



To Our Lovely Grange Families,

20th October 2023

Welcome to the last Friday Flyer of this half term! The last 7 weeks have flown by in a blur of learning new things, making new friends and most importantly having fun. We are so proud of the progress the children are making and how well they have settled into their classes. It's amazing how much can be squeezed into half a term, from the visit from Raptorxotics and our Harvest festival, to our brilliant Macmillan coffee morning and Wear Red Day! We have a school full of successful and confident young people and we can't wait to start another half term with them developing a love of learning and helping them to aim high in everything they do.

We have ensured that our assemblies this half term have covered a range of topics in recognition of the diverse world we live in. It has been lovely welcoming Year R to some of our assemblies too and they have loved joining in with whole school celebrations. Coming together as a whole school community is so important to us, and sharing important messages, themes and values, is an integral part of our reflective time, helping the children to become well-rounded citizens for the future that lies ahead of them.

As we approach the half term break, I would like to thank you all for your support of our school and for your commitment to your child's education and their 'flying start'. Whilst we endeavour to give the children a broad and balanced experience, we know how influential home-life is and what a positive impact it has on your child's development. We promise to update you on progress and on the wellbeing of your child and will always make sure we are here to listen, to advise and to support.

It really has been so lovely to see so many of you and to hear all of your news. As always, my door is open so please let me or the amazing office team know if there is anything we can do to help. We are always here for you. May I wish you all a wonderful and restful half term break. We can't wait to welcome you back again on Monday, 30th October! Miss Myers ☺

PE days: these are the new PE days that that will start from 30th October. Please check for the day your child will have PE.

The children will come to school in their PE kits as we no longer change in school. Please can you make sure **all jewellery** is removed as part of our health and safety guidance.

Please make sure all clothing is clearly named; it is amazing how easily jumpers are lost!

Year R - Starlings and Sparrows: Wednesday

Year 1 - Chaffinches, Robins and Wagtails : Monday

Year 2 - Owls and Blackbirds: Tuesdays

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.



Key Stage 1 Homework Project Showcase

The Key Stage 1 teaching team hope our families have had lots of fun creating the homework projects this half term. Last year, changes were made to the homework that was set each term and we wanted to trial a project-based approach to allow children and their families to explore a theme and to go wild with their imaginations! Thank you to everyone who took part and to our families who came to the project showcase. I'm sure you will agree what great effort was put into these projects and like us, we were amazed at the creativity and use of imagination! You showed a huge amount of:

Effort from within



We will continue with projects after the $\frac{1}{2}$ term break and as always, would appreciate your feedback.

Don't forget how important it is to read each week whether with your child or listening alongside them. Even 5 minutes a day can make such a difference and really help to embed reading skills, as well as a love of books. You can continue to access Oxford Owl online books and Mathletics.



Halloween Parties

These will take place on Tuesday 31st October for all year groups. Normal school uniform should be worn to school. Letters have been emailed this week and sent home in bookbags yesterday. Tickets are £3.

All year groups: 3.15- 4.30pm

The children are invited to *bring in a costume that they can change into at the start of the party.* Please bring these in, in a named bag. I'm sure it will be full of spooky fun!



Show Racism the Red Card



show racism
the red card

Thank you for your support today- the school was a sea of red and this helped to get this important message out to the children.

Change hearts, change minds, change lives

Our Beautiful Remembrance Day Display

A huge thank you to Mrs Sayer and Mrs Cripps for our wonderful Remembrance display in our porch area. Nearly a third of our children have parents in the Armed Forces and we value the contribution they make to the welfare of our country and beyond. Remembrance Day is a time to remember the service and sacrifice of those who have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.

Thank you also to not only to Mrs Sayer's Forces group but also to the many children who made poppies for the display.

Look out for more information about poppies and other Remembrance Day items that we will be selling after the half term break.



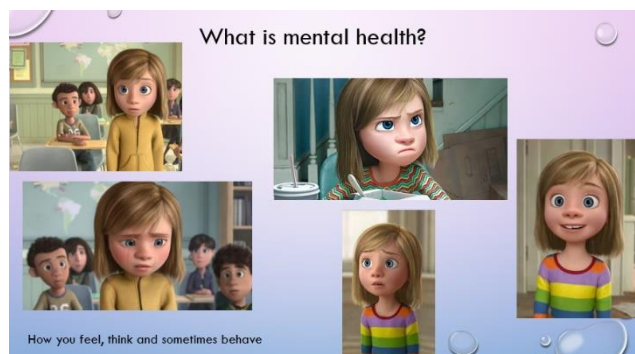
It's ok to not be ok

On Monday 10th October, it was world Mental Health Day. In recognition of this day, we have focused on well-being and mental health this week through our assemblies and reflection time with the children. These are some of the things we have talked about and we think it would give families a start point to have conversations about keeping our minds healthy.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/get-involved/world-mental-health-day/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/supporting-others/childrens-mental-health/>

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/supporting-your-child-s-mental-health/>



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 96.92%

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.



Whole School Attendance this half term

We have been pleased to see that whole school attendance is on the up!

Whilst this is great news, we have seen that lates are starting to creep back in and this is having a serious impact upon learning, peer to peer interactions and wellbeing.

Would you believe that **6.9 hours** were lost last week due to late arrivals.

It is so important that you get your child to school on time to make sure they really are getting the 'flying start' that they deserve.





Things to look forward to!

Monday 30th October: School re-opens for Autumn 2

Tuesday 31st October: Halloween Party - all classes 3.15-4.30pm - *Letters went home 19/10*

Wednesday 1st November: Owls' trip to Fort Nelson

Thursday 2nd November: Blackbirds' trip to Fort Nelson

Tuesday 7th November: Chaffinches trip to Search Museum

Wednesday 8th November: Wagtails' and Robins' trip to Search

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

Friday 9th February: Common closure day for Gosport and Fareham schools

Friday 5th July: Transition planning

Monday 22nd July: Last day of school for the children, it's Monday Fun Day!

Tuesday 23rd July: Behaviour and restorative practice

Hot Chocolate Friday (that actually took place on Monday...!)

As part of our drive towards the recognition of amazing behaviour and role modelling, I will be inviting a child from each class in Year 1 and Year 2 to join me for hot chocolate and a treat each Friday. (Year R will be joining us soon!)

A huge congratulations to the children who joined me for a treat this week. I am so proud of you all for your amazing achievements and for always keeping our Grange Values! You are amazing!



And the achievements continue!

I am always in awe of the amazing things the children at Grange Infants get up to outside of school and love hearing about the impact individuals have made to our community and beyond.

This week I wanted to share the achievements of these two superstars who have gone above and beyond, thinking of others and showing the importance of aiming for the stars!

Well done Maia who donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust!

Congratulations to Emily for taking part in the Junior Great South Run!



25 Years at Grange Infants!

I can't quite believe I'm writing this but at the end of the July, I celebrated 25 years of working for Hampshire County Council. Even crazier is that every one of those 25 years has been spent at Grange Infants!

As much as 25 years makes me feel very old, it reminds me how special Grange is and why I have never wanted to be anywhere else. Grange Infants has a special place in my heart and the well-being and welfare of the families and children has always been my number one priority.

Of course, I couldn't do this job without the continued and unconditional support of my amazing school team.

Thank you everyone- you are the reason I am here!



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Share what you do!

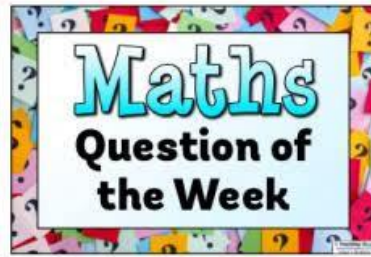
As part of their topic on Everyday Heroes, Year R would love to hear from anyone who is an essential or key worker and would be prepared to come in and talk to the children about the vital role they play in the community.

This could be anything from nurse to delivery driver, paramedic to mechanic.

Please pop into the office to find out more or see Miss Brimecome.

Thank you!

Mrs Poate's Regular Slot:



Thank you to all the Mums and Dads who supported their children with last week's button problem.

Here is another maths question. Remember, these are open ended activities that all children from Year R to Year 2 will be able to have a go at.

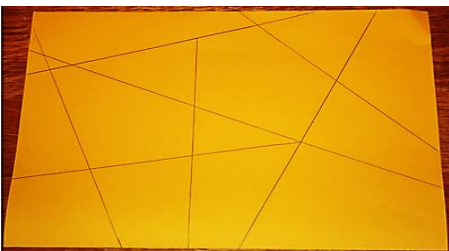
I will leave a box in the reception area to you to drop off your solutions to the problem. There will be printed versions for you to pick up from there too. During celebration assembly, I will draw one of the entries out of the box and that child will win a small prize. The main reason for doing this is that you will be showing your children that maths and learning are cool and fun things to do. 😊

Shapely Lines

For this activity, you'll need:

- a piece of paper
- a pencil
- a ruler
- some coloured pencils or pens

Using your pencil and ruler, draw some straight lines on your piece of paper to make an interesting pattern. You can draw as many or as few as you like. This is what I drew:



Can you describe what you see in your own pattern?

Can you find any shapes which have three sides? What are these shapes called?

How about any with four sides?

Which shape or shapes have the most sides?

Using your coloured pencils or pens, decorate all the three-sided shapes in some way. You could colour them all in using a particular colour or you could cover them with a special design or pattern.

Can you decorate all the four-sided shapes in another, different, way?

How about the five-sided/six-sided ... shapes?

Please put your entry in the box in reception by Thursday 2nd November.

The name will be drawn on Friday 3rd November in celebration assembly.

Wow & Proud Congratulations



Sparrows

Well done for another super week.
We hope you had fun!
Year R will join Wow & Proud soon.



Starlings

Well done for another super week.
We hope you had fun!
Year R will join Wow & Proud soon.



Chaffinches

Wow Writer goes to **Poyraz** for using
his careful sounds in his writing!
Proud Pot goes to **Darcie** for excellent
sentences with exciting verbs!



Robins

Wow Writer goes to **Harry** for persevering
with his writing even when he finds it tricky!
Proud Pot goes to **Posie** for working really hard
on her measuring in Maths!



Wagtails

Wow Writer goes to **Jaxon** for very productive
writing and effective use of conjunctions!
Proud Pot goes to **Jack** for having the best week!
Well done!



Blackbirds

Wow Writer goes to **Natalia** for amazing productivity!
Proud Pot goes to **Melody** for an AWESOME
dragon homework project! It is amazing!



Owls

Wow Writer goes to **Owen** for his brilliant 'egg' story
using fab adjectives and imagery!
Proud Pot goes to **Imogen** for making an awesome
dragon homework project!