**Grange View C.E. Primary School**
Grange Road, Widdrington
Morpeth, NE61 5LZ.
Telephone: 01670 790 686
email: admin@grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Louise Laskey

***We aim to SPARKLE!***

**Dear Parents/Carers** **23.10.2026**

## Let your light shine – Matthew 5:16

### Staff Congratulations

We would like to wish Mrs Timmins the very best as she leaves to start her Maternity Leave. We can't wait to meet Baby Timmins! We would also like to say a big congratulations to Miss Conroy as she has recently announced she is expecting a baby in the Spring.

### Family Worship Fridays

**Our Friday Family Worship on 06.11.26 will be for Early Years and Key Stage 1 (Acorns, Oak, Year 1 & Year 2) Thank you.**

### Parent View Questionnaire

A big thank you to all of our families this half term for all your support. We are inviting you to give feedback about school via the parent questionnaire. Please click the link
https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=/give-your-views

### Year 7 Secondary School Admissions – FINAL REMINDER

The Online Admissions Portal for middle, high and secondary schools is now open. If your child is currently in Year 6 you need to apply for their Year 7 place please.
**https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en**
(You need to register as a new user if you haven't used the Portal before. If you've forgotten your password, click on forgotten password link) **Applications must be submitted by 31st October as the portal will then close**. National Offers Day is 1st March 2027. If you have any problems accessing the portal please contact the council directly as this is not something school can help with.

### Community Cuppa

A big thank you to the 3 parents who came to this event! It's a shame that all other parents who struggle with routines, bedtime, behaviour etc. at home missed the first event.
But don't worry the next event is Tuesday 17th Nov at 2pm. Margaret Robinson from Family Help will be there too to offer lots of free advice and support. So please pop in for free refreshments, Mrs Palmers sweet treats and your free gift. Thank you.

### 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

### Breakfast Club - Fridays

Can parents/carers please use Maple classroom entrance to drop off for breakfast club on Fridays. To access this door please go round the back of Year 1 / 2 classrooms.

**Christmas Performances**

We know it may be a little too early for the C word for some, but we thought it best to let parents know of a change to our usual plans this year.

Mon 7th Dec – Years 3, 4 & 5 performance will be at 2:00pm and 5:00pm.

Tues 8th Dec – Nursery will be singing Christmas songs at 10:00am.

Wed 9th Dec – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performance will be at 10:00am and 2:00pm.

Thurs 10th Dec – Year 6 children will lead the Christingle service in school with Year 6 parents invited at 2:00pm.

Due to space restrictions we ask that parents attend only one of your child's performances. This may mean that your child does not have an adult watching them on one occasion, although everyone will enjoy their performance.

**Changes to Free School Meals from September 2026**

As some of you may be aware, the eligibility for Free School Meals entitlement has changed from September 2026.

Over half a million additional pupils will become eligible for Free School Meals under the new eligibility criteria. The change means that all households receiving Universal Credit, above the current £7,400 income cap, will qualify for this support. **It's important to note that while eligibility will be automatically granted to all Universal Credit recipients, families will still need to actually apply to receive the benefit.**

**There is more information on the below link but please apply if you think you are eligible.**

https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2025/06/expanding-free-school-meals-what-parents-need-to-know/#:~:text=Families%20receiving%20Universal%20Credit%20will,meals%20they'll%20need%20to%20provide.

**After School Clubs – Autumn 2 Term 2026**

After School clubs for next half term are:

- Monday – Reception & Key Stage 1 – Book and Biscuit Club
- Tuesday – KS2 NUFC Football Club with Emre - Open to Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 only
- Wednesday – Hangout Club (Wraparound Care) Only
- Thursday – Hangout Club (Wraparound Care) Only
- Friday - Hangout Club (Wraparound Care) Only

**Wraparound club is still available every day** *and a new option has been added – 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 Autumn 2 clubs are 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.***

**Mindful Mondays**




Parents and carers play an important role in helping children discover who they are, what they enjoy, and how to grow in confidence and independence. Spending quality time with trusted adults helps children feel safe, secure, and supported, providing strong foundations for learning and wellbeing.

Children thrive when they can be creative, curious, and adventurous alongside adults who encourage and support them. Through shared experiences, conversations, and new challenges, children develop resilience, emotional strength, and confidence.

Our Mindful Monday initiative aims to encourage families to slow down, connect, and enjoy meaningful moments together, supporting positive wellbeing for both children and adults.

*Idea for this week's mindful moment* – Do some star breathing exercises (Five Finger Breathing).

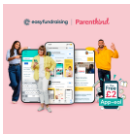
https://youtu.be/DXujvrm02bQ?si=-eicZL0UvI6qYcQy

We're working towards Artsmark Awarded by Arts Council England
HEALTH & WELLBEING AUDIT
MODESHIFT STARS
We've introduced thrive in our Setting
The Daily Mile fit for life
SCHOOL GAMES GOLD 2018/19
GREEN TREE SCHOOL Silver Award
Bronze Eco-Schools Bronze Award

**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.

**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 https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-grange-view

**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 after October half term. Good luck.

**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.

**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
£5.00 for 4:15pm – 5:30pm *(this is only available to add on after another club)*
£10.00 for £3:15pm – 5:30pm.
5:30pm – 6:00pm on request would be an additional £2.50.
*Unfortunately, we have also had to introduce a late fee of £5.00 for anyone collecting their child 15mins late.*

**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. 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.

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

**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.

**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.

**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 – Autumn 1 – All Are Welcome***

Our first half term in Early Years has been a wonderful start to the year! Our topic, 'All are welcome', has provided lots of exciting opportunities to explore who we are and what makes each of us special and unique.
The children have enjoyed creating self-portraits, looking carefully at their features and celebrating our similarities and differences. We have shared stories and conversations about our homes and families, learning about the important people in our lives and recognising that every family is special in its own way.
As autumn arrived, we explored the changes happening around us, noticing the changing colours of the leaves, collecting natural treasures and discovering the signs of the new season. Through our play, stories, creative activities and discussions, we have developed our communication, confidence, independence and friendships.
It has been lovely to see the children settling into their routines, exploring their environment and growing in confidence each week.

***Key Stage 1 – Autumn 1 – Toys Toys Toys***

This half term, we have been learning all about toys from the past and present. We explored a collection of old toys and compared them with the toys we play with today, discovering that many old toys were made from wood, while modern toys are often made from plastic.
We looked closely at old teddies and compared them with teddies today, noticing their similarities and differences. We also explored outdoor toys, thinking about the materials they are made from and how they differ from indoor toys.
Finally, we discovered how toys and games can be different around the world, learning that children in different countries enjoy a variety of ways to play. Throughout our learning, we have been developing our observation skills and thinking carefully about how toys have changed over time.

***Lower Key Stage 2 – Autumn 1 – Courageous Castles***

The children thoroughly enjoyed the topic at the start of this school year, it kicked off with a great visit to Alnwick Castle where the children acted out storming/ guarding the Barbican, went on a historical tour of the castle grounds, asked questions first hand to learn about living in the castle during their staterooms tour and had great fun dressing up and braving the Knights Quest.
Using 'How to train a Dragon' as the hook text to their learning, they created wonderful descriptions of dragons to be created using AI and wrote fantastic instructions on how to storm a barbican.
The term has been action packed celebrating all things Italian with European languages day, performing their lines brilliantly for the Harvest Festival and being immersed in Humanities with their learning about castle features, their locations in the four nations, how William the conqueror had an impact and all about the Percy family who live in Alnwick Castle.
Best of all was their wonderful coat of arms designs they created using appliqué techniques they had practiced throughout the term – it was lovely to have so many family members come in to help.

***Upper Key Stage 2 – Autumn 1 – Eureka***

We explored the Bronze Age and Iron Age in history, investigating how the development of metal tools, weapons and technology changed everyday life.
We learned about prehistoric settlements, travel, trade, Celtic tribes and the role of Druids, using archaeological evidence to understand the past.
In geography, we investigated the world's major biomes, comparing their climates, vegetation, wildlife and ecosystems. We also explored how humans affected these environments and why conservation was important.
In science, we studied influential scientists, including Albert Einstein, Marie Curie, Alexander Fleming, Galileo Galilei and Mary Anning, learning about their discoveries and how curiosity, observation and evidence helped to develop scientific understanding. We enjoyed it all!

**********NEW Diary Dates**********
23rd Oct – School closes for October half term holidays
2nd Nov – School reopens
13th Nov – Children in Need
All Christmas Dates/Info will be added straight after half term.

**********NEW Friends of Grange View Diary Dates**********
6th Nov – Non-uniform day for chocolate donations for Christmas fair
27th Nov – Christmas Fair 2:30pm

Any donations for raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated – any unwanted gift sets etc.
We would also appreciate cake donations for the Christmas fair – these can be brought in from Thurs 19th November.

**We are desperate for volunteers to help out on fair days, otherwise there may be no fair at all!**

********** Mr Guy's Bingo Dates**********
25th Nov - Mr Guy's Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5
16th Dec - Mr Guy's Bumper Christmas Bingo night – doors open 6:30pm - £1 per ticket or 6 for £5

# Stars of the week

**Willow**
Merits – Luke & Alice
Sparkle – Annliya

**Sycamore**
Merits – Millie, Ella & Bailey
Sparkle – Robyn



**SPARKLE TEA – Thea N, Alice, Theia G & Jayden & Neve (from last time)**



**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: 16.10.2026**



Well done to Oak class who won with 100%

Acorns – 95.2%
Oak – 100%
Elm – 96.9%
Beech – 95.2%
Willow – 98.1%
Sycamore – 97%

Our school target continues at 97%. Whole school was **97.1**%

Kind Regards,

Louise Laskey - Head Teacher




ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England
HEALTH & WELLBEING AUDIT
MODESHIFT STARS
We've introduced thrive in our Setting
The Daily Mile fit for life
SCHOOL GAMES GOLD 2018/19
GREEN TREE SCHOOL Silver Award
Bronze Eco-Schools Bronze Award

## 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**