



Grange View C.E. Primary School

Grange Road, Widdrington

Morpeth, NE61 5LZ.

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Headteacher: Mrs Louise Laskey

We aim to SPARKLE!



Dear Parents/Carers

13.12.2024

Let your light shine – Matthew 5:16

Christingle

A really big thank you to the lovely parent helpers and Reverend Julia who came in this morning to help the children make their Christingles, and to all our families for attending our service this afternoon. We hope you all enjoyed it.

After School Clubs – Spring 1 Term

After School clubs for next half term are:

- Monday – Gymnastics Club with Mrs Chapman
- Tuesday – NUFC Multi-Sports Club
- Wednesday – Hangout Club (Wraparound Care) Only
- Thursday – Lego Club with Mrs Timmins
- Friday - Hangout Club (Wraparound Care) Only

Wraparound club is still available every day *and I have added a new option – so that parents/carers can book children in to Wraparound for an hour after teacher-led after school clubs, hopefully this will make things easier for people who need to use this option.* All clubs need to be booked **in advance** and paid for at time of booking on School Money please. They are available now to book ready for next half term. **You need to book your child into the relevant club on the relevant day (please make sure you choose the correct club/day from the dropdown), just adding money to the account does not book your child in.**

New Penalty Notice Rules from September 2024 – Attendance/Holidays - Update

As you are all aware, The Department for Education issued new rules for Penalty Notices which came into force from September 2024. This was emailed out to all families before the summer, and earlier this term for new families and as a reminder to all.

One of the points families should take note of, is that a Penalty Notice can also be considered when a pupil has been recorded as absent for 10 sessions (5 school days) within a rolling period of 10 school weeks.

Reception Admissions Applications

It is now time to apply for your child to start school, reception class in September 2025.

Children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 should apply. The portal will close on 15th January 2025.

Here is the link to the portal where you can apply. First time users will need to register an account.

https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en If you require any help or need advice please call the team on 01670 624889.

Parent Governor Vacancy Reminder

A vacancy has arisen on the Governing Body of Grange View CE Primary for the appointment of a Parent Governor. All Parent Governors must have children at the school (as parent or carer) and must also be elected by the parents and carers of pupils at the school. The period of office for service as a Parent Governor is 4 years and a Parent Governor would not be obliged to resign from office if his/her child leaves the school, they would be able to remain in office until the expiry of the term of office.

A separate email has been sent home for anyone to express an interest.

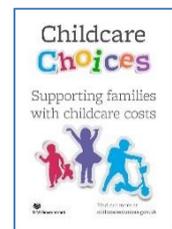


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Help with Childcare Costs

The government has introduced lots of ways to claim back a percentage of your childcare costs while using school breakfast and wraparound clubs. Please have a look at the childcare choices website on the following link to see what you might be entitled to - <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>



Pupil Premium/Free School Meals

It's simple and easy to see if your child is entitled to free school meals. This is not the same as universal Free School Meals, which every child is entitled to from Reception to Year 2. You will be able to access subsidised educational visits, free milk, subsidised clubs including Breakfast Club, as well as the school receiving £1500 per pupil which supports resources and staff for your child. The number to apply is 0345 600 6400 and they can check using your national insurance number to see if you are eligible. Please help yourself and the school by giving them a ring, thank you!

Breakfast Club/Wraparound Costs

Following guidance from the Department for Education our Breakfast Club will run from 7:45am from September at a cost of £2.00 for the session.

Wraparound Club will run from 3:15pm until 5:30pm as this was the most requested finishing time from our parent survey, although 6pm will be available if requested, as long as there is more than one pupil to make it viable. Costs for Wraparound will be £5.00 for 3:15pm – 4:15pm or £10.00 for 3:15pm – 5:30pm. 5:30pm – 6:00pm on request would be an additional £2.50.

100% Attendance Incentive

We have introduced an incentive for any child achieving 100% attendance. Each half term, anyone with 100% will be entered into a prize draw to win a £50 supermarket voucher. The draw for this half term will take place the first week back after Christmas. Good luck everyone.

Emergency Contacts/Up to Date Information

For safeguarding purposes, we should have 2 emergency contact telephone numbers for all pupils in school. We also need current contact emails/addresses for all parents in school. Please make sure your information is up to date with the office if anything has changed recently, thank you.

Is my child well enough for school?

We want every child to have 100% attendance and anything below 97% will result in our new attendance procedures starting with the support of the Education Welfare officer. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> This link from the NHS may help you decide but we always recommend Calpol and sending them to school. If your child becomes unwell we will ring you and let you know immediately.

Family Hub Emails – PARENTING

We are aware that a number of families are struggling with their child's behaviour/emotions at home. We have access to lots of support, advice and courses for everyone through the family hub at Hadston. We regularly share emails from them offering courses. Please contact them on 01670 624500 or have a look on their Facebook page which is www.facebook.com/northfamilyhubs

Nut Allergy reminder/Packed lunches/Grapes

We have a pupil in school with a nut allergy. For safety purposes we cannot allow any nut-based products on school site including chocolate spread or nut-based products. We also do not allow sweets in packed lunches. Any items that arrive and are identified in school will be removed and sent back home for health and safety reasons. Nut allergies are very serious and even so much as someone in the same room opening a product containing nuts can be enough to trigger a serious reaction. Can we please also remind parents and carers to please cut any grapes (lengthways) that are sent in, as these are a choke hazard when whole. Sweets and chocolate bars are also unsuitable to be included in packed lunches. Thank you for your support.



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Cost of Living Support

On the school website under School Information, then Mental Health, Well Being and Cost of Living Support you will now find links and important phone numbers for all families to be able to access additional support.

Phones on School Site/In Worship etc.

Please could we ask parents and carers to pop their phones in their pockets when children come out of school. They are excited to see you and this is an ideal time to ask them about their day. Please make sure the first thing your child sees is your face, and not your phone. This also applies to in school activities when we ask parents to join us, and family worship on Fridays as we cannot allow parents/carers to be on their phones in the presence of the children for safeguarding reasons. Thank you for your co-operation.

Widdy Welcomes

Widdy Welcomes holds a coffee morning every Thursday 10.00am - 12.30pm. A warm, friendly and welcoming place to go for a cuppa and some home-made cakes and biscuits, which Mrs Palmer in school continues to donate towards.

School Website

Please remember all topic letters/newsletters/long term curriculum plans/school lunch menu and lots of other information is available on the school website <http://www.grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk>

Office Closure Times

A reminder that the office closes at 3:00pm on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Mental Health and Wellbeing



If you are seeking support or advice for your mental health and wellbeing you can access Qwell. It is a free, online service that is completely anonymous. It offers support such as: live based messaging with a qualified counsellor, self-directed help with articles or active message boards with advice. This is a great resource for a variety of concerns such as but not limited to stress, life changes and anxiety. You can access it 24 /7. Please catch Mrs Timmins our Senior Mental Health Lead if you want more information about this free service.

www.qwell.io

E-safety

Remember all you need is on our school website and Facebook page to support you at home with the internet and its use.

<http://www.grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk/website/esafety/102589>



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TOPIC REVIEWS

Early Years

Autumn 2 Review – Celebrations

Our topic this half term has been a world of celebrations. We have enjoyed learning about bonfire night; creating our own firework artwork. We have also learnt all about the festival of Diwali and used clay to make our own Diya lamps. We then painted them and added glitter.

We all created poppies for Remembrance Day and learnt all about Buddhism for Interfaith Week.

We also talked about our birthdays and looked at how we celebrate our special days. We commented on how we have all changed since we were babies.

We have enjoyed writing letters to Santa in our Christmas post office and enjoyed lots of Christmas crafts. We have made Christmas cards, baubles and calendars. We learnt our songs and lines to perform our Nativity and learnt about the birth of Jesus in R.E.

We have had a fabulous half term!

Key Stage 1

Autumn 2 Review – Deadly Dinosaurs

We have had an action packed half term learning all about dinosaurs. We enjoyed learning about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores where we learnt about dinosaurs' diets.

We learnt the history of dinosaurs of how they were once alive a long time ago and discovered through fossils by archaeologists.

We thoroughly enjoyed our visit to the Great North Museum: Hancock, where we took part in a fossil workshop and activities and enjoyed exploring the fossils and dinosaur gallery.

After our visit, we learnt about physical features such as the ocean, coast etc... and plotted these on maps.

The children have also been grouping/classifying animals based on everything we have learnt this half term.

Lower Key Stage 2

Autumn 2 Review – Feel the Force

What a busy and action-packed term this was for Willow Class. The children thoroughly enjoyed the science focus to the term, learning about air resistance, water upthrust, gravity, magnets and friction through a variety of experiments and investigations in the classroom, and particularly enjoyed making their own origami boats to assist with their water upthrust investigations.

In Literacy, we were immersing ourselves further in our small steps English progression. They wrote non-chronological reports relating to their forces work and developed their skills in characterisation by describing an imaginary scientist.

At the start of the term, we had an interfaith week focussing on Buddhism. It was great having a chance to embrace lots of art skills as well as develop skills in Tai Chi.

We were especially proud of how well they learnt and performed their lines and song lyrics for the Stable Manners Christmas performance, considering this was their first time taking on numerous roles, they all found their loud clear voices and were fantastic.

It has to be said, that their highlight of the term would no doubt be the trip to the Sunderland Glass Centre, the glass tiles they created were wonderful and the glass blowing demonstrations and experiments certainly captured their interests and enhanced their learning.



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Upper Key Stage 2

Autumn 2 Review – Tomb Raiders

In UKS2 we have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians this half term. We've looked at Pharaohs, gods and goddesses, how the River Nile helped them to create a successful civilisation and what they did in their free time. We even learnt about mummification by mummifying Barbies in class!

To further their knowledge on Egypt, we learnt about the country within Geography – looking at it through a modern lens.

In Science we looked at pulleys and levers which assisted with our theories on how the Ancient Egyptians built the pyramids.

In computing we have been using the micro:bits and programming them to be sensors, one lesson included creating our own fortune tellers, so when we shook the micro:bits they would randomly choose the answer yes or no to our questions!

In PSHE we have been considering what jobs we would like when we grow up and thinking what qualities and strengths we would need to achieve these goals.

All of this was alongside our brilliant Nativity Stable Manners that we rehearsed every week!

*******NEW Diary Dates*******

16th Dec – Early Years Pantomime in school

17th Dec – Christmas lunch/Christmas jumper day

18th Dec – Years 1 – 5 at Pantomime at Whitley Bay and Early Years Christmas Party morning in school

20th Dec - Key Stages 1/2 Christmas Party morning

20th Dec – School Closes at 2:00pm

*******NEW Friends of Grange View Diary Dates*******

22nd Jan - Mr Guy's Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5

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.

Week ending: 06.12.24



Well done to Willow Class who won with 97.6%

Acorns – 92.2%
Oak – 95.2%
Beech – 95.5%
Willow – 97.6%
Maple – 96.8%

Our school target continues at 97%. Whole school was **95.8%**

Kind Regards,

Louise Laskey - Head Teacher

Enter our **Super Draw**

**WIN A £3,000
CHRISTMAS
CASH BONUS**



**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**



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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 Rebecca Griffin 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.

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