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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** | |  |

**Dear Parent/Carers 31st October 2017**

**A Super ‘Spooktacular’ welcome back**

We are delighted to welcome all our pupils and their families back to school for an awesome eight week term. We have lots of exciting learning experiences planned including a trip in KS2, new developments to our forest school area, a visiting pantomime and concluding with wonderful performances and festive events.

**Aviva – Community Fund Voting.**

As mentioned on out facebook page and at family worship one of our Friends, Lisa Baker, has secured a community fund application, If successful, we will be awarded £8000 towards swimming costs, which I am sure you agree will be an excellent financial support for the current KS2 children and even future academic year cohort. The voting closes in 21 days, so please either follow the link or search for our school on the Aviva Community Fund website. It would be great to receive lots of votes through your support and sharing with friends and family,

<https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-3450>

**MacMillan Coffee Afternoon – A MASSIVE THANK YOU**

What a brilliant time we had on the last day of term, it was great to welcome all our families into the hall to help raise money for such a worthy cause and socialise with each other over a cuppa and slice (or three) of cake. We raised an impressive £346.50, which has been received gratefully by the worthy charity and will no doubt help make a difference to many peoples’ lives.

**Remembrance**

The school council will be selling poppies on the yard every morning next week, beginning Monday 6th November. Could I also make you aware that **Holy Trinity Church** have their Remembrance Service on **Sunday 12th November at 10.30am.**

**Children in Need – Friday 17th November**

We will be taking part in our annual celebration of Children in Need on Friday 17th November. The school council have lots of ‘spotacular’ events planned and will be sending a letter out this week explaining their grand plans!

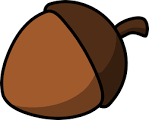
**Flu Immunisation Programme - Monday 11th December**

Just to make you aware, there will be letters coming out the week beginning 4th December with regards to flu immunisations available for children in Reception – Year 4. All information you need in order to make an informed decision will be in the letter from the NHS. If your child has already had the flu vaccine obviously they do not need it again.

# Topic letters

Our class topic letters will be with you next week to enable you to see what we are learning about in school this half term.

This is what we enjoyed last term:

**Acorns class- Autumn 1 – Ourselves**

The children have all settled into Acorn class well and are happy to leave their grown ups and go and get busy at an activity. They have enjoyed making new friends, spending time getting to know the other children and the adults in the class. As part of the topic we have talked a lot about ourselves and our families and done lots of different activities about this.

The children all enjoyed languages day and writing day, when we brought our teddies to school. We also enjoyed learning songs for the harvest festival and were brave and sang them to everyone in family worship. We have had a great first term and we are looking forward to doing lots more exciting things next term.

**Oak Class - Autumn term 1 – Ourselves and families**

The children have settled really well into Oak class and have enjoyed an action packed half term. Here are some of the exciting things we have been doing;

* Visiting the woods to explore the environment and build dens
* PE lessons – gymnastics: use of space
* Turkish day – we made Turkish flags, Turkish cake and took part in some traditional Turkish dancing
* Weekly Yoga sessions with Debbie
* Painting self-portraits and discussing how we are all different and special
* Learning about Autumn and making Autumn leaves for our classroom window
* Learning about Harvest time and making our own ‘Dingle Dangle’ Scarecrows
* Circle time – discussions about how we can all be good friends and help each other in Oak class

**Elm Class – Autumn Term 1 – Northumberland**

The first half term of the school year has been very busy and shown that the children in Elm Class quickly settled into their new class, and in some cases their new school. They all enjoyed making their own farm models showing a range of techniques for cutting and sticking.

As part of the Northumberland topic we also learn some food technology and use this to help our instruction writing in English. This year we made instructions for how to make jam sandwiches and stottie cakes. The writing was good but the making was definitely better! Every child had fun making their own sandwich tailored to their own likes and dislikes before eating it. We have to admit, there was quite a lot of tidying up afterwards, not only of tables and utensils but some children’s faces too! The stottie cakes were a great hit as well. The amount by which our dough grew amazed not only the children but the adults too! The general consensus was that they tasted pretty good too.

The children also enjoyed their time in the wildlife area, especially making their own autumn scents and crowns. They showed great creativity when making their autumn crowns and while making their autumn scents many were amazed about what they saw and smelt though the best bit was when the blackberries changed the colour of the water! We also used our findings in the wildlife area to design and make our own tiles for our school pottery project. The children created some wonderful designs and Lorna, our ‘pottery lady’, was very impressed. We are looking forward to seeing our tiles on display shortly.

Teddy Bear Writing Day gave the children lots of opportunities for writing in different genres including lists for picnics, teddy bear descriptions, teddy bear stories and letters to tell our teddies how much we love them. After all the writing our teddy bears deserved a treat so a teddy bears picnic with sandwiches and biscuits went down well at the end of the day.

Of course we have to mention out visit to Broxfield Farm where Mr Thompson made us all feel very welcome. The children all enjoyed being in the woods, seeing the cows and finding out how the wheat was grown and harvested. Our class work shows they are beginning to think more about where our food comes from and the jobs that farmers do.

After such a great half term we are looking forward to our ‘What are things made of?’ topic and of course Christmas.

**Beech Class- Autumn Term 1 – Northumberland**

Wow! This half term has been jam packed with exciting learning activities! First of all

we kicked off our Northumberland topic with a visit to Broxfield Farm in Alnwick. The

children thoroughly enjoyed exploring Mr Thompson’s land.

They explored the land andfound out all about where our food comes from and how plants grow. The children then wrote some beautiful and thoughtful letters in English to say thank you to Mr Thompson. In English this half term we have explored traditional tales and wrote our own instructions to make Northumbrian soup and chocolate chip muffins! We are experts now in preparing healthy meals and using our D.T skills to prepare and cook nutritious food.

In Art and Design we absolutely loved learning about the Art work of William Morris.

The children explored his natural prints and were inspired to create their own oil pastel

drawing and water colour paintings of natural plants. Our maths skills were also put to

good use when we were lucky enough to work with Lorna Watkinson to create our own

nature inspired symmetry tiles. We also had the chance to immerse ourselves in all

things Turkish for European Languages Day where we discovered lots of geographical

facts about Turkey and learned lots about their culture. We danced the day away with

a specialist dance instructor who taught us a Turkish dance where we performed to the

rest of the school!

**Willow and Chestnut Class – Autumn Term 1 - Savage Stone Age**

What a brilliant start to the year we have had as two classes now in Key Stage 2, from day one it has been action packed getting emerged in our visit to the prehistoric Stone Age.

We thoroughly loved the Literacy texts Stone Age Boy and Ug, creating great drama, wonderful descriptive writing and forming a foundation of knowledge for our topic learning. The children learnt lots of fascinating and interesting facts, presenting them in groups using different ipad apps which they have learnt how to use this term. In addition to learning lots of Historical facts, the children had lots of creative opportunities: baking for the coffee afternoon, creating their own clay pots, painting their own forest school inspired tiles and best of all, at the start of the term, transforming the classroom into a stone age cave to use sticks and powder paints to recreate iconic cave animal art. Additionally this term, the children have started their singing lessons, being now confident holding a tune and performing in a round. We also visited Turkey for European Day of Languages; creating our own Turkish ‘evil eye’, finding out about their customs, learning facts and dance moves as well as sampling Turkish delight and their special cake.

**Friends of Grange View**

A meeting is planned for 9am on Thursday 9th November once the children are in school and will be held in the meeting room. Please come along and add your support to the fundraising in school over the festive period. All monies raised at all our events are used to enhance the children’s learning in school throughout the year.

We also have a new Facebook Page which is updated regularly so please look out for this for all the latest news!

**Uniform**

Please ensure all uniform including wellies/shoes/PE kits are labelled with your child’s name.

School cannot be responsible for unnamed items, sorry.

All pupils must wear full uniform and black school shoes please

**PE Kit**

This should be in school at all times, and only taken home at the end of a half term for washing and should be sent back in again at the start of every half term, thank you. This will allow your child to partake fully in all PE lessons.

**NO Jewellery**

**We cannot allow any earrings or jewellery in school for PE or in the Early Years Unit.** Your child’s earrings need to be removed or taped up. Please ensure this happens or your child may miss out on valuable activities across the day. This is for health and safety reasons.

# 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**. We have children coming in late in the mornings via the main entrance already this term. This is a disruption to the start of your child’s day and can have an impact on his/her learning. Lessons start promptly following registration so it is important that your child is in the classroom ready to learn!

If you are running late for any reason, please ring to let us know, thank you.

**Attendance w/e 13.10.17:**

**Well done Beech Class who won with 96.7%**

Acorn – 80.8% Oak – 91.7% Elm – 92.1%

Beech – 96.7% Chestnut – 95.2% Willow – 94.5%

TOTAL FOR THE LAST WEEK – 92.9% ☹

Well 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.

Stars of the week



***Beech***

Merit – Riley C, Rhys

Sparkle – Imogen

Writing – Riley B

***Chestnut***

Merit – Vincenzo, Caleb

Sparkle – Conall

Writing – Riley

***Willow***

Merit – Lillie

Sparkle – Nikola

Writing – Kenzie

***Acorns***

Merit – Harleigh, Corey

Sparkle – Ethan

Writing - Alice

***Oak***

Merit –Reshay, Roseann

Sparkle – Heidi

Writing – Kristian

***Elm***

Merit – Sean, Jack

Sparkle – Tyler

Writing – Ben

# Dates for diaries

Tuesday 7th November – KS2 Trip, leave normal time, return approx 4.45pm (to be paid for by Fri)

Thursday 9th November – Friends meeting at 9am to plan Christmas Fair

Monday 13th November – deadline for Shoeboxes to be in school

Friday 17th November – Children in Need (letter from school council to follow)

Monday 20th November – Messy Church – 3.15pm – 4.15pm in the hall

Monday 27th November – deadline for Scholastic Book Club orders in time for Christmas

Friday 1st December – Non uniform for chocolate donations towards Christmas Fair

Tuesday, 5th December – Friend’s Bingo – doors open at 6.15pm, eyes down at 7pm

ALL ADULTS WELCOME – THE MORE THE MERRIER!!

Friday 7th December – Friends Christmas Fair

\*\*\*Monday 11th December\*\*\* – 1pm Flu Immunisations available for all children in Reception to Year 4 (more information about this will be sent home w/c 4th Dec so look out for this)

Tuesday 12th December (new date) – School Christingle at 2pm, everyone welcome

Friday 15th December – Christmas Carolling Catastrophe – Pantomime in school in the afternoon paid for by the Friends of Grange View (sorry we can’t invite parents ☹)

Tuesday 19th December – School Christmas performances (10am Early Years, 2pm KS1, 6pm KS2)

Wednesday 20th December - \*\*NEW & EXCLUSIVE\*\* Walking Nativity around the village 4pm

Friday 22nd December – **School closes at 1.30pm for Christmas Holidays!!**

Monday 8th January 2018 – TTD, school closed to the children

Tuesday 9th January – school re-opens for the Spring Term at 8.50am!!

**Operation Christmas Child**

Leaflets have been sent home for this annual project so please look out for this in your child’s bag. We would like your secured shoebox back in school by Monday, 13th November, thank you.

(more leaflets are available from the school office if needed)

**Easy Fund Raising** [www.easyfundraising.org.uk.](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/) Please register and keep Shopping online on this website for school funds. Every penny you spend helps school.



**Kind Regards**

Lauren Chapman

Mrs L Chapman

Acting Assistant Head Teacher