



# Friday Flyer

5th January 2024



**Things to look forward to!**

**Week beginning 15th Jan:**  
Parent/teacher meetings for all year groups  
*Sign up sheets will be at the classroom doors soon!*

**Mon 5<sup>th</sup> & Tue 6<sup>th</sup> Feb:**  
Year 1 trips to HMS Sultan

**Wed 7th Feb:**  
Y2 'hike' to Alver Valley

**Thur 8th Feb:**  
School closes at 3.15pm for the half term break (INSET on the Friday)

**Thur 28<sup>th</sup> March:**  
School closes at 3.15pm for the Easter holidays

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> April:**  
The summer term begins!

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> May:**  
School closes at 3.15pm for the half term break

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> July:**  
Last day of Summer term, it's a Monday Fun Day!

**INSET dates for this year- we like to give you plenty of warning so you can prepare!**

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb:**  
Common closure day for Gosport and Fareham schools

**Fri 5th July:**  
Transition planning

**Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> July:**  
Behaviour and restorative



Happy New Year to our lovely Grange Families,

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year, enjoying quality moments with family and friends and taking time to relax and reflect upon 2023. What a year it was!

We loved welcoming families into school to help us celebrate important milestones, national events and of course, Christmas! Fast forward 12 months and here we are, welcoming everyone back into school, ready to start a new and exciting spring term. We have many exciting events ahead and lots of interesting and awe-inspiring learning opportunities!

It has been lovely to hear all the news from the children and to see how excited they have been to catch up with friends and the adults in their classes.

It sounds like everyone had a great Christmas! As I've walked around school this week, I have enjoyed listening to the children embracing new learning and being motivated by new topics and units of work. The classrooms as always, look bright and welcoming and I know the staff have put in a lot of effort to set up ready for the children's return. We certainly have an exciting term ahead of us, so look out for upcoming events and always check in with Class Dojo, Facebook and our website to find out what we are up to!

The spring term often brings with it coughs, colds and other viruses and whilst we understand anxiety can be high around illness, we must take a fresh look at attendance which took quite a hit last year and during the latter part of the autumn term. Attendance is the key to positive outcomes for all children and to ensure that they become the confident, successful and happy citizens of the future. We have a duty to let families know when attendance drops and we will work with you to find ways to make improvements. That's what we are here for!

Please remember, there is always someone here to help, to advise and to listen. No worry, query or question is ever too big or too small! Find us on the playground in the morning and at the end of the day, or pop into the office to see one of the lovely office staff.

I would like to wish you all a wonderful New Year and extend my wishes for a positive, happy and healthy 2024!

Miss Myers 😊





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## PE Days for the Spring Term 2024



There have been no changes to PE days, but here is a reminder of them below!

### Year R

Starlings/Sparrows:  
Wednesdays

### Year 1

Chaffinches/Robins/  
Wagtails: Mondays

### Year 2

Owls/Blackbirds:  
Tuesdays

Please can you make sure all jewellery is removed as part of our health and safety guidance.

It is always good practice to name all items of clothing too!

We would ask that PE kits consist of black shorts or trackies when it is colder and a plain white t-shirt.

School jumpers or cardigans can be worn on top so please avoid hoodies or other sweatshirts.

We encourage the children to wear black plimsolls or plain black trainers.



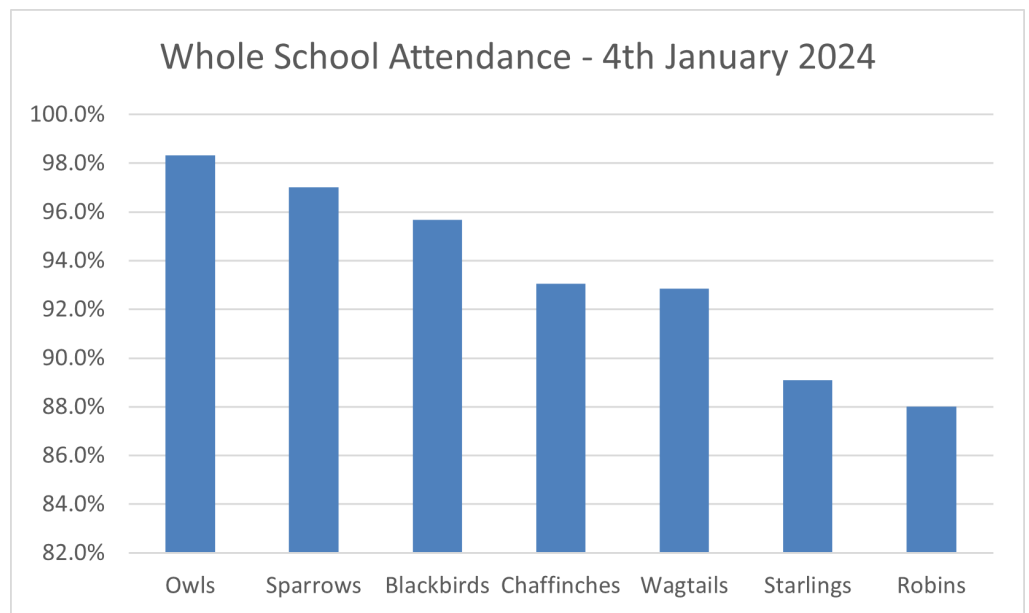
## Attendance

Each week, attendance is tracked across the school and on a Friday the class with highest attendance for that week, gets a certificate.

At the end of each term, we look at who has had the best attendance overall and that class gets to choose an item for their class such as a new game.

**This week the winners are:  
Owls with 98.33%**

Congratulations and well done for your great attendance this week.



Don't forget, the more you're in school, the more learning you can do!

**As a school, we have a responsibility and a duty of care to ensure that children attend school regularly and that attendance is good. Where attendance drops, we will make contact with parents and carers and work with you to get attendance back on track.**

## Reporting School Absence

If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please can you make sure you phone this through into the school office. A message can also be left on the absence line (option 2) if there is no one to answer the phone, or you are calling out of hours.

Whilst we love Class Dojo and all that it offers, please can we ask that parents do **not** use the messaging service to report absence. Thank you!



### Any unwanted gifts or left overs?!

We are always looking to support local charities and have been able to offer support to many of our families this Christmas through local groups.

If you have any unwanted items or non-perishable food, we will be delivering donations in the new year to support worthwhile causes. Thank you!



### Applying for School Places

If you have a child who is due to start in either Year R or Year 3 in September 2024, please make sure you have completed the application within the window.

This window closes **15<sup>th</sup> January 2024** and any applications made after this will be classes as 'late' and may affect the allocation of the school.

Please use this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/applicationprocess/yearrandyear3>

Notification of places for 'on time' applications is **16<sup>th</sup> April 2024**.

### Staying in touch and keeping up to date at Grange Infants

We always try our very best to keep you updated about what's happening at the school including events, trips and learning themes. In the last two years, we have moved away from paper-based communication and instead communicate with our families electronically via email, Class Dojo (our learning platform), our school website and Facebook. All information can be found on these, so we strongly advise all of our families to engage with these and to check them regularly for updates.

This is how we usually use these methods of communication:



We will use email to send out letters, forms and newsletters. Texts are usually sent for reminders or quick updates and attendance messages.



ClassDojo

We use Class Dojo for class messages, homework and using individual portfolios for uploading and sharing work and photographs of your child's learning. You can also message your child's class teacher directly using this platform.



We use Facebook as a fast way of updating you on events, news and requests.



Our website is full of useful information such as policies, school structure and staffing, curriculum overviews, a calendar and useful links.

### Governor Vacancy!

We are looking for a Parent Governor to join our Governing Board!

The ideal candidate will be passionate about the education of all the children attending Grange Infants, confident in voicing opinions, reliable in meeting deadlines and in attending Governing Board Meetings (these take place during the week outside of school hours).

If you are interested in joining our dynamic board of Governors and making a valuable difference to our school, please contact Miss Myers!



## A Polite Request

We have noticed that more parent cars are starting to creep back into the car park. Please can I ask that families **do not park on site** at drop-off and pick-up each day.

We would encourage families to walk to school as part of a healthy lifestyle and to reduce impact on the environment.



It was also brought to my attention, the chaos that is building outside our main gates at the end of the day. Last week, a worrying number of parents came to see me to report dangerous parking not only on the grass verge but also over the yellow zigzags and on the pavement. We simply **cannot allow this to continue** as it is putting **the safety of our children and families at risk**. Please plan your journey carefully and try to leave your cars at home. Thank you!



## Book Swap

Don't forget we still have our Book Swap Bookcase in the main entrance stocked with many donated and second-hand books.

The way it works is that you can bring your own book in and swap it for a new one from the shelf or simply make a donation of 20p for a book of your choice!



## Hello to our new staff members

A big hello and welcome back to Mrs Garwood who has joined us this term as a teacher for 2 days a week in the Wagtails. Mrs Garwood is a long standing part of the Grange Family and knows many of the children well from her experience in Sparrows last year.

We wish her the very best and know she will love her experience in the Wagtails class!

Also, a big welcome to the team goes to Mr Dickens who joined us last term and will be continuing as a teaching assistant across the school. We wish him all the best and know he will love being part of our team.



## Join us as a reading, library or learning volunteer!

Do you have any spare time during the week? Would you like to help promote a love of reading and learning at our school? Then come and join us as a reading, library or learning volunteer!

We are looking for volunteers to support reading and other learning activities with individual children during the afternoons. We value the positive impact that volunteers have on the children and the progress they make. If you would like to become a volunteer or you are interested in supporting our library, please get in touch with your child's class teacher or Miss Myers.



YOU CAN FIND  
**MAGIC**  
wherever you look,  
SIT BACK AND RELAX,  
ALL YOU NEED IS  
**A BOOK**

-Dr. Seuss



# Wow and Proud

5th January 2024

## Sparrows



Wow Writer is **Ted**, for writing a super robot story!

Proud Pot is **Tommy-James** - he can name ALL the planets in the right order!

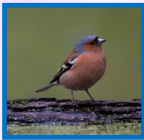
## Starlings



Wow Writer is **Poppy** for using kinetic letters to write her words!

Proud Pot is **Arizona** for 55 reads!

## Chaffinches



Wow Writer is **Evelyn** for writing super sentences!

Proud Pot is **Archie** for doing brilliantly with his counting task!

## Robins



Wow Writer is **Kady** increasing her productivity in her writing over the past term!

Proud Pot is **Ruby-May** for working with tens and units in Maths!

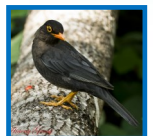
## Wagtails



Wow Writer is **Heidi** for excellent writing in Science, and revising what she had written!

Proud Pot is **Kamsi** for choosing to solve 6 problems when she only needed to do 1 or 2!!

## Blackbirds



Wow Writer is **Riley** for really careful handwriting!

Proud Pot is **Louie, Florence and Ivy** for performing an amazing poem!

## Owls



Wow Writer is **Jack** for fantastic writing about the use of repetition in stories!

Proud Pot is **Dhaveed** for amazing addition on a number line!