



### Grange View C.E. First School

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Headteacher: Mrs Louise Laskey



**We aim to SPARKLE!**

Dear Parents

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

### Mrs Herron update

*"After 32 years at Grange View First School I feel the time is right for me to resign from my current teaching role in order to pursue new challenges, with effect from 29 February 2020. I have loved teaching and feel privileged to have been part of the lives of all those families in Widdrington, seeing their children develop and grow, and would like to thank them all for their support and wish them well for the future."*

*Thanks and regards*

*Julie"*

*The governors and everyone in school would like to thank Mrs Herron for her time at Grange View and send our best wishes. Miss Adams will continue to lead Oak class for consistency until further notice .*

*The governors and I will be setting the budget at the end of this month and looking carefully at future staffing and classes for next year across the school.*

### World Book Day

Remember - We're celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. The children are invited to come to school dressed up as their favourite book character and bring along the book that their character is from. We are looking forward to seeing all your costumes!

### Coronavirus Update

As a school we are following all the guidance and advice being given by Public Health England and the local authority. All staff now carry hand sanitiser, every class has hand sanitiser and plenty of tissues. All pupils are reminded and encouraged to wash their hands regularly. Our caretaker and cleaner are wiping handles, doors and desks daily as well as their normal cleaning. Please ensure you see and read all the updates we post and send out.

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus.

There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal.

### What action you can take-

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus.

Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

### Mobile Phones on school site

Please can we ask that we respect our children inside and outside of the school building. Please do not use your phone for any purposes when in the school hall for safeguarding purposes, anyone seen by staff will be asked to turn their phone off.

When collecting your child please remember they are looking forward to you picking them up and want to talk about their school day, so pop your phone away and find out what they have been learning about.

### **First Aid Treatment**

All our staff are first aid trained and if your child receives a bump to their head depending on the nature they will receive treatment plus a sticker and a note to let you know what has happened. Any other first aid treatment is dealt with accordingly and information is recorded on our CPOMS secure online system as a record of any accidents.

### **Little Movers**

Please can all Reception children make sure they wear school uniform on little mover days with just jogger bottoms. After Easter we will be asking for them to have a school PE kit in school so train them how to get changed for PE ready to start Year 1 for September.

### **Slimming World Publicity**

Sessions are every Wednesday evening in the school hall 5.30pm- 7pm. All welcome.

### **Sports Relief Week**

9th March all week - the whole school will be taking part in different sponsored sports activities. This will include a 'Pound Exercise Activity' with instructor Bethan Ashton on Thursday 12th March.

### **Easter Events**

Non Uniform for Easter Egg Donations For Friends of Grange View- Fri 20th March

Easter Fair - 2pm Fri 27th March

Easter Egg Family Egg decorating Competition- week beginning 30th March (details to follow)

### **BABY PLAY**

Every Thursday in the school nursery at 1.30pm - Baby Play is suitable for babies from birth to walking.

### **Mental Health week- Mental Health and Wellbeing Family Challenge!- # Let's get our Community Talking**

#### **\*\*\*\*Grange View C of E First School- Litter Pick- NEW DATE\*\*\*\***

This date has now been changed to Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020, litter pick after school 3.15pm-4.15pm in the afternoon we would welcome families to come to school and collect their child to walk around the village together cleaning up our local environment. The school will provide bin bags and gloves for adults. We hope that we can all chat on our mission to clean up Widdrington station and bring families together. All rubbish to be returned to school for our Caretaker to dispose of.

### **School Council Family Learning Task**

The School Council have chosen to focus on developing a greener world this term. They would like to take part in the Climate Change Challenge. All families are invited to make a poster, video, song etc about the importance of saving energy, this could include turning lights off, using less vehicles, recycling and reusing more. We look forward to seeing your creations after half term - the school council have many ideas and suggestions for the school to be greener - WATCH THIS SPACE!

### **KS2 Residential Trip to Hawkhurst – 20-22 May 2020**

This is fast approaching so to help ease with the cost of the visit parents can make regular/weekly payments at the school office. The full balance will be expected to have been settled by Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> May. This gives parents about 3 months to pay the full amount, thank you.

### **Class DOJO/Facebook**

Please note that Staff are happy to answer any queries up until 5pm on Dojo and only Mrs Laskey or Mrs Chapman up until 8pm on Facebook.

### **PE Kit**

Children are missing out on valuable PE lessons due to not having the correct kit in school – kit does not include football kit. PE kit is school PE top, black shorts and sandshoes. There is no spare PE kit in school so please make sure your child has his/her kit in at all times. **Pupils reports will be changing this year and will include information about PE kit, Attendance and homework commitment.**

Please make sure your child has pierced ears covered for all PE lessons or have ear-rings removed.

### **Cold weather**

Please remember to stay on the gritted pathways around school on all cold icy mornings to avoid any slipping and sliding. Our Caretaker Mr Guy is on site early making sure each pathway on the Gritting plan has been salted.

### **Inclement weather**

During these cold and rainy mornings the school doors will open at 8.45am at the earliest, so we encourage you to arrive on the yard just before 8.50am for the bell which rings at 8.50am. If you arrive early you may get wet and cold! Children will be escorted into school as usual by the class teacher, so please don't try to come into school early as your child will not be supervised.

In the case of school closure due to severe weather please always check school website, Face Book page, Northumberland County Council Website and listen to Radio Newcastle. The school will also use the Text2Parents Messaging Service.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR CHILD WEARING APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR WHEN THE WEATHER IS WET – NO CANVAS TRAINERS FOR EXAMPLE AS YOUR CHILD WILL HAVE COLD WET FEET FOR MOST OF THE DAY

### **NUT ALLERGIES IN PACKED LUNCHES**

We have still have a child in school with nut allergies therefore for the safety of the child but this week some parents are who are not checking . Mrs Laskey has found Kinder bars, hazelnut croissants, nutella sandwiches etc.

All nut based biscuits, bars , spreads etc in our school are banned . This includes chocolate spreads that are nut based and any other bakes and pastries eg. Pain au chocolate, crepes , nutty biscuits etc . So sorry for any inconvenience but this is essential for the well-being of all our children. Thank you.

### **Reading**

It is essential you try and read with your child every day and record in their book if you have please. In some cases parents are not support their child with this and it impacts on their learning and progress. Please help us with your child's learning by hearing them read at least **3 TIMES PER WEEK**, thank you.

#### **Tips for reading with children of any age:**

- Set aside some time
- Find somewhere quiet without any distractions - turn off the TV/radio/computer.
- Ask your child to choose a book
- Sharing books they have chosen shows you care what they think and that their opinion matters. This means they are more likely to engage with the book.
- Sit close together
- Encourage your child to hold the book themselves and/or turn the pages.
- Point to the pictures
- If there are illustrations, relate them to something your child knows. Ask them to describe the characters or situation or what will happen next. Encourage them to tell you the story by looking at the pictures.
- Encourage your child to talk about the book
- Talking about the characters and their dilemmas helps children understand relationships and is an excellent way for you to get to know each other or discuss difficult issues. Give your child plenty of time to respond. Ask them what will happen next, how a character might be feeling or how the book makes them feel.
- And lastly, above all - make it fun!

It doesn't matter how you read with a child, as long as you both enjoy the time together.

Don't be afraid to use funny voices - children love this! It's never too early to start reading with your baby too.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/how-to-read-with-your-child/>

### **FREE SCHOOL MEALS (PUPIL PREMIUM)**

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 half the cost of residential and school visits.

The information is fully available on the school website for everyone to read.

If you are entitled to apply please ring the Local Authority on 01670 623592.

### **Punctuality**

Pupils are recorded as being late for school if they arrive after the doors have closed and come in through the main school doors. 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 newsletter.

### **Topic reviews**

#### **Early Years topic review – Spring 1: Winter**

Acorns and Oak have had a very busy half-term learning all about winter. Here are some of the things that we did;

- Reading books in our amazing igloo
- Making snowflakes and winter trees for displays
- Playing with the winter themed small world, learning all about polar bears
- Exploring ice and how it melts
- Mark-making in snow
- Making snowballs with the white playdough
- Dressing up for winter
- We also enjoyed learning all about Chinese new year, eating Chinese food
- and making lanterns.

We all thoroughly enjoyed a Chinese dragon dance too!

#### **KS1 Class Summary – Travellers Tales**

This has been a thoroughly enjoyable topic – the children started by decorating a box using techniques similar to sculptor Michelle Reading, these stayed in class all term to then be transformed into their chosen mode of transport. Beamish was a fantastic trip and great opportunity for the children to embed their understanding of transport through time and make comparisons between different modes. They created some great writing as historians back in class as well as linking to their materials work earlier in the year when describing the changes and developments in transport.

#### **KS2: Mysterious Mayans**

What a short but fun filled half term! The children have been busy from start to end, exploring the mysterious Mayans and what life was like back then. They researched information on different Mayan cities to find out where they were and how they lived.

The main city we looked at was Chichen Itza. Using Google maps and our ICT skills we got to see the site and explore it as if we were really there! The children used their ordering skills to place the Mayan events in chronological order. This was especially difficult when we saw that they existed in BC and AD. We looked at the different gods and discussed how they prayed to certain gods for specific needs. When looking at the Mayan foods, we found out that one of their staple foods was maize. So we linked that to our healthy eating in topic and designed a healthy tortilla wrap. And to top it off, we created our amazing clay figurines with local artist Katherine Renton, inspired by Mayan art and sculpture.



## Attendance

PLEASE NOTE THE INCREASE TO 94% attendance for any child taken out of school for a holiday in term time. This is the minimum they must have if parents do not want to be issued a penalty notice unless there are exceptional circumstances.

All schools in the Coquet Partnership have agreed that if an unauthorised leave of absence is taken during term time and the pupil's attendance in the 12 month period leading up to the absence is less than 94%, an application to the Local Authority for a penalty notice may be made based on the circumstances. Our overall whole school attendance target is 97%.

## Ofsted Attendance

**To aim to an outstanding school Ofsted say- 'Pupils value their education and rarely miss a day at school. No groups of pupils are disadvantaged by low attendance. The attendance of pupils who have previously had exceptionally high rates of absence is rising quickly towards the national average'.**  
**Grange View needs every pupil at school every day to improve our overall attendance please**

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

We have 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.

### **For week ending 28/02/2020**



Well done to Chestnut Class who won with 99.2%  
Acorn –98.1 %; Oak – 96.0%; Elm – 99.0%; Beech –97.7%  
Chestnut – 99.2%; Willow – 99.0%  
TOTAL FOR THE WEEK –98.2 %  
Above our new school target which is now 97% 😊



#### Acorn

Merit – Charlotte, Nicole  
Writing- Mary-Jayne  
Sparkle- Harry

#### Oak

Merit – Leo, Logan  
Writing-Freya  
Sparkle-Nicole

#### Elm

Merit – Harleigh, Alice  
Writing- Harley  
Sparkle-Liam

#### Stars of the Week



#### Awards out of school

- Matilda for gaining her 5 meter swimming award  
- Taylor-Jace for gaining his 5 meter Swimming award

Well Done!!

#### Beech

Merit – Kristian, Jacob  
Writing- Skye  
Sparkle- Arron

#### Chestnut

Merit – Alexis, Sophia  
Writing-Teegan  
Sparkle-Riley

#### Willow

Merit – Riley B, James  
Writing-Jaya  
Sparkle-Katie

#### Dates for Diaries

- ☐ Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> March – WORLD BOOK DAY
- ☐ Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Fri 13<sup>th</sup> March – Sports Relief Activity Week
- ☐ Mon 16<sup>th</sup> March – 3.15pm Messy Monday in the hall – all welcome
- ☐ Tues 17<sup>th</sup> March – Y4 Trigolf tournament at Bothal Primary (PM)
- ☐ Fri 20<sup>th</sup> March – Non uniform for Easter Egg donation for the Easter Fair
- ☐ Tues 24<sup>th</sup> March – KS2 River Trip (out all day)
- ☐ Wed 25<sup>th</sup> March – whole school little pick 3.15pm \*\*\*NEW DATE AND TIME\*\*\*
- ☐ Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March – Y4 football tournament at Ashington Academy
- ☐ Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March – EASTER FAIR AT 2.15pm IN THE HALL

- ☐ Week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> March- Annual Easter Egg Family Egg decorating Competition-
- ☐ Tues 31<sup>st</sup> March – KS1 trip to Boulmer rock pools (out all day)
- ☐ Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> April – END OF TERM
- ☐ Mon 20<sup>th</sup> April – Summer Term begins

Kind regards,

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.

### **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 which commences 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**