




To Our Lovely Grange Families,

2nd December 2022

Welcome to this week's flyer and welcome to December! The festive vibe is definitely here and classrooms are starting to sparkle and shine. Wednesday saw our annual Christmas decoration afternoon and for the first time since 2019, we welcomed families in to join us! We all agreed what an exciting and fun afternoon it was, with trails of glitter, sequins, snippets of wool and sparkles brightening every classroom! Thank you for your support. The hall looks amazing and a huge thank you must go to the staff who gave their time this week to put up the tree, hang many baubles, string up lights and set up the Nativity. The children were so excited when they came into assembly and saw that Christmas had definitely arrived! 

We have a busy two weeks ahead of us with all classes practising for their performances and everyone getting into the party mood. We can't wait to share with you the children's performances and know you will love every moment! Letters have already gone out about our Festive Passes which are always a huge success. Please read on to find out more.

Thank you to everyone for continuing to work with us to improve attendance. We understand that many of our families have been hit hard by various bugs and viruses and as expected, we are starting to see COVID creeping back in. We have stepped up hygiene measures again and have talked to the children about good handwashing. There are no longer restrictions in place but would ask families to ensure that COVID-related symptoms are better before sending children back in. As for other winter illnesses, don't forget we can administer Calpol. If your child is simply 'under the weather', we are happy for them to be in and can contact you should they deteriorate.

Wishing you all a restful weekend. 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! Miss Myers ☺

Parent Meetings

It has been so lovely for the teachers to catch up with many of you during this week's parent meetings and phone calls.

This relationship and the communication we have with you is such an important part of every child's learning journey here and makes sure we all work together to give every child a flying start.

Unfortunately, it's not just the children who have been hit by bugs; many of our teaching staff have too and we thank you for your patience. All meetings postponed will be re-booked.

Please see your child's teacher if you have not made an appointment this week but would like to find out how your child is getting on.



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: Blackbirds!

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.



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 if there is no one available to answer the phone.

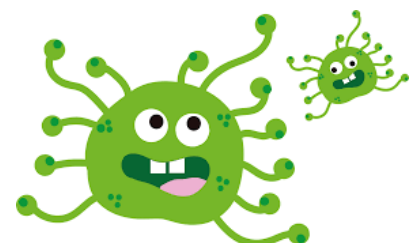
Whilst we love Class Dojo and all that it offers, please can we ask that parents do not use the messaging service to report absence.

Thank you!



Health Update

We have seen a significant rise in the number of cases of coughs, colds and sickness bugs. We have made sure to keep tight hygiene practices in place and to encourage good handwashing and will continue to do this. We have also had 4 cases of COVID-19 in the last week which is a reminder that this virus is still out there. Monday sees our annual flu vaccine for the children and today they were shown the 'Flu Heroes' clip in preparation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jHWwm8NQUw>



Lost Property Explosion!

Our lost property box is overflowing with jumpers and cardigans that must belong to someone. Unfortunately, most of the items are not named so we can't return them to their owners. Please could we ask you to check the box if you think your child's clothing could be there. We have had lots of reports of lost clothing and it's this box where most of them end up!

Any unclaimed items will be 'upcycled' and passed on as part of our pre-loved uniform drive.



Christmas Raffle

Tickets are now on sale and can be bought from the main office for £1 a strip.

Prizes include a £50 Tesco voucher, a brand new Kindle Fire HD tablet and of course, lots of delicious chocolate and sweet treats!

The raffle will be drawn by our school council on Thursday 15th December and we will let the winners know by the end of the day!

Good luck!

Make sure you don't miss out!

Thank you!



Christmas Jumper Day

Next **Thursday, 8th December**, is our Christmas jumper day. We are inviting the children to wear their Christmas jumpers or Christmas outfits for the day, in exchange for chocolate for our very popular Christmas chocolate raffle at the end of term.



The children will also be having their Christmas dinner that day, we are all really excited to share a special meal with all the children. It's always a lovely, fun filled event!



Applying for School Places

If you have a child who is due to start in either Year R or Year 3 in September 2023, please make sure you have completed the application within the window.

This window closes **15th January 2023** and any applications made after this will be classes as 'late' and may affect the allocation of the school.

Please use this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/applicationprocess/yearendy ear3>

Notification of places for 'on time' applications is **17th April 2023**.

Please do read these dates very carefully and make sure they are on your calendar!

Things to look forward to!

Thursday 8th December:

- Christmas Jumper Day (bring in chocolate for our raffle)
- Christmas Dinner
- Christmas disco and Santa's Grotto after school: 3.15 - 4.45pm

Monday 12th December: Year 1 Christmas performance at 2pm in St Mary's Church

Tuesday 13th December: Year 2 Christmas performance at 2pm in St Mary's Church

Wednesday 14th December: Year R Christmas performances in the school hall. There are 2 slots available, 10am and 2pm. Tickets can be booked at the school office, x2 per household 😊

Thursday 15th December:

- Y1 and Y2 homework showcase after drop off in the morning
- Classroom parties and a visit from 'someone' special!
- Christmas Raffle Draw!

Friday 16th December:

School finishes for the Christmas break at 1.30pm

Tuesday 3rd January: School re-opens for the Spring term

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

Friday 10th February: Common closure day for Gosport and Fareham schools

Friday 7th July: Transition planning



Congratulations Miss Clark!

We are so excited to announce that Miss Clark welcomed her baby boy into the world on Wednesday!

Huge congratulations to Miss Clark and her family.

We can't wait to meet him!



Christmas Performances 2022!

We are so excited that after 3 long years we are finally able to share our Christmas Nativities with our families!

This will be the first time for all of our children, that they will be performing in front of a live audience and they can't wait. They have been busy practising their songs, learning their dance moves and for some, memorising words and we know you will enjoy every minute!

Year 1 and Year 2 will be performing their Nativity in St Mary's Church on Rowner Lane, just opposite the school. Year 1 families are invited to attend at 2pm on Monday 12th December.

Year 2 families are invited to join us at 2pm on Tuesday 13th December. Once you have watched your child's performance, you will be able to collect them and take them home from the church.

All other children will be walked back to school for the usual finish and pick up at 3.15pm.

Year R will be performing 'A Wiggly Nativity' on Wednesday 14th December in the school hall.

As the hall is a smaller space, we are offering two performance times, **10am and 2pm.**

You can sign up for your seat at the main office.

Christmas Decoration Family Afternoon

What a lovely afternoon we had this Wednesday at our decoration event! Thank you to those of you who were able to join us and have fun making different decorations that are now brightening up our hall. There was such a lovely, festive buzz around the school and it was pleasure to be able to pop in to every class and see the children and their families in action. The decorations will of course, come home at the end of term. It was great to see so many of our parents making their own decoration too!









The connect4communities programme, funded by the Department for Work and Pensions Household Support Fund, aims to support those most in need with significantly rising living costs. Grange Infant School, as with all schools in Hampshire, has been allocated funding to support our families who are in need and who may be struggling with the rising costs of food, energy and clothing.

We are here to support all of our families at this difficult time and with Christmas and winter ahead, want to reach out to see how we can help. We are asking for any families who are worried about food and energy costs to get in touch. We will then arrange a chat with you to agree how we can support you, whether that be through vouchers for food, winter coats, clothing and blankets or support for heating. You will be invited in for a chat and a cuppa with me, Miss Myers, and I can talk through with you what we can do to help.

If you would like to arrange a chat, please email in to the following address:

adminoffice@grange-inf.hants.sch.uk

All emails are private and will be handled sensitively.

The connect4communities website also has links for local area and regional support such as food pantries and holiday clubs. Use this link to find out more:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities>

Food banks in the Gosport area: Please make contact to see what they have available first:

Gosport Basics Bank: The Old Railway, Gosport. 07826 305900

Family Church, Gosport: Empower Centre, 2A Layton Road, Gosport 0300 3020090

Jacob's Well Centre, The store cupboard, Toronto Place, Gosport

Salvation Army, The Crossways, Gosport 02392 524349

Trash Café, 49a Stoke Road, Gosport- Pay 'as you feel'

Gosport Borough Football Club: Feed a Family hampers: 07868 089757

Revitalise Charity shop: Good quality second hand clothing: 82 Gregson Avenue, Gosport



WOW AND PROUD

Congratulations



Blackbirds

Wow Writer goes to Chloe for lovely handwriting, using prepositions, using finger spaces, full stops and capitals!

Proud Pot goes to Amilie for always being a brilliant role model to others!

Owls

Wow Writer goes to Mac for using "clicker" to write some excellent sentences!

Proud Pot goes to Ely for super, fluent number bonds!



Wagtails

Wow Writer goes to Hudson for a great setting description using kinetic letters!

Proud Pot goes to Oscar for writing numbers beautifully and Esmal for being very productive!



Chaffinches

Wow Writer goes to Michael for his super, independent writing - very productive!

Proud Pot goes to Austin for using cherry models when working on his number bonds, and great revising!



Sparrows

Wow Writer goes to Ruby for using sounds to write some cvc words - well done!

Proud Pot goes to Kady for

Robins

Wow Writer goes to Ivy for her lovely kinetic letters!

Proud Pot goes to Amelia W for excellent independent writing using prepositions!



Woodpeckers

Wow Writer goes to Isla for brilliant blending letters together to spell words!

Proud Pot goes to Archie for working really hard on his Maths work!



Starlings

Wow Writer goes to Emily for beautiful writing of numbers!

Proud Pot goes to Ruben for being a kind friend!

Charity focus

From time to time, we like to promote different local charities to raise awareness of the fantastic work they do and support they give. Many of our families will remember Aiden, who was in the Sparrows class during the Autumn term 2020. Aiden had recently been diagnosed with a serious heart condition and sadly, he died during the Christmas holidays.

The family was supported by the Ronald McDonald House Charities who offered care, support and advice at such a difficult and sad time. The family would like to give something back to this amazing charity and we have been asked to share with our community, the event they are doing.

Here is the link if you want to find out more:

<https://gofund.me/95b66c7b>

Remembering Aiden at Christmas.

