

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

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***We aim to SPARKLE!***

**Dear Parents /Carers 18th December 2020**

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our amazing and fabulous families. Thankyou for all your kind messages to staff and Christmas treats and gifts, everything is much appreciated!**

**\*\*\*Christmas Performances\*\*\***

We hope you have seen your amazing children on our Facebook page and watched the Christmas story retold scene by scene. The staff and children have worked hard for weeks putting these together for you during a different kind of Christmas at Grange View. We would like to thank you for all your help and support with costumes and props.

***Friends of Grange View (PTA)Fund raising***

THANKYOU THANKYOU THANKYOU - amazing fundraising by all our families this term

Before all the children come home, breaking up for the end of term. We wanted to share our huge thanks and gratitude for the immense support you have given the Friends in their fundraising this term.

⭐First we raised **£210** from the calendar sales.

⭐Then an astonishing **£540** from raffle tickets sales, made even more successful due to the generous hamper donations.

⭐Finally we have just totalled an astounding **£790** from the 12 acts of kindness.

There were 19 children who took part, the highest earner in each class received a medal and all participants were given a selection box. Beech class had the most children took part and enjoyed popcorn with their pantomime yesterday.

We will be sending a google form out in the New Year to canvass your opinion regarding what you would like the money spent on, however our first purchase was an online pantomime which all the classes enjoyed watching in their bubbles this week.

The friends would like to wish a very Merry Christmas and happy new year to all our lovely families. Stay safe and thank you once again.

***CHRISTMAS PE ACTIVITY PACK***

Attached to this email you will find an activity pack to keep you all fit and your brains active during the Christmas break. Good luck.

***COVID – Christmas Holiday info***

**It is vital that we all still follow the rules and guidelines set down by the Government:**

Public Health England and the DfE expect schools to continue to track and trace the contacts of any positive coronavirus (Covid-19) school cases for a period of six days following the final day in school. We would be grateful, therefore, if you would continue to inform the school if your child tests positive during this period, so that we can respond accordingly. Please email -**admin@grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk**

However, where a pupil tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **more than 48 hours** since being in school, the school should not be contacted. In this scenario, parents and carers should follow the contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.***On returning to school on Tuesday 5th Jan if******anyone in your household is being tested you MUST NOT send your child to school until you have received the negative test results back.***

***If test results come back positive then your child must isolate at home for 14 days before they can return back to school. School has a number of tests on site for anyone who cannot get to a test centre.***

***Thankyou for your support with this.***

**NEW Risk Assessment - (a copy of which is on the school website)**

***Dates for the diary:*.**

* **Tuesday 5th Jan- School reopens.**
* **Thurs 28th Jan- KS1 – Visiting artist in school**
* **Friday 5th Feb – NSPCC number day**
* **Tuesday 9th Feb – Safer Internet Day (SID)**

**Topic Reviews**

**Early Years Topic Review – Autumn 2**

Early Years have enjoyed their topic of traditional tales and celebrations. We have continued to work on building friendships and settling in to our routines. We have looked at the stories Goldilocks, Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood and The Little Red Hen. Al of the children have been using Talk 4 Writing to retell the story ‘The Little Red Hen’, they have been fantastic! We even drew and pained our own characters from Goldilocks. Oak class have continued learning set 1 sounds during Read Write Inc and are now blending words together, Acorns have learning all about rhyming and environmental sounds.

We explored bonfire night. We used the paints, foam and glitter to make firework patterns and used paint brushes and glitter to write our names. We also used glue and glitter to make firework pictures. In the outdoor area we added glitter to water to make marks and patterns, we used chalk to draw our fireworks. We then celebrated Children in Need. We learnt all about Hinduism for Interfaith week and learnt lots about Diwali. We used clay to create our own Diya lamps and then we painted them and added glitter.

Oak class have continued to have little movers and Acorns have had yoga for their P.E lessons. All of the children have loved our Dough Disco sessions to strengthen our fine motor skills.

We have worked really hard learning our songs for the Nativity performance. Oak class even had lines to learn. We have loved listening to Christmas stories and playing in our Christmas post office and workshop. We have had a fabulous half term!

**KS1 Class Summary – Deadly Dinosaurs!**

What a thrilling and engaging topic this has been for all the children. They have learnt so much about these extinct creatures which they showcased brilliantly in their nonfiction fact file writing. Whilst Year 1 continue their increased focus on phonics, earlier in the term Y2 focussed on verbs and adjectives to read, perform and write their own dinosaur poems. Within our topic work the children have learnt about things that are alive, never lived or dead as well as using the outdoor learning environment to support their awareness of food chains and habitats. Each class had a virtual workshop with the Hancock museum, which helped reinforce their understanding of fossils and the tooth features of different dinosaurs. This was explored further in class with Elm acting out being ammonites as well as making their own fossil jelly, Whilst Beech investigated further the features of carnivores and herbivores teeth and how plant eaters digested their food by swallowing rocks.

Additionally this term, both classes performed their own stages of the nativity story which helped in their RE work answering the question ‘Why is Jesus important to Christians? ‘. They also used the chromebooks to research facts about dinosaurs and used clay to create their own dinosaur eyes. It really has been an enjoyable topic for all!

**KS2 Chestnut topic review – Space: Autumn term 2**

The children in Chestnut class have really enjoyed our ‘out of this world’ topic this half term. Here are some of the things we have been doing;

•We have been learning all about how shadows are formed. We have carried out investigations with torches and objects and then went outside and explored shadows with our bodies.

•We have thoroughly enjoyed learning about our Solar System, looking at all of the 8 planets, the sun and the moons.

•We created our own solar system 3D picture using paper-mache and making the designs using our studies of the planets.

•During our time in the forest we explored the area looking for shadows and working out where the sun rises and sets using a compass. We also made large Mandala’s using things we found in the forest as part of our interfaith week.

**Willow Class:**

What an action packed and enjoyable topic this has been from start to finish! Our learning in Willow has been mostly child led when it came to their topic lessons, as the children were really interested in space and wanted to know more. We learnt about the different planets, which order they are in and facts such as their sizes. The children were fascinated to learn about planets orbiting the sun, but moons orbiting planets. We also looked at some science with light and shadows, investigating to see which items were opaque, translucent and transparent. The children have been keeping fit in PE, completing circuits and boot camps with Miss Clapperton and Mrs Cessford. They even managed to take part in a cricket competition with other local schools by practising different skills at break times and submitting their scores. Our last week has been a whirlwind of various Christmas crafting activities, which they have thoroughly enjoyed. A highlight was their Christmas party with all the games they suggested we play. It has been topped off with our wonderful show stopping performance in our Christmas Nativity that was streamed

online!

**NEW- Shopping Link to support Grange View CE First School**

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1049905-0>

This is the link to The Friends of Grange View Funding raising. It takes you to Amazon for any purchasing. Everything you buy raises funds for the school and generates extra funding to the PTA who in turn spend it on resources for your child and the school. Thankyou for supporting us with this as every penny counts!

**Do you have a child AGE 3 or under?**

We need you to let us know ASAP for our limited Nursery places.

We are also investigating if we can offer 2 year old provision from Sept 2021 if we have enough families wanting a place.

Just give the office a call and we can help complete an application over the phone. THANKYOU

**WE NEED YOU!!!!**

***If you have a child or know a family where a child is turning 3 before December 31st please get an application for a place in our Nursery as spaces are limited from January 2021.***

***Any parents who are not entitled to the free extra 15 hours childcare can now pay for extra regular sessions per week. The charge is £12 per afternoon session. Please call the office if you would like to use this provision.***

**ABSENCES**

Please can everyone ensure they call Mrs Brown in the office to report an absence of any kind as she does not have access to class Dojo. Thankyou.

**Co-op**

We are over the moon we have been chosen for fundraising with our local Co-op. The Co-op Local Community Fund supports projects across the UK that their members care about.

Every time you buy selected Co-op branded products and services, you raise funds for our school. They also give all money raised from shopping bag sales to our cause, to help even more. WE LOVE THE CO-OP!!!!!!

**Class DOJO**

THANKYOU to all our families who use class DOJO but please remember this is not a 24/7 answering service as the staff teach during the day and may not see your message until after school. I do not expect staff to answer any messages after 5pm as they go home to their families.

But please do check for messages that the staff schedule to send after school, thankyou.

**Remote learning plans**

Every class is ready for any further lockdown or isolation periods that may happen in the future; we really hope that this is not the case. Every child will receive a learning pack and will also be set tasks on Class Dojo and through Mathletics.

**Reception 2021 applications CLOSES 15th JANUARY – You must apply for you child’s place**

Please use the following link to apply for your child’s place at their next school - <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1/Reception-entry-applications.aspx#receptionentryapplications>

**Jewellery**

Please ensure all earrings are removed or taped up as staff cannot remove or cover them for any child. If this does not happen your child may miss their PE lesson.

**PE- clothing**

On your child’s PE day we ask you send them in school PE T-shirt with school sweatshirt and any dark sports bottoms with trainers. This supports with no changing during the day.

PE Days:

Oak- Thursday pm

Elm- Tuesday and Friday pm

Beech- Thursday and Friday pm **(please note an extra day)**

Chestnut- Monday and Wed pm

Willow- Monday and Wed pm

On a normal day please send your child in school uniform with all black shoes or trainers as the new guidance states - Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.

**ATTENDANCE**

**The most important message is children should be in school as much as possible as every day that a child misses school, for whatever reason, they miss out on vital learning.**

We will be continuing to monitor our classes’ attendance every week and individual class percentages will be published here each week. It is vital that children attend school every day possible to ensure that they are able to start catching up on learning that they may have missed during the school closure and holidays.

Children should not attend school if they are showing any Covid symptoms or if they are required to self-isolate as a result of being in contact with anyone who is showing symptoms.

**Can my child go to school if they have a cold?** The NHS advises that if a child has mild cold-like symptoms they should continue to go to school. Sore throats and blocked or runny noses are not symptoms of Coronavirus. We have routines in place should a child in school show symptoms of Coronavirus and will isolate the child and contact parents to collect them immediately, self -isolate and book a test.

**This week’s attendance:**

Well done to Oak Class who won with 88.2%

Acorn – 75.7% Oak – 88.2% Elm – 83.8% Beech – 88.1%

Chestnut – 82% Willow – 77.7%

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK 82.9%

Which is well below our new school target which is now 97%

**W/C 14.12.2020**



**Stars of the Week:**

**Beech**

Merit – Lydia & Jayce

Sparkle – Alice

**Chestnut**

Merit – Emma & Jacob

Sparkle – Thomas

**Willow**

Merit – Alfie & Jayden

Sparkle – Harry

**Acorn**

Merit – Neve & Lucas

Sparkle – Lily

**Oak**

Merit – Marcie-Rose & Taylor

Sparkle – Abbie-Rose

**Elm**

Merit – Niamh & Nicole

Sparkle – Zak

**NO HOLIDAYS will be authorised in term time.** Please remember your child has missed months of schooling this year and the staff are working hard to get every child up to speed.

We have Education Welfare Officer working with us this year who will be monitoring attendance very closely; especially any families who take holidays in term-time.

**SIMS Online payments – COIVID SAFE CASH FREE SYSTEM**

Our new online payment system for any services in school is now active. Thank you to all of those who have already signed up and began using it. You should have received an activation code via email. Please follow the online instructions to set this up to make any future payments. Any issues please email or call the office. Thank you.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns at [admin@grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk)

\*\*\*\*Please note – no cash is to be brought into school unless we ask specifically (often for the Friends of Grange View events) All payments for school lunch, milk, uniform, trips etc. should all be made online. Due to Covid, we need to avoid handling cash as much as we can.\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you once again for your support and patience during this different way of school life.

**We continue to follow the government message: BY STAYING ALERT – AND FOLLOWING THE RULES- WE CAN CONTROL THE VIRUS**



Louise Laskey – Headteacher



**Safe to Learn section**

This is a section on our newsletter where we will share and update any safeguarding information for all parents/carers to be aware of. Mrs Pat Treanor is our Chair of governors and safeguarding governor, Mrs Laskey and Mrs Chapman are our Designated Safeguarding lead staff.

Mrs Laskey- Head Mrs Chapman-Assistant Head

**OPERATION ENCOMPASS INFORMATION**

The original initiative was aimed at supporting children who are affected by domestic abuse. The next part of the project will help all children to learn about friendships, relationships, emotions and rules so that they can live and work together safely. Our Safeguarding liaison officer Karen Kirkbride will be in school this term delivering these workshops.

**Operation Endeavour**- This is an innovative project in which schools and colleges in Northumberland are participating, and which is run in partnership with Northumberland County Council and Northumbria Police.

Operation Endeavour commenced in November 2018, aims to support children and young people who go missing from home. Children who go missing from home are at risk of significant harm and they may be vulnerable to sexual exploitation, violent crime, gang exploitation, or to drug and alcohol misuse.

As a result, following any report of a child going missing to the Police, the Police will make contact with Children’s Social Care who will then communicate relevant and necessary information to nominated school staff.

Each school has members of staff (key adults) who have been fully trained in liaising with the Police and Children’s Social Care when required, and will ensure that the necessary support is made available to the child or young person following their return.

I believe that this project demonstrates our school’s commitment to working in partnership to safeguard and protect children, and to providing the best possible care and support for our pupils.

**Onecall**

Onecall is the number for all adult social care, children’s services and community health enquires in Northumberland. Helping the most vulnerable to keep safe and well 24-7.

**Telephone- 01670 536400**