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

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**Dear Parents/Carers 1st Feb 2016**

**February prayer space week – letter came home on Friday**

We are really proud to announce our very first Prayer space week which will help our children to think of others. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday groups of children across the school will visit the Prayer space room and take part in lots of different activities that will support them with their thinking and reflection skills.

Parents and families are invited after school to view our Prayer spaces as follows:

* **Wednesday 3.15pm – Elm/Beech families invited to view**
* **Thursday 3.15pm - Willow families invited to view**
* **Friday 12noon - Acorn families invited to view**
* **Friday 3.15pm - Oak families invites to view**

Please come along and see how thoughtful and kind our children are!

**\*\*\*Important information regarding school dinner money, breakfast club money and after-school club fees\*\*\*\***

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY IF THIS APPLIES TO YOU!**

I have been monitoring our dinner registers, breakfast club registers and afterschool club registers and see that we have a number of parents who do not make payment for these on a regular basis.

Mrs McQuillen is having to spend a large amount of time chasing up payments and contacting parents.

\*\*\*Regarding dinner money \*\*\*– this is banked weekly so payment has to be made weekly on a Monday or Tuesday morning at the very latest. We do not encourage late payment but anyone with any problems with this, please come and see me. There is always the option of packed lunches.

I don’t suppose anyone goes into a restaurant and asks if they can pay later! It’s the same thing paying dinner money or breakfast club money late. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

If you think your child may be entitled to free school meals, please ring 01670 623592 with the National Insurance number and DOB of the main claimant.

I will be closely looking at the after school club registers for the remainder of this half term and if there is no improvement with payment, parents will have to pay for the full half term club/s upfront to secure a place, otherwise places at chosen clubs will not be allocated.

Again, thank you for your co-operation with this, and sorry of any inconvenience but school is not a bank!

**Nativity Photos/DVDs**

The order is on its way, we will text all our parents when they arrive. DVDs are being processed and will be with us very soon.

**LATENESS**

The Education Welfare officer and I are still concerned about the same pupils/families who are regularly late. The bell rings at 8.50am every morning. We have lots of families who manage to get all their children ready and breakfast them and they are on time every day. The children who are late miss out on the start of lessons and are not ready for their learning. Please ensure your child/ren are on time every day, set your alarm clocks and mobile phones early so you have plenty of time to get ready and organised for the day ahead. This also includes getting the children to bed early at a regular time every evening too to ensure your child does not fall behind with their learning.

**Please allow extra time on frosty mornings – school still starts at the usual time of 8.50am despite the weather!!**

**School shoes**

We have noticed lots of colourful trainers and very nice shoes appearing in school. Please remember that it is school uniform to wear completely black shoes or boots or even totally black trainers. If your child refuses to wear school shoes please pop them in a bag and we will happily put them on for you or the alternative when they are in school will be to wear their PE black sandshoes or one of our spare pairs. We need all the children to wear the correct uniform and footwear please.

**Active Learn- homework**

Please remember if you are supporting your child to complete their homework online the website address is: [www.activelearnprimary.co.uk](http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk). You can access this through a PC/ ipad/tablet/ smartphone.

# Dates for diaries

* Mon 1st-5th Feb prayer spaces week – letter went home last Friday
* Wed 10th Feb – Messy Wednesday (no Dance after school club)
* **Fri 12th Feb – Half term, school closes at 3.15pm**
* **Mon 22nd Feb – School reopens at 8.50am**
* Fri 26th Feb – Messy play starts at 1.30pm in Nursery
* Fri 18th March Easter Service – 10am Holy Trinity
* Mon 21st March – EASTER Big Sing – Churches together in school –pm
* **Thurs 24th March – Break up for Easter 3.15pm**
* Mon 11th April – Teacher Training Day
* **Tues 12th April – school re-opens for the Summer Term at 8.50am**

**Severe weather/Inclement weather**

**PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 8.50am as staff are setting up until then and doors will be opened when the weather is bad. Thankyou.**

In the case of school closure due to severe weather please always check school website, facebook page, Northumberland County Council Website and listen to Radio Newcastle. The school will send out a text to parents message too. In the mornings we encourage you to arrive at 8.50am and our bell rings at 8.50am. When the yard is icy and cold or it is pouring with rain the school doors will open at 8.50am, please do not arrive before this time as you may get wet and cold. **If your child is going to be late for any reason – please ring school as it is important that we know where he/she is, thank you.**

**SAINSBURY VOUCHERS**

We are collecting these again in school – please save them up for us, thank you.

**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. The Coquet Partnership Headteachers have now agreed to issue penalty fines of £60 to any parent who takes their child on holiday in term time where their attendance is below 92%.

**Well done Oak Class who won with 97.5%**

Acorn – 96.9% Oak – 97.5%

Elm – 89.3% Beech – 95.2% Willow – 96.8%

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK – 94.8%

Our overall school target is now 96% attendance.

Come on everyone, get to school on time every day please and help us achieve our target EVERY week, thank you.

Stars of the week

***Elm***

Merits – Bret & Evan

Sparkle – Lillie

Writing – Conall

***Beech***

Merits – Demi-Leigh, Keira

Sparkle – Peter

Writing – Leigh

***Willow***

Merits – Michael, Elena

Sparkle – Lincoln

Writing - Sienna

***Acorns***

Merits – Joshua & Ayden

Sparkle – Tyler

Writing – Lola

***Oak***

Merits – Lennon & Aidan

Sparkle – Katie

Writing – Aaron

**Presentation Award**

Katie F

**Football Trophies**

Lincoln

Reagan

**DON’T Forget- 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**

Louise Laskey

Mrs L Laskey – Headteacher