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|  | |  | | --- | | **Grange View C.E. First School**  Grange Road, Widdrington Morpeth, NE61 5LZ.  Telephone: 01670 790 686  email: admin@grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk  Headteacher: Mrs Louise Laskey B.Ed(Hons) **www.grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk** | |  |

**16th April 2018**

**Dear Parent/Carers**

**Welcome back to everyone. It was lovely to see everyone back today for a busy summer term! We are looking forward to a term full of exciting learning ahead.**

**Sports Relief 2018**

You have raised a massive £782. Hope you all saw us in Morpeth Herald. Thank you for your support.

**Residential Hoodies**

The School and Friends of Grange View are funding a “residential hoodie” for every child who is attending Hawkhirst Residential next month. Please see Mrs Chapman with your child’s size if you wish to order one, thank you.

**Nursery and Reception Places**

If you have a baby in the family or know someone who lives in the village who has a baby please can a Nursery application form be completed? We are asked by the Local Authority to predict our Nursery pupil numbers as far ahead as 2020/21. This helps the Local Authority allocate funding and helps us calculate if we can offer Nursery places.

We now have been informed by the local authority who has a place for Reception for Sept 2018, you should have all received confirmation of this if you applied for Grange View.

**Site Security**

Due to a break in during the holiday to our Early Years Quad we are now investing in additional CCTV cameras.

As the nights grow warmer and lighter we want to ensure our site stays secure and free from any damage. School gates are locked every night and if anyone is seen or caught on site the police will be called immediately. Any reported names of any pupils or ex-pupils on site will also be given to the police, as this is also classed as trespassing. Please report to the school office any incidents that you know of**.**

**The school day – Cloakroom Doors**

Please remember that Nursery doors open at 8.45am and stay open until 8.55am. BUT Oak/Elm/Beech/ Chestnut and Willow doors close at 8.50am as soon as the children are in the building. The school day begins when the bell rings. Please use the Nursery entrance for your child to keep routines familiar for them.

Please be aware that if your child has to come in via the main entrance, he/she will receive a late mark in the register and these marks are monitored by the Education Welfare Officer.

**Parent View Questionnaire winner- Mrs Hately won a Next shopping voucher for completing her online questionnaire. Thank you for all the positive replies online and on paper too!**

**Maths Open afternoon- New date is Friday 27th April 2pm in your child’s classroom. Please come along to learn about the exciting maths we deliver.**

**Topic Evaluations from the Spring Term**

**Acorn Class- Spring 2 People who help us.**

This terms people who help us topic has been a very popular one. We have found out about people who help us in school such as the staff in the kitchen and in the office we asked questions to find out what they do. Mr Millican the caretaker also came to talk to us and explain his job. We have been very fortunate to have some other special visitors too, the police and the fire service came in to tell us about their work and show us the police car and the fire engine, we had the chance to sit in both vehicles, see the flashing lights and the fire fighters let us squirt the fire hose.

**Oak Class Topic Review**

The children have enjoyed another action-packed half term learning all about People Who Help us. Here are some of the things that they have particularly enjoyed;

* We enjoyed learning about People who help us in school and spoke to some adults about their job in school.
* We enjoyed a very exciting visit from a fire engine and some fire-fighters where we got to sit in the fire-engine and use their hose.
* We also enjoyed a visit from a police officer who us let try on some police uniform and sit in the police car.
* We also enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year and made some Chinese lanterns to put up in the classroom.
* Due to all of the snow this half term, we have enjoyed exploring snow inside and outside and learning about freezing and melting.
* We have learnt the story of Easter and why we celebrate it. We then enjoyed making some Easter nest bun cakes.

**Elm Class Topic Review**

Our topic excitedly began with a Key Stage visit to the Blue Reef Aquarium where we learned about the variety of different sea creatures that live in our waters both near to us and far away. We learned about the needs of all animals in order to live and the different foods they eat as well as how some creatures protect themselves from predators by camouflaging themselves with their surroundings. Our day was great fun too and we even got to see the seal show, even as it began to snow!

Throughout the topic the children recalled their learning both from the visit and from the previous topic. We were especially pleased at how many children remembered facts about the oceans from last half term! Our art and design work has also centred around the seawith the children making some amazing watercolour seascapes and designing and building their own boats.

While working with our laptops children have been using animation software to create their own moving sea picture. This is quite complex and needs a large amount of cutting and pasting as well as patience! All our children were able to create a frame and copy it into another and some were becoming quite independent at making two or three frames that could show movement when they played them back. The skills they have gained now will be used when they revisit the software in future years.

This half term we have been lucky enough to have Bear from Cramlington Rockets come in and teach us early rugby and multiskills each week. The children have responded well to his manner and even the shyest children in the class have really come out of their shells. The children have work well individually and it has also been great to see the class respond to each other with such compassion and team work.

Before we knew it we were preparing for Easter and developing our understanding of the Easter story. In Year One we do this in a practical manner and as well as making cards we have also acted out parts of the story, shared a meal of bread and juice with each other, eaten hot cross buns and hard boiled eggs in onion skins to change the colours of their shells. Hopefully they have gained knowledge that will be recalled next year too. Finally, thank you for all the hard work of the many of you who helped our children to decorate hats and eggs and make Easter gardens. I am pleased I did not have to judge any winners as you all did amazingly!

**Beech Class- Topic review**

This half term the children have had an exciting time in our Land Ahoy topic. They have really developed their geographical map reading skills and shown brilliant knowledge of directional language too. As part of this topic we carried out a historical study of Christopher Columbus and the children have found this so interesting. They have used historical evidence such as photographs, letters and we even watched some video clips of about what life may have been like for Columbus and his crew on board his three ships. We used all of this information and even acted out in class different scenes from Columbus’ voyage. We had so much fun doing this! We then used all of this to help us write some diary entries as if we really were Columbus. We had to think about feelings and emotions, ensure all the events were in order and use 1st person. Mrs Miller was very impressed with the writing! In Geography we made our own compasses to help us navigate ourselves around school. We used our directional language to describe which way Christopher Columbus sailed his three ships. In D.T we designed our own pop-up books to help us retell the story of Columbus’ voyage. We used our artistic skills to begin water colouring the background and then we added our pop-up elements.

In Maths this half term we learned that fractions are an equal part of a whole. At first we found this quite challenging but we used our perseverance to get better and understand fractions. By the end of the half term we were all finding fractions of shapes and amounts. A brilliant job!

We can’t forget our trip to Tynemouth Aquarium where we found about habitats under the sea. It was a magical experience to see the animals in real life and on some occasions touch them. We made sketches and lots of observations to help us develop our Science learning when we returned back to school. We are really looking forward to seeing what next half term will bring!

**Willow and Chestnut Class -Topic Review**

What a short but action packed half term we have had during our Wonderful Waterworld topic. Despite the atrocious weather at times we managed to get out on our great trip, following the river Aln from its source in the Cheviot Hills of Alnham through Whittingham and Alnwick to its delta at Alnmouth. It was a busy, action packed day but provided lots of opportunities to consolidate all our learning about the features of rivers and how they have a crucial role in the water cycle. To support our topic learning, the children created their own Powerpoints in ICT, used watercolour paints to illustrate different stages of the river and explained the process in their Literacy.

Subsequently, throughout the term the children learnt lots about staying safe online during our internet safety day, raised impressive amounts of money following their sports relief activities, represented the school brilliantly at the annual dance showcase and best of all had lots of great fun dressing up and embracing their dramatic, imaginary sides as part of World Book Day and the schools’ chosen Julia Donaldson theme. In the final week, despite feeling exhausted from the river trip action the children performed an excellent Easter service and managed to study, design and create water wheels in pairs, some of which actually worked, we were very proud!

**\*\*\*After school clubs\*\*\***

**THESE START THIS WEEK**

* Monday - Code Club for Y3 & 4 with Mrs Chapman
* Monday – Lego Club Rec to Year 4 with Miss Belk
* Tuesday – Football Club
* Wednesday – Dance Club
* Thursday – Y2 Maths Club with Mrs Miller
* Thursday – Minecraft with Mrs Borley (pay online)
* Thursday - Rugby Club for Reception to Year 4
* Friday – Karate
* Friday – Cricket for Year 3 & 4 only

**Pupil Premium (**FREE SCHOOL MEALS)

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 costs of residential and school visits.

Information leaflets are available in the Main Entrance and the FMS telephone number is

01670 623592. If you need any help with this please see the school office.

PLEASE APPLY TO BENEFIT YOU, YOUR CHILD, AND YOUR CHILD’S SCHOOL, THANK YOU.

**Sending money into school**

Please remember if you are sending in any money to school for whatever reason, send it in an envelope or money bag indicating what the money is for, this includes when handing to members of staff. PLEASE DON’T HAND LOOSE CASH TO MEMBERS OF STAFF.

School handles money for lots of different activities and would appreciate your co-operation, thank you.

**PUNCTUALITY**

During last half term we recorded lots of occurrences of pupil lateness. Pupils are recorded as being late for school if they arrive after the doors have closed and come in through the main school doors. Children who arrive after 9am receive an unauthorised mark.

**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 remember your child’s attendance in school is extremely important. Awards will continue to be given to each class with the best attendance. Can we remind parents about a section of the Education Act 1996:

“Central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential is an assumption so widely understood that it is insufficiently stated – pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school”

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

We have a new 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.

**Attendance for week ending 23/3/18**

**Well done Chestnut Class who won with 99.5%**

Acorn – 96.5% Oak –92.6% Elm – 94.6%

Beech – 97.0% Chestnut – 99.5% Willow – 94.8%

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK – 95.7%

Just below our school target of 96%

PLEASE TRY to get your child to school on time every day

and help us achieve our target EVERY week, thank you.

# Diary Dates:

* Monday, 16th April – Messy Monday at 3.15pm
* Monday, 16th April – After School Clubs begin this week (Mon-Fri)
* Monday 23rd April- 4th May – Big Pedal – more information to follow
* Thurs 26th April Maths Open afternoon 2pm for Oak/Elm/Beech/Chestnut and Willow classes
* Tuesday 1st May- No football- Film Club- Paddington Bear 2
* Friday 4th May- all weekend- Owl Festival in Ulgham
* Monday 7th May Bank Holiday – school closed
* Tuesday, 15th May – Friends Spring Bingo Evening
* Monday, 21st May –25th May – Walk To School Week – more information to follow
* Monday 21st May - Messy Monday with the lovely team!
* Monday 21st- 23rd May Y3/4 Residential to Hawkhirst
* Sat 9thJune- possible Friends Car boot sale 9-12pm
* Mon 11 th June – Y4 Quad kids
* Fr 22nd June – Summer Fair afternoon
* Wed 27th June - Y4 Leavers service at Newcastle Cathedral
* Thurs 5th July Y4 transitions to Middle schools
* Fri 13th July- Family Fun afternoon
* Mon 16th July- Leavers tea 5pm Lollo Rosso

**Kind Regards**

Louise Laskey -Mrs L Laskey -Head Teacher