



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

10.01.2025

Let your light shine – Matthew 5:16

Future Nursery/2 Year Old Places

Do you require a place for your child in our Nursery or 2 year old provision? It's never too early to apply and helps us to work out future staffing requirements. We also offer 30 hour Nursery places for 3 and 4 year olds. Please get in touch with Mrs Burt in the office for application forms or more info, and please spread the word to friends/family in the village with babies/young children. Thank you.

Coats/Wellies for Forest School

As always, children will be spending time each week in our forest school area. Some children have come to school this week in their lovely new coats they received for Christmas. However, we would rather they didn't risk ruining their new and/or expensive coats on forest days, and wear coats that they (and you) don't mind getting dirty. Can we please also remind all parents/carers that children should have a pair of wellies in school. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Swimming

As you all know, in previous years we have taken Years 3 and 4 swimming every Wednesday afternoon for the whole school year. Due to declining parental donations we had to cut this to 2 terms, and then cut it again this year to the Autumn term only. We desperately did not want to do this, but swimming for the Autumn term 2024 cost £3,996.50 in total for the lessons and bus hire. Parental donations only totalled £1,190.00. This left a shortfall of £2,806.50 which had to be made up from the school budget. This is unsustainable for us as a small school as it is taking money away that is already earmarked for other activities and resources/equipment needed in school. Unfortunately the DFE does not allow us to use our PE funding towards the cost of swimming lessons or transport to swimming.

Nails/Make Up etc.

A reminder that gel nails/extensions and make up are not allowed in school. Please make sure any child who still has nails on has these removed over the weekend please.

FINAL REMINDER - 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.

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. Our winner this morning was Ella in Year 3. Well done Ella! The draw for this half term will take place the first week back after February holidays. Good luck everyone.



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Parking Outside School

Polite Notice - For all parents who use a car to get their children to and from school please DO NOT PARK on the zigzag lines outside the school entrances/exits for the safety of all our families.

After School Clubs – Spring 1 Term

After School clubs for this 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 this 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.**

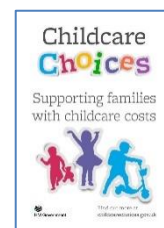
New Penalty Notice Rules from September 2024 – Attendance/Holidays - Update

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.

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 4:15pm – 5:30pm. 5:30pm – 6:00pm on request would be an additional £2.50.

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.



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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.

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



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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>

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

15th Jan – Deadline for Reception applications

20th Jan – Top tips for Wobbly Mornings workshop – 2:45pm – more info to follow.

24th Jan – School Games final – Year 3

30th Jan – Skipping workshop – KS2

31st Jan – School Games final – Year 5

17th Feb – Year 5 visit to Centre for Life

W/c 17th Feb – Book Fair in school

21st Feb – Year 5 Scientists online

21ST Feb – School Closes for Feb half term

3rd Mar – TEACHER TRAINING DAY SCHOOL CLOSED (as per school website)

4th Mar – School Reopens

*****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

19th Feb - Mr Guy's Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5

19th Mar - Mr Guy's Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5

Stars of the Week:



Acorns

Merit – Roman & Frankie
Sparkle – Savannah

Oak

Merit – Jackson & Esmerelda
Sparkle – Thomas

Beech

Merit – Ben & Lucille
Sparkle – Michael

Willow

Merit – Charlotte E & Freddie
Sparkle – Willow

Maple

Merit – Alex & Alfie
Sparkle - Olivia

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: 20.12.24



Well done to Willow Class who won with 98.5%

Acorns – 95.4%
Oak – 87.4%
Beech – 90%
Willow – 98.5%
Maple – 95.8%

Our school target continues at 97%. Whole school was **93.2%**

Kind Regards,

Louise Laskey - Head Teacher

Enter our
Super Draw

Win a £1,000 Aldi Gift Card

OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE



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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