



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

19.12.2025

Let your light shine – Matthew 5:16

A very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for 2026 to all our lovely families. Thank You for all your kind messages to staff and Christmas treats and gifts, we really appreciate all you do all year round for our amazing little village school.

Reception School Places – FINAL REMINDER

The Admissions Portal for applications for Reception Places for September 2026 is now open. Please see attached link to apply https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

You must complete a reception application, even though they already attend our nursery.

The portal opened on 1 November and closes on 15 January 2026. All applications received after that date will be treated as late and will be considered after all on-time applications have been allocated. Therefore, submitting a late application could result in parents not being allocated a place in one of their preferred schools.

Family Worship Fridays

As we are fully functioning with Year 6 now, we are unfortunately unable to fit all of the children and their parents/guardians in the hall at once. We have decided the best option is to have a rota for Worship.

There will no worship the first Friday back in January due to staff training. Thank you.

Temperatures

Can you please ensure that if your child has a temperature before school that you give them some Calpol. They are more than welcome to still come into school, as long as their temperature comes down after they've been given it.

Antibiotics

If your child has been prescribed antibiotics that are to be given 4 times per day, we can give them a dose at lunchtime if you complete a form from the office. If they are to be given 3 times per day, we kindly ask that you give them their middle dose as soon as you pick them up from school. 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.

OneCall

OneCall is one number you can call for all children's services, safeguarding or adult social care concerns in Northumberland, helping to keep the most vulnerable people safe and well 24-7.

If you are concerned about a child or young person please call 01670 536400 or email childrentriage@northumberland.gov.uk



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After School Clubs – Spring 1 Term 2025

After School clubs for next half term are:

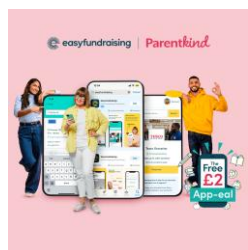
- Monday – Gymnastics Club with Mrs Chapman – Open to Years 1-6 only
- Tuesday – Rec/KS1 NUFC Multi-Sports Club - Open to Reception/Years 1 & 2 only
- Wednesday – Hangout Club (Wraparound Care) Only
- Thursday – Craft Club with Miss Darlow – Open to Years 1/2/3 & 4 only
- Friday - Hangout Club (Wraparound 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. **The new Spring 1 clubs are all available to book now.** **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.**

Lateness

We are seeing an increasing number of parents and children coming in to school late in the morning. Nursery starts at 8:30am and the bell goes at 8:45am for all other children. Please be on time as this helps the children to be settled in and ready to begin the school day with the rest of their class.

Easy Fundraising – for the Friends of Grange View



We have signed up to Easy Fundraising, which donates money to the Friends just through you shopping online. You can sign up using this link, and for everyone that does sign up during October, the Friends will receive £2. The link to our page is <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-grange-view>

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.

100% Attendance Incentive

We continue with our 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 Worship back after the Christmas holidays. Good luck everyone!

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

As you should be aware, The Department for Education issued new rules for Penalty Notices which came into force from September 2024.

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.

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.

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 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.

Costs for Wraparound will be:

£5.00 for 3:15pm – 4:15pm

£10.00 for 3:15pm – 5:30pm.

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

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.

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.

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 – A World of Celebrations

This half term, our Early Years topic has been “A World of Celebrations.” The theme of seasonal change has been woven throughout all activities and areas of the curriculum. From engaging stories such as The Leaf Thief to hands-on explorations of autumn, children have used their senses to observe changes in nature and enjoyed autumn hunts.

In Mathematics, Acorn Class has focused on counting skills—saying one number for each item in sequence and understanding that the final number reached represents the total quantity. Oak Class has concentrated on representing numbers up to five and, more recently, exploring the concepts of “one more” and “one less.”

The Christmas story has been a central theme in recent weeks. Children have learned about its importance to Christians, and it provided the foundation for our Christmas performance, Cheeky Cherubs. Every child was a true superstar on stage.

We have also continued to develop physical skills through PE sessions, yoga, and Little Movers. Fine motor skills have been strengthened through activities such as Dough Disco and Finger Gym.

Key Stage 1 – Autumn 2 – Brilliant Britain

What an awesome half term we have had in Key Stage One! We firstly learnt about the 4 nations of Great Britain and their capital cities. We then learnt about London, some of the landmarks in the city and about the royal family.

We were then very excited to learn about the Great Fire of London. We have learnt about what caused the fire, the devastating impact it had on the city, how far it spread and the reasons why the fire spread so easily. We learnt about what London was like before the fire and enjoyed being architects to design a new house, using more appropriate materials. We thoroughly enjoyed making Tudor houses out of boxes and then re-created the fire on Pudding Lane. Finally, we learnt about the Great Fire of Newcastle and looked at similarities and differences between the 2 fires.

Lower Key Stage 2 – Autumn 2 – Marvellous Megastructures

What an action packed and enjoyable topic this has been from start to finish! The children were thoroughly exhausted but highly motivated following our trip right at the beginning. It consolidated their stone age work brilliantly at the Hancock Museum and fuelled their interest and enjoyment for mega structures with our Quayside sightseeing.

The class showed great skills at chronologically ordering dates for the different mega structures and describing them with the wealth of material property terms they learnt. They transferred the skills into conductors and insulators for their circuit building.

However, it was their wonderful research skills and excellent artistic talent that was the greatest triumph for the class this term, their soft pastel representations of different mega structures were wonderful and their focus and determination to record lots of fascinating facts about the different world wonders was lovely to see.

This has certainly been a whirlwind term, filled with lots of great learning and achievements, certainly topped off with a wonderful show stopping performance by all in our production of ‘Christmas around the world!’

Upper Key Stage 2 – Autumn 2 – Keep Calm and Carry On

This half term, Years 5 and 6 have been diving into their World War Two topic. We began with an exciting enrichment week working alongside Northumberland Archives, where the children explored air raid shelters, rationing, “make do and mend,” the Dig for Victory campaign, and even learnt some popular dances from the 1940s.

Back in the classroom, we have investigated the key reasons why WW2 began, studied a timeline of significant events, learnt about the Blitz, and reflected on what life might have been like for child evacuees. In science, our focus has been on light.

The children have explored how light travels in straight lines, how we see objects, how shadows are formed, and how reflective surfaces can change the direction of light. (continued on next page)



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Alongside all of this, the children have also been busy rehearsing for our UKS2 pantomime, *Cinderella and Rockerfella*. Their dedication, teamwork and enthusiasm shone through, resulting in a fantastic performance that we are all incredibly proud of.

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

5th Jan – Teacher Training Day
6th Jan – School Reopens
8th Jan – Bikeability – Years 3 and 4

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

Lots of exciting things coming up in 2026 – look out for updates

******* Mr Guy's Bingo Dates*******

21st Jan - Mr Guy's Christmas Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5
25th Feb - Mr Guy's Christmas Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5
18th Mar - Mr Guy's Christmas Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5

*******Widdrington Holy Trinity Important Dates for December*******

25th Dec – Christmas Day Holy Communion at 10:00am

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: 12.12.2025



Well done to Sycamore Class who won with 99%

Acorns – 83%
Oak – 90.4%
Elm – 90.4%
Beech – 83.9%
Willow – 96.4%
Maple – 91.5%
Sycamore – 99%

Our school target continues at 97%. Whole school was **91.7%**

Kind Regards,

Louise Laskey - Head Teacher



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£5K FOR YOU, £5K FOR YOUR SCHOOL

Christmas **Golden** Draw **£10,000** Cash Bonanza



**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