



**Grange View C.E. First School**  
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Headteacher: Mrs Louise Laskey



**Grange View C.E. First School**  
**We aim to SPARKLE!**



Dear Parents

24<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Welcome back to a new half term with lots of exciting things happening between now and Easter. Please keep up to date by reading all our news!

**Staff news!!**

On Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February we said goodbye and thank you to Mrs Hepworth who left to take up a new post. We gave her a lovely send-off after school and wish her well in her new job.

We will be welcoming our new Office Manager Amanda Brown on Monday 23rd March. Mrs Brown will be working for 2 weeks alongside Mrs McQuillen before she sadly leaves us on Fri 3rd April to take up early retirement.

**FREE Parent Workshops**

A letter came home last week offering FREE parent workshops in school with refreshments on a Monday 2-3pm to support with Sleep, behaviour and healthy eating.

The first workshop arranged for today has been cancelled due to adverse weather and is now re-arranged for Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March.

**Ash Wednesday Service this Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February**

This will be held at 9am in school Hall and Rev Joanna will be leading with Year 1/2/3/4. All families welcome to join us in the school hall with the children and staff.

**Gods Tent**

Gods Tent is hoping to return this weekend on the school site in our Forest Area with Crafts, fun and hot chocolate on Sunday 1st March , 3pm

**Parent Conduct**

We have received concerns from members of the public about parents at our school gates behaving inappropriately in front of our children. Parents were seen to be swearing and screaming at young children; please remember our children are all very precious and we all want the best for all our families.

**World Book Day**

A letter has already been sent home to you all from the school council. This event takes place on Thurs 5th March. Your child should come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

**Sports Relief Week**

9th March all week - the whole school will be taking part in different sponsored sports activities. This will include a 'Pound Exercise Activity' with instructor Bethan Ashton on Thursday 12th March.

**Easter Events**

Non Uniform for Easter Egg Donations For Friends of Grange View- Fri 20th March

Easter Fair - 2pm Fri 27th March

Easter Egg Family Egg decorating Competition- week beginning 30th March (details to follow)

### Continuing Advice for parents/guardians re Coronavirus

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal.

### What action you can take

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus. Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

### BABY PLAY

Every Thursday in the school nursery at 1.30pm - Baby Play is suitable for babies from birth to walking.

### Mental Health week- Mental Health and Wellbeing Family Challenge!- # Let's get our Community Talking

#### What are we doing? (Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am)

Schools and child-care settings across Amble, Widdrington and Warkworth are joining together and taking part in the # Let's get Britain Talking Campaign and we're challenging all families and pupils to join in too!

#### Grange View C of E First School- Litter Pick

27<sup>th</sup> March 2020, litter pick 9.30am-10.30am after Family Worship in the morning we would welcome families to come to school and collect their child to walk around the village together cleaning up our local environment. The school will provide bin bags and gloves for adults. We hope that we can all chat on our mission to clean up Widdrington station and bring families together. All rubbish to returned to school for our Caretaker to dispose of.

### School Council Family Learning Task

The School Council have chosen to focus on developing a greener world this term. They would like to take part in the Climate Change Challenge. All families are invited to make a poster, video, song etc about the importance of saving energy, this could include turning lights off, using less vehicles, recycling and reusing more. We look forward to seeing your creations after half term - the school council have many ideas and suggestions for the school to be greener - WATCH THIS SPACE!

### KS2 Residential Trip to Hawkhurst – 20-22 May 2020

This is fast approaching so to help ease with the cost of the visit parents can make regular/weekly payments at the school office. The full balance will be expected to have been settled by Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> May. This gives parents about 3 months to pay the full amount, thank you.

### Class DOJO/Facebook

Please note that Staff are happy to answer any queries up until 5pm on Dojo and only Mrs Laskey or Mrs Chapman up until 8pm on Facebook.

### PE Kit

Children are missing out on valuable PE lessons due to not having the correct kit in school – kit does not include football kit. PE kit is school PE top, black shorts and sandshoes. There is no spare PE kit in school so please make sure your child has his/her kit in at all times. **Pupils reports will be changing this year and will include information about PE kit, Attendance and homework commitment.**

Please make sure your child has pierced ears covered for all PE lessons or have ear-rings removed.

### Cold weather

Please remember to stay on the gritted pathways around school on all cold icy mornings to avoid any slipping and sliding. Our Caretaker Mr Guy is on site early making sure each pathway on the Gritting plan has been salted.

### Inclement weather

During these cold and rainy mornings the school doors will open at 8.45am at the earliest, so we encourage you to arrive on the yard just before 8.50am for the bell which rings at 8.50am. If you arrive early you may

get wet and cold! Children will be escorted into school as usual by the class teacher, so please don't try to come into school early as your child will not be supervised.

In the case of school closure due to severe weather please always check school website, Face Book page, Northumberland County Council Website and listen to Radio Newcastle. The school will also use the Text2Parents Messaging Service.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR CHILD WEARING APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR WHEN THE WEATHER IS WET – NO CANVAS TRAINERS FOR EXAMPLE AS YOUR CHILD WILL HAVE COLD WET FEET FOR MOST OF THE DAY

### **NUT ALLERGIES IN PACKED LUNCHES**

**We have still have a child in school with nut allergies therefore for the safety of the child but this week some parents are who are not checking . Mrs Laskey has found Kinder bars, hazelnut croissants, nutella sandwiches etc.**

**All nut based biscuits, bars , spreads etc in our school are banned . This includes chocolate spreads that are nut based and any other bakes and pastries eg. Pain au chocolate, crepes , nutty biscuits etc . So sorry for any inconvenience but this is essential for the well-being of all our children. Thank you.**

### **Reading**

It is essential you try and read with your child every day and record in their book if you have please. In some cases parents are not support their child with this and it impacts on their learning and progress. Please help us with your child's learning by hearing them read at least **3 TIMES PER WEEK**, thank you.

### **Tips for reading with children of any age:**

- Set aside some time
- Find somewhere quiet without any distractions - turn off the TV/radio/computer.
- Ask your child to choose a book
- Sharing books they have chosen shows you care what they think and that their opinion matters. This means they are more likely to engage with the book.
- Sit close together
- Encourage your child to hold the book themselves and/or turn the pages.
- Point to the pictures
- If there are illustrations, relate them to something your child knows. Ask them to describe the characters or situation or what will happen next. Encourage them to tell you the story by looking at the pictures.
- Encourage your child to talk about the book
- Talking about the characters and their dilemmas helps children understand relationships and is an excellent way for you to get to know each other or discuss difficult issues. Give your child plenty of time to respond. Ask them what will happen next, how a character might be feeling or how the book makes them feel.
- And lastly, above all - make it fun!

It doesn't matter how you read with a child, as long as you both enjoy the time together.

Don't be afraid to use funny voices - children love this! It's never too early to start reading with your baby too.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/how-to-read-with-your-child/>

### **FREE SCHOOL MEALS (PUPIL PREMIUM)**

Some parents/carers whose income is below £16,190 per family are entitled to Free School Meals (OFSTED call this pupil premium). The school currently receives additional funding per pupil in our budget to use to support these pupils across the school. We use it to benefit every child by supporting us to have extra staff for small group work, buy resources to support small group work and interventions. A small proportion of this funding is used to subsidise Breakfast and Afterschool clubs and support half the cost of residential and school visits.

The information is fully available on the school website for everyone to read.

If you are entitled to apply please ring the Local Authority on 01670 623592.

## **Punctuality**

Pupils are recorded as being late for school if they arrive after the doors have closed and come in through the main school doors. All Doors will be locked once classes are inside and the main entrance will have to be used.

**IF YOU ARE RUNNING LATE FOR ANY REASON OR YOUR CHILD IS NOT COMING INTO SCHOOL DUE TO SICKNESS OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES, PLEASE RING TO LET US KNOW, THANK YOU.**

All late marks show on children's attendance registers and we will be routinely contacting parents whose children are regularly late. Our routines start the minute children arrive at school with children getting straight on with their independent work in class. Children arriving late miss out on vital learning time and find it harder to settle into the school day and some pupils get upset when they are constantly late. Please help us by ensuring your child is at school, ready to come in when the bell rings at 8.50am. We'll keep you posted on how we are doing in our assemblies and newsletters.

## **Attendance**

PLEASE NOTE THE INCREASE TO 94% attendance for any child taken out of school for a holiday in term time. This is the minimum they must have if parents do not want to be issued a penalty notice unless there are exceptional circumstances.

All schools in the Coquet Partnership have agreed that if an unauthorised leave of absence is taken during term time and the pupil's attendance in the 12 month period leading up to the absence is less than 94%, an application to the Local Authority for a penalty notice may be made based on the circumstances. Our overall whole school attendance target is 97%.

## **Ofsted Attendance**

**To aim to an outstanding school Ofsted say- 'Pupils value their education and rarely miss a day at school. No groups of pupils are disadvantaged by low attendance. The attendance of pupils who have previously had exceptionally high rates of absence is rising quickly towards the national average'.**

**Grange View needs every pupil at school every day to improve our overall attendance please**

**NO HOLIDAYS will be authorised in term time.**

We have Education Welfare Officer working with us this year who will be monitoring attendance very closely; especially the late marks so please ensure your child/ren are on the school yard for the bell at 8.50am every morning.

## **For week ending 7/2/2020**



Well done to Beech Class who won with 98.2%
Acorn – 90.6%; Oak – 86.5%; Elm – 96.5%; Beech – 98.2%
Chestnut – 96.4%; Willow – 98.0%
TOTAL FOR THE WEEK – 94.6%
Below our new school target which is now 97%



### Acorn

Merit – Rose, Theia  
Writing – Abbie-Rose  
Sparkle – Lara-Lee

### Oak

Merit – Nicole, Jessica  
Writing – Olivia  
Sparkle –Domenica

### Elm

Merit – Jayden B, Frankie  
Writing – Georgie  
Sparkle - Harley

### Stars of the Week



Caught Sparkling  
Bella-Rose - Acorn  
Niamh – Oak  
Roseann –Beech  
Jack - Chestnut

### Beech

Merit – Libby-Ellen, Lucie  
Writing – Amelia  
Sparkle –Amelia

### Chestnut

Merit – Harry, Sean  
Writing – Riley  
Sparkle –Leah

### Willow

Merit – Leah, Lucy  
Writing – Bailey  
Sparkle – Aaron

### Dates for diaries

- ☐ **Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Feb – 9am Ash Wednesday Service for Years 1/2/3/4**
- ☐ **Sun 1<sup>st</sup> March – God’s Tent**
- ☐ **Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> March – WORLD BOOK DAY**
- ☐ **Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Fri 13<sup>th</sup> March – Sports Relief Activity Week**
- ☐ **Mon 16<sup>th</sup> March – 3.15pm Messy Monday in the hall – all welcome**
- ☐ **Tues 17<sup>th</sup> March – Y4 Trigolf tournament at Bothal Primary**
- ☐ **Fri 20<sup>th</sup> March – Non uniform for Easter Egg donation for the Easter Fair**
- ☐ **Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March – Y4 football tournament at Ashington Academy**
- ☐ **Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March – LITTLER PICK 9.30am after family worship + EASTER FAIR AT 2.15pm IN THE HALL**
- ☐ **Tues 31<sup>st</sup> March – KS1 trip to Boulmer rock pools**
- ☐ **Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> April – END OF TERM**
- ☐ **Mon 20<sup>th</sup> April – Summer Term begins**

Kind regards,

Louise Laskey  
Headteacher



## A new Parent Carer Forum for Northumberland

**Children and Young People 0-25 who have**

**Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)**

In It Together are standing down as the DfE recognised parent carer forum for SEND in Northumberland. We are therefore in the process of setting up a new Parent Carer Forum and would really like to have your views.

A parent carer forum is a group of parents and carers of children with special educational needs and or disability (SEND). The aim is to make sure the services in your area meet the needs of SEND children, young people and their families.

They do this by gathering the views of local families and then working in partnership with local authorities, education settings, health providers and other providers to highlight where local services, processes and commissioners are working well, or challenge when changes or improvements need to be made.

Forums usually have a steering group of parents who lead this work and listen to the views of other parents in the local area to make sure they know what is important to them. Forums are keen to hear from as many parent carers as possible.

### Who can join a parent carer forum?

Parents or carers of a child with any type of additional need or disability are welcome to join. Joining your forum does not mean you have to commit lots of time. In most forums you can join and receive information, and then decide if you want to get more involved at your own pace.

Contact will be working with other organisations in Northumberland to develop a new forum and we would really like to hear your views on how you think the forum would work best for you. There will be meetings taking place across the County the list is below, but in the meantime if you would like to be involved or need more information please email me directly at [Catherine.ratcliffe@Cafamily.org.uk](mailto:Catherine.ratcliffe@Cafamily.org.uk)

27 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	Northumberland CVA, 107-109 Station Road, Ashington, NE63 8RS	10.30am to 12.30
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020	Barnado's Devonworth Place, Blyth, NE24 5AQ	10.30 am to 12.30