



23rd September 2023

To Our Lovely Grange Families,

What a busy couple of weeks it has been! A huge welcome to our lovely Year Rs who are now attending full time. They have settled in quickly and are doing so well. It has been lovely to see how excited they all are to be part of our Grange Infants family and watching them come to school each day with big smiles has been a real pleasure.

Year 1 and Year 2 have impressed us all with their resilience and their 'can do' attitude, embracing new learning and accepting new challenges. It has been wonderful to see how quickly they have settled in their new classes, securing old friendships and making new ones too.

The school looks amazing and the buzz in every classroom is so positive! This is such a busy term but one full of exciting events and fun learning. Year 1 and Year 2 are soon to be exploring the local area so hopefully we will see some more lovely autumn sunshine in between the showers! It will be so exciting to get the children out, enhancing their learning and nurturing their curiosity through first-hand experience.

As always, we want to make sure we are at the heart of our community, always here to listen and advise. We know times are tough for everyone and we want you to know we are here, whether it be signposting to local support groups and charities, or being here for a coffee and chat. You know where we are. 😊

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 weekend. We can't wait to welcome you back again on Monday! Miss Myers ☺

PE days: these are the new PE days that that will start next week. 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!

Starlings and Sparrows: *The children will not be starting PE sessions until later this term*

Chaffinches Wagtails and Robins: Wednesdays

Owls and Blackbirds: Tuesday

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.



Join our Friendly Team of Governors and Make a Difference to Our School!



Here at Grange Infants, we have a small but passionate Governing Board that oversees, advises and guides the team on the day -to -day life of the school. Whilst this is a voluntary role, it gives so much back and past governors have always shared how much they value the feeling that they have made a difference.

This is where you come in!

We are currently looking to recruit two parent governors to join us. You would be a voice for the children and families but also play an integral role in maintaining our commitment to every child's 'Flying Start'.

If you would like to find out more, please speak to me, Miss Myers and I can take you through the role. It really is so rewarding!

Macmillan Coffee Morning



We will be hosting our Big Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support on Thursday 28th September in our school hall from 8.45-10.45 am.

We would love you to join us and will be offering tea, coffee, juice and of course a range of treats, with all donations going to this worthwhile charity. We are also running a raffle with a strip of tickets for £1.

On the day of the coffee morning, children are invited to wear anything green or an outfit of their choosing, in return for a donation of cake, biscuits or treats.

The children will also have the opportunity to buy a cake or specially made school biscuit later in the day (suggested donation 10p!).

We can't wait to see you!

School Uniform

It has been lovely to see the children looking so smart in their uniform!

The office is well stocked with everything you need. We also have a large amount of good quality, second-hand uniform available, so let the office know if you need anything and they will be delighted to show you what we have in stock 😊



Promoting Healthy Lifestyles at Grange!

In the last newsletter, we shared lots of ideas about healthy packed lunches and how you can ensure your child has a balanced and nutritious diet.

As part of this healthy approach, we ensure that the children have access to water all day, every day and that they can top up their bottles whenever they need to. As you will be aware, children can also bring in a drink for lunchtime and this usually consists of squash or juice. However, we have had some children bringing in energy drinks, including Prime. I want to stress that it is **not** appropriate for any child to be bringing these drinks into school and would ask parents do not send these in.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/food-guidelines-and-food-labels/water-drinks-nutrition/>



Things to look forward to!

Week beginning 25th September: Robins, Chaffinches and Wagtails visit St Mary's church

Thursday 28th September: Macmillan coffee morning / non uniform

Monday 2nd October: Flu Nasal Spray for children

Tuesday 3rd October: Harvest Assembly for children and staff
We will be asking for food donations soon

Thursday 5th October: Phonics meeting- all families welcome *Details to follow*

Week beginning Monday 2nd October: Meet the teacher for Year 1 and Year 2. *More details to follow- Year R will be after half term*

Tuesday 10th October: Coffee and a chat with Mrs Kennell and Mrs Cave

Friday 20th October: School closes for the half term break

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

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: Behaviour and restorative practice



School Office Hours

The office is open Monday to Friday, 8.30am - 3.30pm.

Outside of these hours, families are welcome to use our dedicated Absence Line to leave a voicemail reporting your child's absence. These are picked up promptly in the morning and checked throughout the day, so the office team can ensure attendance marks are recorded correctly.

Email is a great alternative way to contact us with non-urgent enquiries; we will always respond as swiftly as we are able: adminoffice@grange-inf.hants.sch.uk

The Class Dojo app is brilliant for messaging classroom staff directly, but please bear in mind that teaching staff might not be able to access this regularly during the day and are not obligated to respond in their own time. Please do not use Class Dojo to report child absences.

The morning drop off window is 8.45 - 8.55am. The gates will be shut at exactly 8.55am, all lates need to be reported and come into school via the office.

Children must be collected from school promptly at 3.15pm (unless enrolled at a club in which case they should be picked up at the closing time of that club).

Our school office closes at 3.30pm.

Thank you for helping us to help you!
Mrs Fairs, Miss Allison and Mrs Bamfield

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: The Sparrows at 99.64%!

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.



Holidays during Term Time

Attendance is so important in your child's educational development and so we always ask our families not to take holidays during term time.

Holidays taken will go down as an 'unauthorised absence' and will affect your child's overall attendance percentage.

You are also at risk of being issued a fine/ fixed penalty notice.

Use this link for more information:

<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

Wow & Proud Congratulations

The first day of Autumn is today, Friday 22nd September!



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 **Blake** for using rhyming words to write super sentences!
Proud Pot goes to **Archie** for working really hard at his sounds!



Robins

Wow Writer goes to **Kaycee-Mae** for using rhyming words to write super sentences!
Proud Pot goes to **Adi** for making 10 in different ways and writing number sentences!



Wagtails

Wow Writer goes to **Scarlett** for using rhyming words to write super sentences!
Proud Pot goes to **Jaxon** for persevering to write rhyming sentences!



Blackbirds

Wow Writer goes to **Sarah** for doing A LOT of writing about a dragon! Excellent productivity.
Proud Pot goes to **Natalia** for making a feathery DT dragon puppet that moves!

Owls

Wow Writer goes to **Ava** for using adjectives, capital letters and full stops on her brilliant 'wanted' poster!
Proud Pot goes to **Aaliyah** for doing such good learning even though she was missing her mummy!





Please come and join us for our first
coffee morning on Tuesday 10th
October 9am.

A chance to catch up with friends over
tea or a coffee, and biscuit, in the
Aviary.



Mrs Kennell & Mrs Cave

Jewellery and Make Up!

We have noticed that additional jewellery is starting to creep in and so, under Health and Safety, we need to remind families what is acceptable.

Earrings on any child, must be plain studs. Children are not to wear any hoops or earrings that dangle and can be caught easily.

Necklaces and bracelets are not suitable for an infant school and due to the amount of time the children are active, they can raise the risk of an injury.

We have also noticed lots of bright and colourful nail polish and whilst this is lovely for the children, it may be more suitable for weekends and holidays!

Thank you for your understanding.

Access to the School Site

All access to our school site must be via the front of the school through one of the two gates on our main playground.

The field is not an access point is not to be used by families as a short cut please.

Meet Our New School Councillors

Congratulations to our brand new school councillors who were voted in this week. The quality of applications was amazing and we wish we could give a role to everyone who applied, as so much effort was made.

Our school councillors have a pivotal role to play in school improvement and ensuring that Grange Infants remains the exciting and motivating learning hub that it is.

Our councillors will work closely with Mr Price and Miss Myers to discuss a range of topics including looking after the school grounds, developing play provision and highlighting the value of pupil voice.

We can't wait to work with them!

