



Dear Grange Families,

17th March 2023

As always, the time is flying and here we are only two weeks away from the Easter break. It almost felt like Spring yesterday and we're all hoping the cold weather is behind us

We have had another busy couple of weeks with the children engaging well with new topics and enjoying new learning and the challenges it brings. It is always lovely to see how resilient the children are and how they recognise in themselves the impact of a positive learning attitude.

Don't forget to check the website for updated curriculum overviews so you know what is coming up this term for your child, as it's always great if families can support their children through doing additional research on their current topic, such as 'Paws and Claws' and 'The Farm'.

Now that Spring is in the air, we can start to think about learning through the great outdoors, exploring what the local area has to offer from our field and wooded area to Alver Valley and the beach. We are so lucky to live in an area of such rich and diverse culture and it is important that the children get to explore what the environment has to offer. Our curriculum always looks to develop the children's understanding of global impact, sustainability and ways to look after the planet. With Earth Hour taking place next week and the upcoming Coronation of King Charles III, now is the perfect time to think about the importance of caring for the planet. 🌍

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.

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Myers 😊



New half term- fresh start!

Drop off timings in the morning

As we said before the half term break, we want to ensure that every minute counts.

This is a reminder that our drop-off window is between **8.45am** and **8.55am** to make sure that the children are in school and ready for assembly at 9am. Please make sure that your child is in school on time so that they don't miss any learning or peer interaction. The gates on our playground will shut promptly at **8.55am** and after this time, you will need to sign your child in at the office, with this late arrival being recorded on your child's attendance certificate.

Weekly attendance: Cool to be In School

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: Robins with 98.15%

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.

Should your child be unwell and unable to attend that day, please contact the office to let us know and this will be recorded on our registers.

During out of office hours, you will be able to leave a message.



Attendance is a key priority for school improvement at Grange Infants. To keep attendance at the forefront of our minds (and our families!), we will be sharing with you the attendance of each class for that week in every newsletter. This is with the intention of our community understanding how important attendance is and the value we place on it in ensuring the children have the best possible start to their education.

This week's results:

Class	Percentage attendance for the week ending 17.3.23
Robins	98.15
Chaffinches	97.67
Wagtails	96.09
Woodpeckers	95.42
Blackbirds	95
Sparrows	91.15
Starlings	90.43
Owls	84.17



Attendance Letters

Every school has a duty to report attendance to parents, and where attendance drops and is not in line with local and national targets, we must address this and work with you to improve it.


Our attendance team has been working with Local Authority to look at ways to improve our attendance. Currently, our 'persistent absence' is high and must be addressed as a priority, as this is having such a negative impact on the children's progress and development.

Persistent absence applies to any child with attendance of 90% or below. We are concerned at how many children are missing vital learning and social interaction and so we are putting in to place an attendance strategy to address this.

As part of this, we will be contacting families to let them know their child's attendance and whether they are in the green, amber or red zone. All families will receive an update before the end of this term.


Please watch this space for more updates and information on what we are doing as a school to address this issue.

As always, it is best practice to work alongside our families and to give the support needed in a sensitive and caring way. Please let us know how we can help you; we are always here to chat things through such as morning routines and positive journeys to school.



ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?





EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!


Children are required by law to attend 190 school days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 lessons

89% and below
Drastic effect on academic achievement


95% - 90%
Cause for concern


100% - 96%
Excellent


IMPORTANT

dates to remember

Things to look forward to!

Tuesday 28th March: SATs meetings for Year 2 parents- 9am and 2.45pm in the main hall

Thursday 30th March: Easter Bonnet parade for all year groups in the morning. *We will send out times for each parade soon. The children are invited to wear what they like in exchange for chocolate for our Easter raffle!*

Friday 31st March: Key Stage 1 homework showcase 8.45am

Friday 31st March: School closes for the Easter holiday at **1.30pm**

Friday 31st March: Easter chocolate raffle will be drawn by the school council

Monday 17th April: School re-opens for the Summer term

Monday 1st May: School closed for the May Day Bank Holiday

Thursday 4th May: School closed to children due to Polling Day

Friday 5th May: Whole school celebration for King Charles III Coronation *Details to follow but we are hoping to host a family picnic on the field followed by crafting activities in the classrooms*

Monday 8th May: School closed for the Coronation of King Charles III

INSET dates for this year- we like to give you plenty of warning so you can prepare! These dates are the same as the Junior school and include the additional Bank Holiday for Coronation of King Charles III

Friday 10th February: Behaviour and well-being

Monday 8th May: The Coronation of King Charles III

Friday 7th July: Transition planning



Earth Hour 2023

On Saturday, 25th March at 8.30pm, millions of people across the globe will unite to show that they care about the future of our planet, by switching off for one hour.

It really is that simple but could have such a huge impact. Just switch off your lights or devices for one hour. Think about other quick changes you could make for that hour; turn off the heating and put on a jumper, have a picnic tea!

Use this link to find out more about what you can do to support this event:

https://www.wwf.org.uk/earth-hour?utm_source=Grants&utm_medium=PaidSearch-Brand&pc=AVN014007&&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIysKg66Th_QIVDhEGAB3z7ANbEAAYASA AEgICfvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds



Red Nose Day 2023

Wear what makes you happy!

Thank you so much for your support today for such a worthwhile cause. It was wonderful to see the array of 'happy' outfits and smiling faces.



Easter Bonnet Parade 2023

Our annual Easter Bonnet Parade will take place in the school hall on Thursday 30th March and we would love to invite our families to come and watch!

To make sure that all family members have a chance to see, we are going to stagger our parades as follows:

Year R: 9am

Year 1: 9.30am

Year 2: 10am



Wow and Proud



Congratulations



Blackbirds

Wow Writer goes to **Oliver**
for being really productive in his sentences!
Proud Pot goes to **Jeron**
for his beautiful Matisse style fish art!



Chaffinches

Wow Writer goes to **Melody**
for writing her beautiful sentences!
Proud Pot goes to **Charlotte**
for doing her spellings at home!



Owls

Wow Writer goes to **Naomi**
for such beautiful handwriting!
Proud Pot goes to **Elizabeth**
- she should be so proud of her
lovely Mother's Day card!



Robins

Wow Writer goes to **Mason** for
writing his sentences independently!
Proud Pot goes to **Amelia B**
- she should be very proud of her
lovely Mother's Day card!



Sparrows

Wow Writer goes to **Jayden**
for writing a 2 word phrase at home!
Proud Pot goes to **Ruby**
for her beautiful Mother's Day card!



Starlings

Wow Writer goes to **Erin**
for writing beautiful sentences about the little red hen!
Proud Pot goes to **Kayden**
for trying so hard with his CVC words!



Wagtails

Wow Writer goes to **Hudson**
for his lovely handwriting and using suffixes!
Proud Pot goes to **Ella**
for trying so hard at a yellow header
in Maths and tackling money questions!



Woodpeckers

Wow Writer goes to **Austin**
for writing a 2 word phrase!
Proud Pot goes to **Keegan**
for writing 2 word phrases!

Mill Cottage Farm Comes to Grange!

Year R were so excited to welcome the farm to our school today, as was the rest of the school. Having experiences like this adds to the children's 'cultural capital' and helps to embed learning through a hands-on approach. Although the weather may not have been on our side at times, the children (and adults!) had an amazing time meeting the animals and learning many interesting and fun facts about them.



