



19th May 2023

Happy Friday Everyone,

As always, the last 2 weeks have flown by and here we are one week away from the end of the half term and another step closer to the end of the year!

It has been another busy fortnight with pre-school visits ready for the new year and thoughts around transition for all of the children so that they are ready for the changes that are ahead. We know how important it is to prepare the children well so that there are no surprises. As part of this transition, relationships are key and we always ensure that the children, regardless of what year group they are moving to, get to meet their new adults and experience their new class base. This means that when they arrive back with us in September, they are ready and raring to go. We will keep you updated on transition events that will be taking place during the next half term.

This week was 'Walk to School Week' both nationally and for Hampshire schools. We work hard with our local authority as well as our community to promote walking and emission-free travel to school. National statistics vary from school to school but in many not even half of the children walk and too many rely on cars. In a drive towards conservation and safety, we would love to see less cars outside our school gates and more children enjoying a walk to start their day!

It's been another week of spring weather with all of us enjoying some much-needed sunshine. I have added again a reminder about 'Safety in the Sun' and the need for sun cream, water bottles and hats. The outlook for the next few days looks promising, so I wish you all a happy and fun weekend!

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.

Miss Myers ☺

PE days for the Summer 1

Please check which day your child will need to come to school in their PE kit as these have changed for the new term. Please can we ask that PE kit consists of plain trackies in black or blue (or dark coloured shorts in warmer weather), a white t-shirt and either the school jumper or a dark coloured sweatshirt.

Earrings and jewellery must be removed before the start of the day.

Blackbirds: **Wednesday and Friday** (PE Kit on Wednesday)

Owls: **Wednesday**

Wagtails: **Thursday**

Robins and Chaffinches: **Monday**

Starlings, Sparrows and Woodpeckers: **Tuesday**



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: Wagtails with 99.13%

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!

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 19.5.23
Wagtails	99.13
Woodpeckers	96
Chaffinches	95.33
Starlings	95.22
Sparrows	93.6
Blackbirds	92.31
Robins	91.67
Owls	86.09



Walk to School Week 2023

Thank you for supporting our Walk to School Week. Walking or scooting or cycling are great ways to stay active and give the children a positive start to the day.

Pollution outside of schools is greatly reduced; the less cars there are and a reduction in traffic keeps our families safe on their journey in.

The great news is that over 70% of our school walk regularly, way above the national average!

Let's see if we can get it higher...



Yellow Zig Zags

A SECOND REMINDER!

Please make sure that you do not park on the yellow zig zags outside of our gates during school hours as this is putting the safety of our school community at risk.

Parking on these zig zags is an offence that could lead to a fixed penalty notice.

After School Clubs

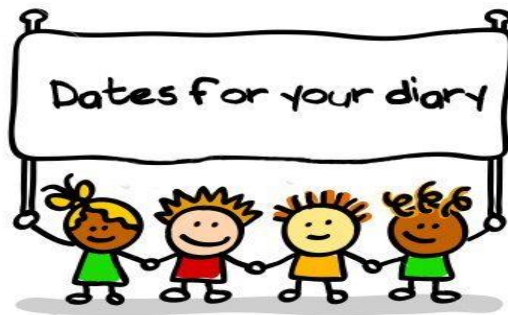
This week saw the start of our summer after school clubs. For the first time this year, Year R have joined in but of course this has meant a much higher demand for places.

We have tried hard to give every child who has applied a place in a club, but there will be many children who may not have got what they wanted.

I know this can be disappointing but these clubs are run by staff on a voluntary basis (and at no cost) and so we can only offer a certain number.

We will be looking to outsource next year to extend what we offer to families and will be exploring what families and children would like to access.





Things to look forward to!

Friday 26th May: School closes at 3.15 for the half term break

Monday 5th June: School re-opens at 8.45 for Summer 2

Week beginning 5th June: Key stage 1 beach trips *More details to follow*

Week beginning 12th June: Phonics screening test for Year 1

Week beginning 12th June: Songs, Stories and Smiles sessions for new entrants begin

Wednesday 5th July: Transition morning for Year 2 children who are going to Grange Juniors

Friday 7th July: School closed for INSET- Transition planning

Friday 21st July: School closes for the Summer holidays at 1.30pm

Friday 21st July: The Grange Schools' Summer Fayre from 1.30pm! *Watch this space for more details!*

INSET days for 23/24

We want to give our families as much notice as we can for our INSET day closures next year. Every school takes 5 INSETs a year for training and development.

We have agreed the following 4 dates and will need to confirm the 5th one at a later date once training has been agreed and booked.

Friday 1st September: Phonics whole school training

Monday 4th September: Safeguarding and behaviour

Friday 9th February: Common Day Closure for Gosport and Fareham schools

Friday 5th July: Transition planning

Bag2School

Thank you for all of your donations! Your generosity made £74 for the school which will go towards curriculum enhancements such as trips and visits, building the children's cultural capital.



Wall of Fame 2023

This is a reminder of Mrs Serridge's, project 'Wall of Fame'.

This celebrates the active lives of our children and promotes the value of sport, fitness and well-being.

Please make sure you return the form which will be coming home shortly for your child to join in so that they can share the sport or activity they do outside of school.



PE Safety

As part of our drive towards healthy lifestyles and celebrating sport, please can we remind families that all jewellery must be removed for PE days. We have noticed a number of children wearing necklaces and bracelets which are not permitted due to the risk of injury. Children will be asked to remove these and they will be returned at the end of the day.

Please can you make sure that children wear sensible and suitable footwear for PE. Our uniform states black plimsolls or plain, black trainers if possible.

Thank you!

Mrs Bramble's Table Top Sale

A huge thank you must go to Mrs Bramble who runs our regular table top sale on the playground. She is amazing at finding all sorts of items for families such as uniform, toys, games and clothing.

Mrs Bramble tries her best to be here as often as she can but as a much-valued volunteer, she sometimes has commitments outside of school and can't always be in.





With the hope of warmer days ahead, please can we remind you all about sun safety and well-being.

Every child should have their **water bottle in school every day**. All classes have access to water dispensers so that bottles can be topped up during the day as we are encouraging them to drink more to keep hydrated.

On warmer, sunny days, please can we ask for your child to come to school with an application of sun cream already on. Under health and safety guidance, we cannot apply sun cream to any child but can guide and support them in doing it themselves should they need an additional application.

Sun hats are great for shading little faces and eyes. **Please make sure all hats are name labelled clearly!**

Tick Alert

We are so lucky to have a large amount of open space here that the children can access in warmer weather.

As many of you will be aware, we share the school site with a couple of families of foxes and whilst we love the relationship we have with nature, there are always things we need to be aware of...

Foxes and other British wildlife, carry ticks and these can be transferred onto long grass as they walk through. We remind children not to venture into longer grass and we do have the grass cut regularly but there is still the risk that ticks can be picked up. Please look out for these little critters and use the link below for advice should you find one:

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/injuries/skin-injuries/tick-bites>



Love of Learning



Mathletics

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Jackson—Owls	Millie-Mae—Owls
Ruby-May—Starlings	Charlotte—Wagtails
Noah—Sparrows	Aimee—Robins
Peter—Robins	Liam—Wagtails
Kady—Sparrows	Logan—Chaffinches

For aiming high! And achieving a Mathletics certificate this week, well done for all your hard work.

Aiming High



Goodbye Ms Hamilton

Sadly we said goodbye and good luck to Ms Hamilton last week. As a TA in the Starlings she was such an asset to our team and having worked with us previously, loved being back in our community.

We wish her every success in her new adventure!



Hello Chicks!

We were all so excited this week to welcome a batch of eggs and the Year Rs have watched with awe and wonder at the chicks hatching out.

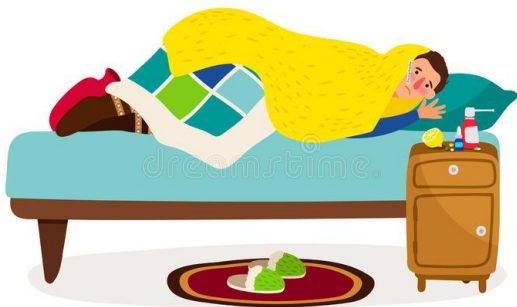
I think you'll agree, they are very cute!



COVID update

We are aware that there has been an increase recently in the number of cases of COVID in our community. Whilst there is no guidance in place, we do appreciate the care that has been taken to reduce spreading the virus.

We understand that it can be tricky getting your child to school if you are unwell for any reason, so please get in touch and we will help in any way we can.



Social Media at its Best!

It's not often I talk about social media in a positive light however, this week we have seen the impact it can have! Thank you to those of you who added your comments to a recent Gosport Aware post about the school. It was so lovely to read such positive comments and to know we are doing a good job.

It certainly gave us all a boost!



Wow & Proud



Congratulations



Sparrows

Wow Writer goes to **Lachlan** for fantastic work with odd and even numbers!

Proud Pot goes to **Cody** for joining in with carpet time!



Woodpeckers

Wow Writer goes to **Kaycee-Mae** for her lovely Enormous Turnip sentence!

Proud Pot goes to **Austin** for excellent sharing and odd/evens in Maths!



Robins

Wow Writer goes to **Florence** for using the -est suffix to describe vegetables really well!

Proud Pot goes to **Arvin** for collaborating to make a super support plant structure in DT!



Owls

Wow Writer goes to **Matthew** for fantastic use of suffixes and contractions writing about the 3 Billy Goats Gruff!

Proud Pot goes to **Henry** and **ALL the Owls** for such amazing effort with their special jobs this week!



Starlings

Wow Writer goes to **Lexi** for using sounds in CVC words and finger spaces for The Enormous Turnip!

Proud Pot goes to **Ruben** for great effort and moving up to sound blend group!



Chaffinches

Wow Writer goes to **Felicity** for super effort in getting it right, and using blue for better!

Proud Pot goes to **Isabel** for fantastic Maths, using money in addition!



Blackbirds

Wow Writer goes to **Angel** for super effort with the 3 Little Ducks story!

Proud Pot goes to **Amilie** and **ALL the Blackbirds** for super effort with their special jobs!



Wagtails

Wow Writer goes to **Charlie** for his brilliant imaginative story!

Proud Pot goes to **Serayah** for very impressive perseverance with her Maths special jobs, even when it was really tricky!

