cars parked inconsiderately. We hope this will embarrass the owners to be more considerate in the future. Please support the school by parking in the correct manner in the streets around the school.

Also could I remind parents that the street leading to the school gates is private property and parents should not drive into the road at any time including dropping off for Breakfast Club and After School Club. This is not a dropping off point.

We hope that all parents will be able to attend the Consultation Evenings next week. Both Mr Sutherland and I will be around to answer any queries.

I hope you have a good weekend especially as we are due to have some favourable weather.

*Giavanda Caroli*

Mrs G Caroli  
Headteacher







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## Newsletter 12 7th February 2014

Dear Parents,

Once again the term has flown by and half term is just a week away.

At the last Governing Body it was decided that I would write to you once again to ask for your support with keeping our children safe both directly outside and before/after School. The zigzag lines are placed there so that children can cross safely. Unfortunately parents are constantly breaking the law and stopping on them to drop their children off. This gives the wrong message to our pupils in that they are saying it is fine to break the law. Obviously that is not the message we want our pupils to learn. Therefore could I ask you all to abide by the law and not stop on the zigzag lines between 8.30 & 9.30a.m. and 3.00 & 4.30 p.m. The same applies to parking across our neighbours' drives - this is very inconsiderate of parents and makes our neighbours very unhappy with the school.

Also some parents are driving quite quickly around the school area and we urge you all to drive as carefully as possible. We teach the children to take care when crossing the road but as you can imagine they don't always remember to 'do the right thing'.

Could I remind parents that the road leading up to the school gates is private property and parents should not drive into it at any time even when dropping off or picking up from Breakfast and After School Club. You may receive a parking fine! If you see any parents parking on the zigzag lines please let us know the colour and registration number of the car and we will publish them in future newsletters. We must keep our children safe!

Also we are now going to put the Main Governing Body Minutes into the Parents' Page on Fronter. The first one should go in next week. Confidential items are discussed under what is known as Part 2. These cannot be made available to parents. The minutes are currently being checked for accuracy.

I hope everyone has a great time over half term fingers crossed for good weather.

*Gwendal Caroli*

Mrs G Caroli  
Headteacher

### DATA COLLECTION SHEETS

There are still a number of Data sheets that have not been returned. These are used to contact you in an emergency. It is vital they are up to date. Please help us keep these records accurate.

### Lunch Boxes and Uniform

All uniform should be clearly labelled. It is very difficult to return uniform that is not labelled.



Please ensure that your child's name and class are clearly displayed on the outside of their lunchbox. We have 420 pupils, and only about 30 different lunchbox types. So it is very easy for children to get confused and accidentally take the wrong lunchbox.



**P**

## PARKING

Parking around the school is becoming a serious problem and is endangering the safety of our pupils.

Any parents found parking illegally or without due care and attention will have their car registration number displayed on our website and persistent offenders will be reported to the borough.

The safety of the children at Grimsdyke is and always will be our priority!

If you see any parents parking illegally or inconsiderately please make a note of the Make, Colour and Registration number and we will name and shame them on the website and newsletter, and if necessary report them to the borough.

**This affects the safety of our children. Please help us.**

## HEAD LICE REPELLENT

If you prefer to use organic products for you and your family, we have been informed about the new organic head lice repellent that is available online from



[www.nanas-organic.com](http://www.nanas-organic.com)

This product is made up of 100% certified organic products and unlike most head lice repellents, it contains absolutely no pesticides, as certified by the Organic Soil Association.

Please check your child's hair on a regular basis and if you are at all concerned ask your local pharmacist for advice.

Please note that children with long hair need to wear it tied back for school.

## HEALTHY WEIGHT CONSULTATION EVENT

Harrow Council are holding a consultation evening at Harrow Arts Centre.

Harrow Council would like to you attend if you :

- Are a professional who can support patients regarding healthy weight
- Find it hard to maintain a healthy weight
- Have used weight management services in the past (or are using them now)
- Work in a profession where talking to individuals or families about weight may arise

Health Weight Consultation Event

Date: Monday 27th January 2014

Time: 3.30—5.30pm

Venue: Hatch End suite,  
Harrow Arts Centre,  
Hatch End, HA5 4EA



## FREE WORKSHOP—TAKING CHARGE OF YOUR LIFE

Helping families communicate and coping with change. During the 3 sessions they will be looking at:

- How parents and significant others affect our behaviour and parenting
- The differences between Assertive, Aggressive and Passive behaviour styles
- Communicating with our family
- What makes us resistant to change and how we can begin to plan for important changes in our lives.
- Breathing and relaxation techniques

Date: Thursday 30th Jan (3 Thursdays)

Time: 1-3pm

Venue: Stanmore Park Children's Centre

To book or for further information:

Tel: 020 8427 2801

Email: [relate\\_training@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:relate_training@yahoo.co.uk)

## DATA COLLECTION SHEETS

Please sign and return the Data Collection Sheets to the Medical Room by Friday 31st January.

Your details need to be confirmed whether or not there are any changes.

## Trinity Orchestra—Family Concert

### Peter and the Wolf

Saturday 1st February

Time 4pm (plus pre-concert workshop at 2pm)

For further details visit [www.trinityorchestra.org.uk](http://www.trinityorchestra.org.uk)



## WORLD BOOK DAY—6th March

Please look out for your voucher, in your child's bag, which can be spent at any participating bookshop.

