

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

**Dear Parents /Carers 23rd October 2020**

**Happy Half Term everyone! I am so proud of all our families and how we have safely got to the half term with only one confirmed COVID case in one bubble on the last week.**

**All the staff and children are keeping their hands washed, keeping their safe distance and catching and binning any coughs and colds.**

**Thankyou for waiting at the gates in all weathers for your child to be collected, I really hope that eventually restrictions will ease and we will be able to have all our families back on school site soon.**

**I would like to share some more good news; Mrs Timmins is expecting her first baby at Easter 2021. We are all extremely happy for her and her husband. I am sure Miss Darlow and Mrs Timmins will both enjoy their maternity leave when both babies arrive.**

**Half Term Topic Reviews**

**Early Years Topic Review**

Early Years have settled back in to school very well. We have spent lots of time building friendships and settling in to our routines. Our topic has been ‘Ourselves’. We have looked at a variety of stories, talked about out features, hobbies, interests and families. We have used mirrors to draw self-portraits and created skeleton pictures. We enjoyed learning our harvest festival song ‘Cauliflowers Fluffy’ and learning the actions. We have talked about what Harvest means to us and explored autumn pumpkins and sunflowers.

Oak class have enjoyed having little movers and doing some yoga and ball skills in their P.E lessons. All of the children have loved our Dough Disco sessions to strengthen our fine motor skills.

Oak class have started learning their Read Write Inc. sounds and Acorns have started listening for environmental sounds.

We have enjoyed spending lots of time in our outdoor areas and in the forest looking for signs of autumn and creating pictures with what we have found. We have had a fabulous half term!

**KS1 Topic Review – Toys toys toys!**

What a great start to the new school year we have had, learning all about toys! The topic was launched by the children bringing in their own favourite toys from home. They did descriptive writing about them, labelled their features and sorted them based on how they feel and their material. Then using a wonderful loan box from Bailifgate Museum, we compared the features of their new toys to that of old versions. In Year 2, the vast majority of the term was spent learning useful descriptive features in sentences and then innovating their ‘talk for writing’ text The Teddy Robber. Both years have been busy catching up and becoming confident in their phonics as well as developing a great foundation for future maths learning by becoming confident with place value. Additionally, the children have been accessing the forest each week to support their Science learning, they have been learning about pushes and pulls and the force of gravity and friction in its simplest form. They have been accessing school 360 for their learning on the chrome books and have loved using the glockenspiels in Music. We are already super excited to start Deadly Dinosaurs after half term.

**KS2 Topic Review**

**Chestnut class – Feel the force!**

Chestnut class have been very busy this half term learning all about forces. We have really enjoyed planning and carrying out experiments and then explaining the results. Here are some of the scientific enquiries we have carried out;

•What happens to the length of an elastic band when another weight is added? – The children measured the length of an elastic band using a ruler and then recorded the measurements. They increased the amount of weights and identified that the length of the elastic band also increased.

•Will different surfaces affect the speed of the car? – We had a car travelling down a ramp on different surfaces. We found that the car travelling down some bubble wrap took the longest time as it was a rough surface. We then found that the car travelling down some card was the quickest as it was a smooth surface.

•We have enjoyed going to the forest area to carry out science investigations such as air resistance, looking at how magnets affect the poles using a compass and looking at gravity.

•In art we have been looking Jaxon Pollock to help us create abstract art inspired by what we have learnt about forces.

•We have looked at fairground rides and what forces make the rides move. We then had great fun designing our own fairground ride, identifying what force will make their ride move.

**Feel the Force – Willow Class**

What a packed half term this has been! We have been investigating the forces gravity, air resistance, upthrust and friction. This has included experiments where we created our parachutes and tested them out using multilink cubes. We also made our own origami boats to see if they floated and how much weight they could hold before they took on water! This half term we also started our recorder lessons and we are now starting to read music and play new songs. Our rugby skills have improved each week, with our throwing and catching skills looking amazing! We are finishing our feel the force topic by looking at the artist Jackson Pollock and creating our own artwork inspired by his using the forces gravity, air resistance and friction which we have been investigating!

**Class DOJO**

**Please check out your child’s Class Dojo as Miss Conroy as our Science lead is promoting a fun Science task for you all to complete at home in half term with certificates for all who take part!**

**A Community Act of Kindness**

Thank you to everyone who sent in a donation for non-school uniform today and donated money to Noah’s family in support of fundraising for his baby brother Albie. We raised a brilliant total of **£110.**

**REMEMBRANCE 2020**

**WE WILL BE SELLING POPPIES AND ITEMS SAFELY AROUND SCHOOL FROM 2ND NOV for coin donations in each class.**

This year as a village we thought we could remember those lost in any armed conflict by using this poster (attached below) which every family could decorate and put up in their front window anytime from Sunday November 8th until Wednesday November 11th.

In the box please write the name of someone who died whom you are remembering or use the name of a service man your child's class has been given from the war memorials in both churchyards which will be read out in St John's and Holy Trinity churches on Remembrance Sunday.

When these posters are completed please take a photo and post it on the school website or Widdy Chit Chat or general Facebook so people in the village can remember together with thanks those who gave their lives.

**If you would like additional names from the memorials please contact Rev Joanna 07828181506**



**OUTSIDE THE GATES**

Please can we remind you that when you are waiting outside one of our four gates that it is your responsibility to supervise your children. Now that the weather is changing we would encourage your child with you to stay off the wet grass and keep on the footpath. Please can we also encourage you all to report any dog dirt to the council as school continues to do this when it is reported. Thankyou.

**DON’T FORGET THE PUMPKIN COMPETITON**

The Pumpkin completion this year is in half term. There will be prizes for a winner from each class. Please enter with your child and be as creative as possible and share your creations with a photo on Class Dojo. All the winners will be displayed on the school website when we return on Nov 2nd 2020.



**Halloween 2020**  
Advice from NCC- With Covid-19 restrictions in place in the North East, Halloween traditions may look a little different this year.   
Anything that increases contact between multiple families is increasing people’s risk and could spread the virus further. So, this year we are asking families to get creative with their celebrations.

* Don’t hold a party in your home with people outside your household or support bubble.
* Traditional trick-or-treating is strongly discouraged due to the challenges of maintaining social distancing and the risk of sharing food and sweets.

However, here are some ideas for safer, alternative ways to enjoy Halloween:  
**In the home**

* Hold a Halloween treasure hunt within your household
* Host a virtual party with themed games and music
* Watch a scary movie with the family
* Carve pumpkins
* Make your own Halloween costumes

**Outdoors**

* Give your own doorstep a spooky makeover or craft a pumpkin
* Walk from house-to-house admiring Halloween decorations
* The rule of six applies when outside but if you do meet other families, remember to keep a 2m distance from anyone you do not live with.
* Wear a face covering if you can
* Take sweets with you to share amongst your own household and give them out every time you spot some decorations
* Don’t trick or treat – knocking on people’s doors and sharing sweets is not recommended.
* Take hand sanitiser with you and use it if you need to
* Wash your hands with soap and water once you get home
* If you, or someone in your family, is self-isolating please stay at home this year.

**School Lottery**

**New fundraising initiative from the Friends of Grange View, to support the school with their usual fundraising. They have signed up to the ‘School Lottery’- www.yourschoollottery.co.uk. Please support us if you can with some great prizes up for grabs!**

**Remote learning plans**

Every class is ready for any further lockdown or isolation periods that may happen in the future, we really hope that is not the case.

Every child will receive a learning pack and will also be set tasks on Class Dojo and through Mathletics.

**Laptops for sale-** We are pleased that very soon we will be able to offer some reconditioned laptops for sale at a reduced price of £30 each for any family who needs an additional device at home. These will be allocated to families who have no other devices first, then on a first come first served basis. We cannot offer any set up service but each device we hope will be set up the Microsoft office. **PLEASE COMPLETE GOOGLE QUESTIONNNAIRE FORM THAT WAS SENT HOME FROM THE OFFICE VIA EMAIL, THANKYOU!**

**Year 5 applications now open**

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/Yr-5-Middle-Yr-7-Secondary-Yr-9-High-entry-applica.aspx>

**DEADLINE - 31st October for your child’s place.**

**Lateness**

Mornings- Wait at the gate, call the office and a member of staff will collect your child when they are able to after sorting the rest of the class.

Afternoons- Please be prompt and on time as this can have a knock on effect to other classes that are dismissed at a later time. Staff need to be keep to their timings and have lots of checks and priorities to do back in their classrooms during these difficult times.

**CONGREGATING OUTSIDE GATES**

Parents are again asked not to arrive at school for drop off and pick up before their allocated slot as this leads to people needing to stop and wait, making social distancing more challenging. Another concern is that parents are congregating outside the school gates before and after school. We are working hard to manage social distancing in school but this should also be continued out of school. Thanks for your support.

***Dates for the diary:***

**Friday 23rd Oct - Half term - SCHOOL CLOSES.**

**Monday 2nd Nov - School reopens**

**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- Friday pm

Beech- Friday pm

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 97.1%

Acorn –93.5% Oak –97.1% Elm –94.1% Beech – 96.2%

Chestnut –87.5% Willow – 94.8%

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK 94.6%

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

**W/C: 19.10.2020**



**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.

**Hands, Face, Space campaign**

A new public information campaign has been launched ahead of winter to highlight how everyone can help to stop the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

The ‘Hands, Face, Space’ campaign is urging the public to continue to wash their hands, cover their face and make space to control infection rates and avoid a second peak. Consistent adoption of these behaviours is particularly important in places outside of educational settings which do not implement the wider protective measures in the system of controls set out in our detailed guidance.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an easy virus to kill when it is on skin. It is essential that everyone washes their hands more often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Schools and other education settings must ensure that staff and pupils clean their hands regularly, including when they arrive, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating.

Responding to those with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms

It is vital that educational settings only ask children or staff to self-isolate and recommend they get a test if they develop symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). Those sent home to self-isolate, having been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, should only get tested if they develop symptoms themselves. The symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. The capacity of the NHS Test and Trace system must be protected for those with symptoms of the virus. Booking is essential for drive in and walk in test sites, and under 18’s must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

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

**NURSERY**

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.

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.

**SIMS Online payments**

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.

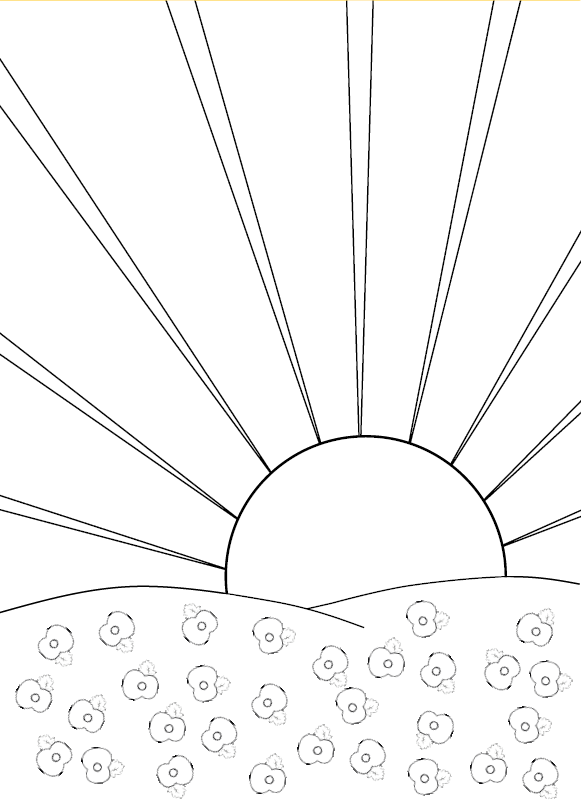
Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns at admin@grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk

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

Headteacher



**We will   
remember them!**

**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.

**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**