



Grange View C.E. Primary School

Grange Road, Widdrington

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Headteacher: Mrs Louise Laskey

We aim to SPARKLE!



Dear Parents/Carers

11.04.2025

Let your light shine – Matthew 5:16

Happy Easter

Wishing you all a wonderful time at Easter with your family and friends. Enjoy the spring sunshine and the signs of new life arriving. We look forward to seeing you all back safe and sound for the summer term on Monday 28th April.

A sad goodbye

We are saying goodbye to the lovely Mrs Conroy today, (the children have known her as Miss Charlotte so as not to get confused with Miss Conroy) as she moves on to a new post as a teacher at All Saints in Morpeth after the Easter holidays. We wish her lots of luck in her new school and we will really miss her as we have loved having her with us at Grange View.

Phonics Screening Year 1

We would urge families of children in Year 1 not to take any holidays week commencing 2nd or 9th June as this is when the Phonics Screening checks will be administered.

School Uniform for September

An email was sent home on Monday from our supplier, Mapac, urging parents and carers to order their uniform for September as early as possible.

We strongly advise, to ensure uniform is received in time for back to school, that orders are placed online by **Thursday 31st JULY**.

Please note, the last ordering date for free delivery to school is **Friday 4th JULY**. This allows Mapac to send any outstanding orders in our system through to school before School closes for the summer. (Last delivery into School on or around **18th JULY**. Delivery to home / workplace are of course still available).

The Free delivery to school option will then be reinstated for parents to select from **SEPTEMBER**. First delivery into School on or around **MID / END OCTOBER**. So, please get your orders in sooner rather than later at <https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/grangeviewfirstne615lz>

Walk and Wheel to school week

We took part in the annual Walk and Wheel to school week earlier this half term and after submitting the results can announce we came 19th in the North East. Well done everyone!

Easter Raffle/Easter Egg Competition Results

The Easter raffle was drawn on Wednesday and all of the lovely prizes have been claimed and taken home. The draw was live on our school Facebook page just in case you missed it.

Winners of our Easter Egg decorating competition were:

Acorns – Louie (train)

Oak – Isabella (sweatshirt)

Beech – Ben (aliens)

Willow – Gracie (chicks)

Maple – Nicholas (Goodnight Mr Tom)

NUFC Entry Winner – Freya L

Religious Entry Winner – Ellie-May



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Design a Mural for Widdrington Surgery

Widdrington Surgery would love the children to design murals for them to paint on the walls inside the practice. Ideally it should be something to do with the village and they have until after the Easter holidays to submit their entries into school. We will take them all to the surgery and they will choose their favourites to paint on the walls. Good luck everyone.

Expanding our 2 Year Olds Provision

As you may be aware we currently have a 2 Year Olds provision within our Early Years unit, and have five children at the moment. From September we are hoping to expand this to 10 children. To prepare for this we are looking at buying some new furniture and items to make the area bigger and better. Little ones love to play role play games, dressing up, pretending etc. so we'd also love donations of any items you may have at home that you think we could use to enhance their time in school.

Early Years New Collection Times

Due to our growing numbers in Early Years we are changing pick up arrangements at the end of every day for safety and safeguarding reasons.

Nursery 30 hours children will now need to be collected at 3.05pm from the same doors for dismissal.

Reception children will still be dismissed at 3.15pm.

We need this 10 minute gap to allow staff to hand over the children to a known adult safely and smoothly as we have 40 pupils to dismiss.

We are over the moon that numbers are continuing to grow and just need to keep everyone safe.

Thank you for your support with this.

After School Clubs – Summer 1 Term

After School clubs for next half term are:

- Monday – Phonics Club with Miss Conroy
- Tuesday – NUFC Multi-Sports Club
- Wednesday – Hangout Club (Wraparound Care) Only
- Thursday – Mindfulness Colours & Crafts Club with Mrs Waters
- 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 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 account does NOT book your child in.**

Uniform

A reminder that shoes/trainers should be all black for school through the week, and any trainers on a PE day. No converse though please as we have had several pupils go over on their ankles while wearing them. Also, please make sure that every single item of your child's uniform has their name inside it. Staff are not responsible for chasing up lost uniform, especially if it does not even have a name in it. Named items can be returned more easily if someone takes the wrong jumper/cardigan home by mistake.

Year 5 Phones

Can you please remind your children in Year 5 that their phone should be turned off and put away in their bags as soon as they enter school site please. No photos/sharing TikToks etc. on school premises. Once they enter the classroom they are handed in to Mrs Timmins to be locked away for safe keeping until the end of the day. ***Can we also remind parents/carers of Year 5 pupils with phones that they should be responsible for checking their child's phone at the end of the day and making sure there is no inappropriate content/WhatsApp messages/Snapchats etc.***

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 today was Marcie in Year 4, well done! The draw for half last term will take place the first week back after Easter holidays. Good luck everyone.



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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

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.

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.

Parental Responsibility on the Yard/No swearing please!

Can we please remind all parents and carers to be responsible for their children on the yard before the bell goes on a morning. We would also like to remind everyone that there should be no swearing. Little ears hear everything and children love to repeat what they've heard. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

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!

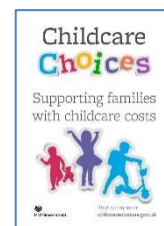
Breakfast Club/Wraparound Costs

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.

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/>



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.



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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.

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>

TOPIC REVIEWS

Early Years - Spring 2 - Growth and Change

Our topic this half term has been Growth and Change. We have enjoyed learning about life cycles of caterpillars, chicks and frogs. We have thought about how we grow and change from babies to children. In our Art sessions we have created caterpillar paintings using stampers and used symmetry to make butterfly paintings.

We have begun looking for signs of Spring whilst down at the Forest and have been hunting for minibeasts. We have really enjoyed looking at flowers and trying to draw and paint our own daffodils. We loved making our Mother's Day cards and Easter cards. We also planted some sunflower seeds and have enjoyed watching them grow. What a lovely half term!

Key Stage 1 - Spring 2 - Green Grangers

This half term, we have loved learning all about plants and trees. We firstly learnt the parts of the plants and their functions and then enjoyed dissecting plants to look closely at each part. We also learnt what a seed needs to grow and to stay alive. We then explored seeds and bulbs, looking closely at them and identifying similarities and differences between them.

After that we learnt about the importance of bees and we did a fun experiment to show how pollination works. We enjoyed making a home for the bees which we took down to the forest.

Finally, we learnt how fruit and vegetables grow and identified similarities and differences between them. In Art, we have learnt about Vincent Van Gogh and enjoyed painting our own art work in his style.

Lower Key Stage 2 - Spring 2 – Green Grangers

We have really enjoyed this term's topic, which has been action-packed, covering food chains, rainforest layers, dangers, deforestation, and ways animals communicate. The children have created some fantastic setting descriptions, combining different techniques to paint vivid pictures in the reader's mind.

They also used the text *There's a Rang Tang in My Bedroom* to explore and innovate in poetry.

In Art, we explored the work of Frida Kahlo and created our own beautiful, tropical-inspired self-portraits.

Additionally, we enjoyed exploring various engineering careers to raise the profile of STEM. We were also incredibly proud to send many invention designs to the Primary Engineers competition.

We had a wonderful time on World Book Day, when we welcomed a local author who shared her love of writing, drawing, and nature. Later in the term, we were thrilled to have Katherine Renton join us to launch our Arts Week, which focused on movement.

Best of all, we received feedback from Kelsey Byers, this term's scientist focus, who is a biologist. She was very impressed with the fact files we had written, and we are excited to speak with her over Zoom soon.

Upper Key Stage 2 - Spring 2 – Sparks Might Fly

This half term we have focused on electricity in UKS2. We have learnt the circuit symbols, made circuits and investigated what happens when we alter our circuits in different ways. We transferred this knowledge into our DT work by designing and making lighthouses using 'junk' and then getting them to light up by placing circuits inside!

We spent some time learning about our local heritage site Cragside and its famous owner William Armstrong to discover the influence he had on the world with his hydroelectricity and the innovations within his house. We then visited Cragside to see it all in person!

In PE, Maple class have been learning ceilidh routines as well as learning net and ball games, such as volleyball. It has been a very busy half term, with STEM week and Arts week slotted in as well!

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

11th Apr - School Closes for Easter holidays
28th Apr - School Reopens
30th Apr – Scooterbility – Years 1 – 5
12th May – Year 1 and 2 visit to Warkworth Castle
13th May – Early Years Stay and Play – Look out for more info to follow on Dojo
15th May – Year 3 and 4 visit to Centre for Life
23rd May – School Closes for May Half Term holidays
2nd June – School Reopens
17th Jun – Year 3 Enterprise Day in school
18th Jun – Year 5 Enterprise Day in school
23rd Jun – Year 5 Water sports morning at Druridge
2nd Jul – Bikeability for Reception and Year 4

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

30th Apr - Mr Guy's Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5
21st May - Mr Guy's Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5



SPARKLE TEA – Jessica, Ellie-May, James W & Theia G



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: 04.04.2025



Well done to Maple Class who won with 98.9%

Acorns – 93.8%
Oak – 97.8%
Beech – 97.4%
Willow – 98.5%
Maple – 98.9%

Our school target continues at 97%. Whole school was **97.4%**

Kind Regards,

Louise Laskey - Head Teacher



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Enter our
Super Draw

WIN A LUXURY CITY BREAK!

OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE



**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 - Deputy 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