



Happy Friday Grange Families,

3rd February 2023

This half term is flying by and we now have only one week for 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 from welcoming many visitors in to share their passion for transport to celebrating Chinese New Year. 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'.

This week, is National Storytelling Week and the children in all classes have enjoyed a diverse range of stories. 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! See below for more about our book events and how you can help your child become a confident reader. A huge thank you to our families who supported our 'Book before Bedtime' event last week. We all had a lovely evening celebration a love of books. Read on to see some of the photos of the evening.



<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

Next week is Children's Mental Health week and this year the theme of 'Let's Connect' encourages children and their families to making meaningful connections within their community to support well-being and good mental health. All of us will have no doubt been affected in some way by anxiety, worries or a feeling of uncertainty as such challenging times. I am so proud of the Grange community that we have built and we will always strive to build resilience in our pupils and reach out to our families in times of need. We are always here to talk, to listen and to help. You know where we are!

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 ☺



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: Chaffinches with 95%

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.



Attendance is a key priority for school improvement at Grange Infants. We were so excited this week when the daily attendance figure hit 98% and want to thank our families for supporting us by ensuring the children are in school and on time. 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 03.02.23
Chaffinches	95%
Blackbirds	94.62%
Starlings	93.75%
Sparrows	90.77%
Wagtails	90%
Woodpeckers	88.33%
Owls	87.92%
Robins	84.81%

Key Stage 1 Transport Day: What a Fantastic Morning



This Monday, Year 1 and Year 2 joined in with a fun and exciting morning all about transport. They got to meet many visitors all of whom worked within transport or travel or had a passion they wanted to share.

How lovely it was to hear how inspired the children were and it made me smile that one parent had commented that this was the first time their child has come home buzzing about his day!

A huge thank you must go to the following visitors:

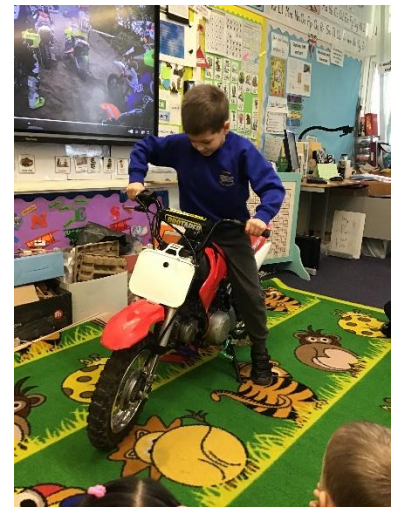
Mac, for bringing in his motorbike to show everyone (and to talk to captivated 10 groups!)

Mr Hill, marine engineer, for talking to the children about the Navy and his ship.

Mr Diffey for telling the children about his career as a mechanic.

Mr Whitmore, air engineer for inspiring the children with his work in the Navy as an

Miss Whiteway for sharing her experiences as a flight attendant



Things to look forward to!

Monday 6th February: Second hand book sale after school

Thursday 9th February: School closes at 3.15pm for the half term break

Monday 20th February: School re-opens for Spring 2

Week beginning 6th March: Parent meetings

Friday 17th March: Red Nose Day

Friday 17th March: The farm visits Year R!

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 and include the additional Bank Holiday for Coronation of King Charles III

Friday 10th February: Behaviour and well-being

Monday 8th May: The Coronation of King Charles III

Friday 7th July: Transition planning



IMPORTANT dates to remember

Bike and Scooter Day!

The children certainly had fun taking part in our bike and scooter 'daily mile' and rota worked like clockwork with every class in Key Stage 1 safely taking part.

We will let you know when we are planning our next one!



Parking Outside of the School Gates

We understand that some parents need to drive their children to school but would ask that cars are parked safely and do not cause an obstruction. We are always promoting a healthy lifestyle and would encourage our families to walk as much as they can.

Please can we remind you that you **must not** park on the yellow zigzags outside of school during school hours. Parking on these zigzags during school hours is strictly prohibited and could lead to a penalty notice.



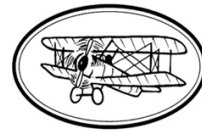
News from our School Councillors

Our school councillors have been busy over the last couple of weeks! They completed a fruit survey across the school, asking each class to vote for their favourite fruit as we have noticed a growing amount of fruit waste each week. After some first-class research and analysis of the data, the results are in!

The top three favourites are:

Thanks to the research carried out by the team, we will now try a mix of different fruit and veg each day to try and reduce the waste from those less popular choices.




Polite and Respectful 

Love of Learning 

Aiming High 

Nurture and Care 

Effort from within 

Safe and Secure 

A big thank you must also go to our councillors and to Maia, Erin and Kaydesh from Year R for meeting with our Safeguarding Governor, Mrs Steele. They took part in a 'round the table' discussion to address a number of safeguarding topics such as how to keep safe in the local community and who to talk to about worries such as friendship fallout and online gaming. Their responses will help the senior leadership team to identify the children's understanding of our culture of safeguarding and where we need to develop their confidence more.



Wow and Proud

Congratulations



Blackbirds

Wow Writer goes to **Oscar** for fantastic sentences with nouns, verbs and adjectives!
Proud Pot goes to **Amelie and Doug** for being great reading champions!

Owls

Wow Writer goes to **Esmee-Louise** for super writing about scooters with NO errors at all!
Proud Pot goes to **Naomi** for excellent multiplication x2!



Wagtails

Wow Writer goes to **Lyla** for being an 'ambitious spider', aiming high and writing 10 sentences!
Proud Pot goes to **Charlie** for labelling his bike beautifully!

Chaffinches

Wow Writer goes to **Taejon** for independent sentences about his bike!
Proud Pot goes to **Felicity** for counting in 2s, 5s and 10s!



Sparrows

Wow Writer goes to **Reggie-Blu** for super 't' sounds!
Proud Pot goes to **Madiha** for fantastic CVC words with 'or' and 'ee'!

Robins

Wow Writer goes to **Hannah** for independent writing and editing!
Proud Pot goes to **Chloe** for writing brilliant sentences!



Woodpeckers

Wow Writer goes to **Isla** for lots of lovely sounds and making 9 words out of them!
Proud Pot goes to **Zayn** for super adding to find the total!

Starlings

Wow Writer goes to **Kyrie** for trying so hard on his morning job and writing his name beautifully!
Proud Pot goes to **Ruby** for fantastic adding with caterpillars!



Grange Infant School is for Hire!

Are you looking for somewhere to hire for a party or an event? Then look no further... Grange Infant School is now available for hire and bookings. The beauty of booking Grange as your venue is that it is in a central location in our community, is easy to find and has plenty of parking.

We offer competitive rates and will try our best to accommodate all requirements.

The hall has been our top choice for bookings but you can also hire the field, playground space and our quad area off the hall. You will have access to our kitchen if needed and can utilise our dinner tables and chairs.

For more information such as hire costs, insurance and dates, please contact the office.



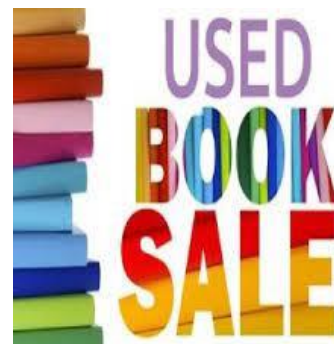


A Book Before Bedtime

Thank you for the fantastic support for our Book Before Bedtime event and celebration. It was amazing to see the huge range of books that the children read during the events and we were so impressed with how many books were read!

Congratulations to everyone who took part and to our winners from each year group.

Watch this space for our World Book Day events in March.



Second Book Sale

On Monday 6th February after school, we will be running a second hand book stall on the main playground. Books will start from 10p and we have such a range to choose from. Come and take a look!

National Storytelling Week 2023

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.

The children have heard lots of different stories this week about the world around them and our wonderful Reading Champions shared their passion for storytelling in yesterday's assembly. Thank you to them for an amazing job reading to a captive audience!

For more information, please use these links for the Literacy trust:

<https://youtu.be/5-C6KKD9oYs>

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/national-storytelling-week/>

