



Friday Flyer

30th January 2026



Dear Grange Families,

This half term is flying by and we now have only two weeks to go before the half term break!

As always, it has been wonderful to see and hear all about the fantastic learning that the children have been doing and the next couple of weeks will continue to broaden their experiences with local area walks and a trip to Queen Elizabeth Country Park for Year 2.

It has been a privilege to see how much progress the children have made and how proud they are of every achievement and success. They really have 'aimed high' and made great 'effort', showing a true 'love of learning'.

I have once again had the privilege of meeting with those children who have kept our Grange Values for hot chocolate and biscuits. It is always so lovely hearing about their achievements and those special moments that have made them and their class adults so proud. I take a photo of every group and these take pride of place on the office wall for everyone to see!

Next week, is National Storytelling Week and we are all set for a week of celebrating reading and learning all about a new author. National Storytelling Week takes place every year and is a celebration of the power of sharing stories. Stories teach us about the world they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy, they help us to relax and escape and they can help develop essential literacy skills. We are always seeking ways to develop that true love of reading and to ignite a passion in all of the children for books, imagination and knowledge. Books really do open the children's young minds to a world of creativity, adventure and fun! We are already planning an exciting World Book Day and will soon be launching our Book Before Bedtime reading event.

Children across the school will be treated to a virtual workshop with the author Annemarie Anang and will love hearing some of her stories and music. See below for our author profile and links.

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.

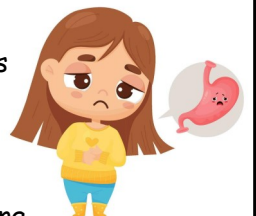
Have a lovely weekend - Miss Myers 😊

Tummy troubles!

We have seen a rise in poorly tummies across school.

Can we please remind our families that if your child has sickness or diarrhoea (or if they are very unlucky a combination of the two!), your child must remain home for 48 hours from the last bout of vomit or diarrhoea.

Eg: If your child is sick during the night at 1am on Monday morning, they cannot return to school until Wednesday morning. If ever you are unsure, you are welcome to call and ask for advice on when your child can come back to school.



Things to look forward to!

Monday 2nd Feb:

Year 2 local area walk

Wednesday 11th Feb:

Year 2 visit to Queen Elizabeth Country Park

Thursday 12th Feb:

Homework showcase for Year 1 and Year 2

Thursday 12th Feb:

Dental workshops for all year groups

Friday 13th Feb:

School CLOSED - start of the half term break

Monday 23rd Feb:

School reopens for Spring 2

Week beginning 16th March:

Year R parent meetings

Friday 27th March:

School finishes for the Easter break

Thursday 7th May:

School closure for Polling Day



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

Friday 13th February:

Empowerment Approach: Policy to Practice

Friday 26th June:

Transition and next steps



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PE Days for the Spring 1 Term 2026



Here are the PE Days for this first half term:

Year R

Sparrows: MONDAY

Starlings: TUESDAY

Year 1

Chaffinches/Robins

WEDNESDAY

(full PE kit)

Year 2

Owls/Blackbirds

MONDAY - PE
(full PE kit)

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 so please avoid hoodies or other sweatshirts.

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

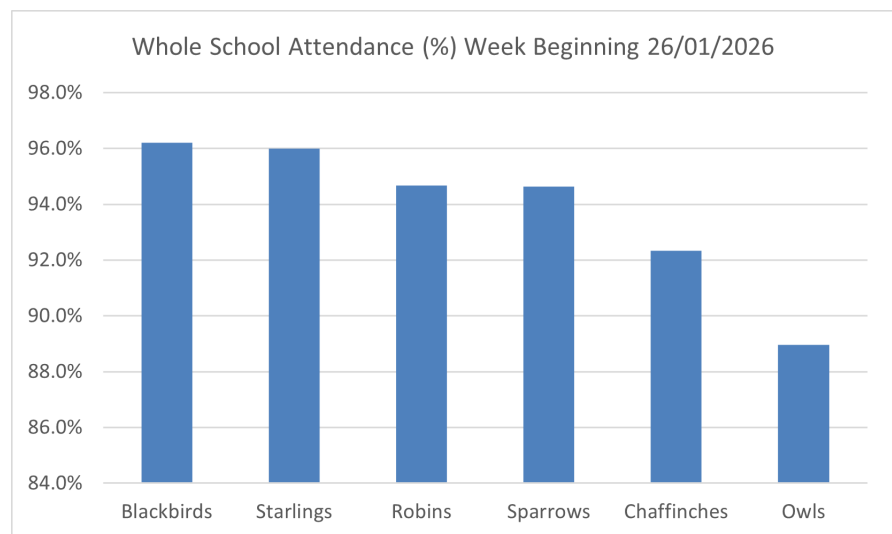
Attendance

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:
Blackbirds with 96.5%

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. Please also note that we will request evidence such as text/email/letter confirmation from the medical practice for ALL appointments taken during school hours.

PERSISTENT LATES

Sometimes, things don't go right, and we appreciate that and always endeavour to be sensitive and understanding. However **the amount of children who are being persistently late is not acceptable.** Please make every effort to be organised and get your children to school, on time, between 8.45-8.55am.

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. Additionally, email should only be used as a last resort method of contact. **Leaving a voicemail on our absence line is the preferred and most efficient method of reporting absences.** Thank you!

Chartwells - HAVE YOUR SAY!

Our new caterers are Chartwells.

The kitchen ladies are still with us, so the children are seeing the same familiar friendly faces every day at lunchtime.

As we have now navigated the first rotation of all 3 menus, we are asking for feedback from you, and your children.

A link to an online form will shortly be sent out to all primary guardians by In-App Message on Arbor.

We are asking for each family to please take the time to complete the form with polite honesty so that we can feed this back to Chartwells.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Arbor Parent Portal

Emails were sent home before Christmas break with instructions on how to set up your Arbor account.

We are delighted that 85% of our families have now successfully logged in!

We will be reaching out to those individuals who have not yet managed to sign in so that we can support with any issues, as Arbor is now our main platform for sending official school communications.

In-App Messaging will REPLACE text messages. We are aiming to 'switch off' text messages at half term.

We strongly advise ALL parents to create their Arbor account to avoid missing out on important information. You will be able to access your account via the Arbor App or sign in online via web browser (App is recommended so you receive push notifications).

Common issues found so far are that parents are not directly following the link WE have sent you. You will not be able to log in from the app if you have an existing account for another child, until you have reset your password using the link we have sent you. Alternatively, we can change your password from our end at the office, and you can use a password we create for you, to log in. You can of course change your password at this point, if you prefer. Some parents have found by uninstalling and reinstalling, then logging in, this has solved the issue.

We recommend setting the same password for all Arbor accounts, if you have another child at a different school.

There are always likely to be teething problems with new systems, but please do not worry, we are happy to help!

Any questions, please ask at the office.



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Hiring Grange Infant School!

Did you know that you can hire our hall for events and parties? Being at the heart of the community, makes the school an ideal venue for children's parties and celebrations. We're easy to find, have ample parking and are a familiar setting for the children and families.

We have been hiring out our hall and other space such as the field, for a few years now and our prices have remained competitive but fair. From April this year, we will however, be making a reasonable increase to our charges as outlined below.

We are more than happy to discuss any hiring of our facilities and will also consider long-term lets such as football clubs or dance schools.

Please pop in to the office to find out more or speak to Miss Myers if you are thinking of hosting your next party at Grange Infants!

1 April 2026– 31 March 2027 (VAT is not included – see note (c)) Monday – Saturday	LEVEL 1 Community groups composed of children under 18, the elderly or people with registered disabilities and registered youth groups	LEVEL 2 Other community groups
Main Hall 1/2 hour set up – 2-hour party 1/2 clean up	£100.00(3 hours)	£120(3 hours)
Additional hire charges for extra spaces/ rooms	HOURLY CHARGES Monday – Saturday	
1. Hard area, playground	£25.00	£30.00
2. General playing field*	£25.00	£30.00
3. Kitchen/Staff Room Facilities	£25.00	£30.00
4. Each additional hour	£25.00	£30.00





The National Year of Reading

Did you know that 2026, has been declared the National Year of Reading? This is part of the drive to give every child the best start in life and to make reading a daily habit. Reading isn't just a hobby; it's a powerful tool linked to stronger writing skills, better well-being, and even higher lifetime earnings. In fact, research shows that children who become proficient readers can earn up to £65,000 more over their lifetime.

Even just 10 minutes of reading with or to your child every day, can help lay the foundation for strong literacy skills and ensure every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Let's make 2026 a year where every page turns into potential.

National Storytelling Week

Next week is National Storytelling Week and we will be celebrating this event and the magic of storytelling through music with author, storyteller and musician, Annemarie Anang. On Wednesday, the children will join an online workshop, hosted by Annemarie, exploring stories and music with a focus on her book 'I am Nefertiti'.

We can't wait to share this story with them but if you would like to find out more about the author and her stories, click on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vf3A7RRCtII>



Grange Book Swap

Don't forget our book swap bookshelf in our main reception porch. The idea is that you bring a book you no longer want and swap it for a different one from the shelf.

We have a great collection of well-loved books, so please pop in and have a look.

Oxford Owl at home

Don't forget you can access Oxford Owl ebooks at home to help support your child's reading. Every child has their own log in and this should be stuck into the front of their reading diary. If you can't find it, please ask your child's class teacher.

Use this link for the student log in:

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/login?active-tab=students>





Wow and Proud Congratulations

30th January 2026



Sparrows

Wow Writer is Olivia for super spelling and name writing!

Proud Pot is Ronnie for moving up 2x R W Inc groups!



Starlings

Wow Writer is Juveria for writing her CVC words!

Proud Pot is Frankie for writing a number sentence!



Chaffinches

Wow Writer is Rosie-Mae for using adjectives in her writing!

Proud Pot is Edith for being Miss Reed's special helper all week!



Robins

Wow Writer is Rylie B, Zahlee & Grayson for being experts when retelling our story using the story map! Proud Pot is Arya for following all of our Grange Values!



Blackbirds

Wow Writer is Joel for his excellent fairy story!

Proud Pot is Parsa for fantastic work in Maths!



Owls

Wow Writer is Nancy for her super fairytale writing!

Proud Pot is Maisie for working hard in Maths this week!



Woodpeckers

Wow Writer is Jasmine for her super writing!

Proud Pot is Kevin for a fantastic music session with Mr Halls this week!