



Dear Grange Families,

9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

So here we are at the end of the first half term of 2023 and what a positive and successful half term it's been! Every day I am in awe at the experiences the children are enjoying and how much their love of learning shines through. There is always such a buzz around the school and an atmosphere of productivity and determination. It's wonderful to see how resilient the children are, facing challenges and bouncing back every time! They are always there with a beaming smile!

The half term break is always a time to reset, restore and refresh, ready for the second half of the term and the arrival of Spring and warmer weather. It's also a great time to get out and about and see what the local area has to offer. Please read on for ideas and 'What's on' as these will give you some ideas and inspiration about what you could do as a family.

May I wish you all a relaxing and fun half term break. We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

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.

If at anytime over the break, you need to make contact or have any worries or concerns, please use my email to get in touch: [s.myers@grange-inf.hants.sch.uk](mailto:s.myers@grange-inf.hants.sch.uk)

Miss Myers ☺

### PE Days for Spring Term 2 2023

There have been a couple of changes to PE days, so please check below to see which day your child/ren will need to come to school in their 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 on top so please avoid hoodies or other sweatshirts. We encourage the children to wear black plimsolls or plain black trainers.

**Starlings, Sparrows and Woodpeckers:** Tuesdays

**Robins and Chaffinches:** Thursdays

**Owls, Blackbirds and: Wagtails:** Mondays

### 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 98.3%**

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.**

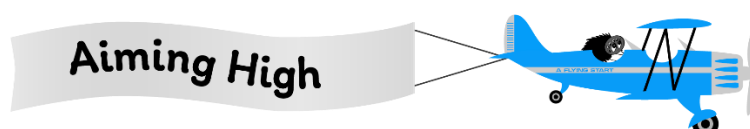
**During out of office hours, you will be able to leave a message.**



Attendance is a key priority for school improvement at Grange Infants. 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 10.2.23
Wagtails	98.37%
Blackbirds	94.71%
Starlings	92.19%
Robins	90.74%
Woodpeckers	89.58%
Chaffinches	88.75%
Owls	85.42%
Sparrows	84.13%



## Safer Internet Day 2023



As you are aware Safer Internet Day 2023 was celebrated on 7th February with the theme **'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'**.

Mrs Cave led an assembly to raise awareness and you can find more information using this link:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023/parents-and-carers>

Linked to Safer Internet Day, I have been aware of some of the games and online programmes that the children have been accessing and talking about, which have raised some concerns amongst both staff and parents. We have again been made aware of a game from Poppy Playtime with the character Huggy Wuggy a seemingly cute and cuddly character with a more sinister and dark side. This character, alongside a female version, 'Kissy Missy', can be viewed on YouTube channels giving deadly hugs and singing songs that have an adult and violent theme. It is worrying that these characters are available as soft toys which will appeal to young children who may not be aware of the darker side of these toys. Some of the children have also chosen to draw pictures of Huggy Wuggy as well as other characters from online content that we do not deem appropriate for infant- aged children.

Use the following link to find out more:

<https://saferschoolsni.co.uk/huggy-wuggy-online-safety-review/>

Parents should be aware of the different experiences available to kids on Roblox.

Some experiences, such as Rainbow Friends, **might be more suitable for older players as they have horror-like elements and could be scary for younger children.**

Please can we ask that you are vigilant about what your children are watching and accessing online, as young children can become confused and easily upset by what they see.

We cannot stress enough how important it is that you supervise your child's internet use and are aware of what they may be accessing. Most internet providers will support families in putting parental controls and filters on devices within the home.

Please click on the link below to find out more information from the NSPCC:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/online-safety-keep-child-safe.pdf>



## Calling all Library books!



We have noticed that our library is missing quite a few books, in fact at the last count, we were **100 books** down! The less books we have, the less choice the children have. Reading really does unlock a whole new world for our children and is a vital skill for life, work and pleasure.

Please can we ask that you check at home to see if you have any overdue books hidden away or tucked into book boxes or onto shelves and bring these back in after the half term break.

Thank you!

## Loving Home Learning over the half term break

Don't forget that your child can continue to access Mathletics and Oxford Owl at home to help support the learning they are doing at school.

Mathletics gives them the chance to practice skills they've learnt in class, as well as experience a bit of healthy competition with other users.

Oxford Owl is a great resource for accessing online reading and ebooks and developing that passion for reading.

All of the children have their own login and these were sent out earlier in the year, and are also attached to the inside of your child's reading diary. Please contact your child's class teacher on Class Dojo if you would like these sent out again.

Please look out for the weekly homework activities on Class Dojo too!





## Things to look forward to!

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February:** School re-opens for Spring 2

**Week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> March:** Parent meetings

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March:** Red Nose Day

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> February:** Behaviour and well-being

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May:** The Coronation of King Charles III

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July:** Transition planning



A big thank you to our School Council and Nathan from the Blackbirds for supporting our Schools' Birdwatch this year.

Here are the results!

Starling: 24

Magpie: 2

Seagull: 7

Woodpigeon: 6

Blackbird: 2

Sparrows: 1

Blue tit: 6

Robin: 2

Collared dove: 2

Wagtail: 6

Use this link to find out more about activities you can do as a family this half term:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/>





# WOW AND PROUD

## CONGRATULATIONS



### Blackbirds

Wow Writer goes to **Lily-Rose** for her beautiful bike report!  
Proud Pot goes to **Doug** and **Jeron** for their amazing DT wheeled models!



### Wagtails

Wow Writer goes to **Adam** for working so hard on his transport report about bikes!  
Proud Pot goes to **Liam** for brilliant Transport homework about a trip!



### Sparrows

Wow Writer goes to **Ashlee** for fantastic CVC sounds and being so productive during Busy Bee time!  
Proud Pot goes to **JJ** for his super clay alien!



### Woodpeckers

Wow Writer goes to **Harry** for super sounds!  
Proud Pot goes to **Austin** for amazing reading at home!

### Owls

Wow Writer goes to **Matthew** for his super productive transport report about bikes!  
Proud Pot goes to **Henry** for superb subtraction on a number line!



### Chaffinches

Wow Writer goes to **Owen** for great facts in his transport report about bikes!  
Proud Pot goes to **Alex** for excellent 1/2 work in Maths!



### Robins

Wow Writer goes to **Hannah** for lovely writing and facts about bikes!  
Proud Pot goes to **Louis** for fantastic Maths 1/2s and 1/4s!



### Starlings

Wow Writer goes to **Jack** for working so hard to match the sounds to the correct pictures! We are so proud.  
Proud Pot goes to **Scarlett** for her super clay alien!





## Ideas for some Half Term Fun!



A stone's throw from our lovely school is the beautiful Alver Valley Country Park.

The weather looks like it will be on our side over the break, so why not explore all our local area has to offer?

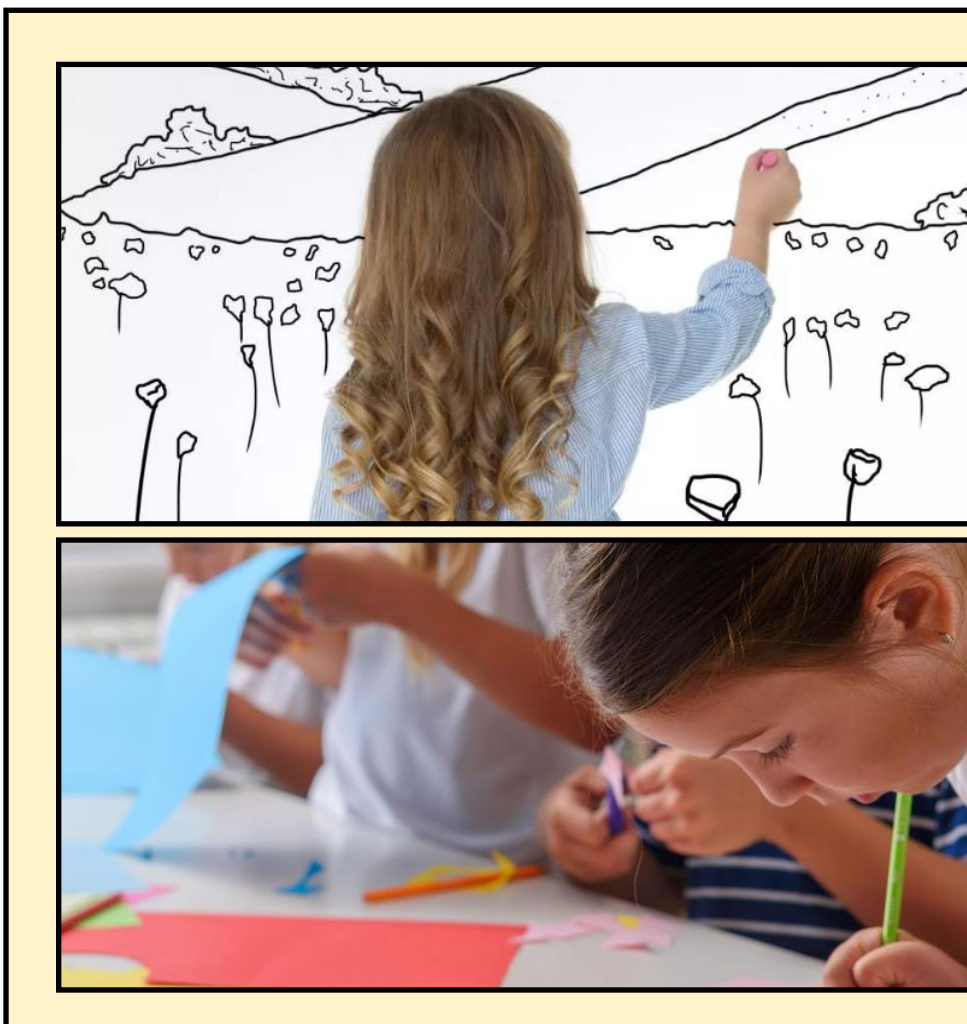
<https://www.gosport.gov.uk/article/1342/The-Alver-Valley-Country-Park>

We are also sharing a map of the park on Class Dojo, so you have a guide in your pocket!



**Gosport Museum and Gallery..** have free exhibitions on display for all the family to enjoy, and did you know they have a café and an open-air courtyard? Get 30p off your hot drink when you use your own reusable cup.

<https://www.gosportmuseumandgallery.org.uk/>



**Westbury Manor Museum (Fareham, opposite Mcdonalds)..**

Have lots of free exhibitions to enjoy, and also a Doodle Wall! Everyone is welcome to use the free resources provided and just be creative! No booking required:

<https://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/event/doodle-wall>














Please check their website for opening hours.

They are also hosting a Kite Making workshop on Friday 17th February for £3 per child. This event is pre-booking only.

<https://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/event/craft-westbury-manor-museum-lets-go-fly-kite>

# EXTREME KIDS EAT OUT FOR LESS

## COUPONING AND BARGAINS UK FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2023

- 
**Morrisons** - Kids under 16 eat for free at Morrisons Café when an adult spends £4.99 or more on a meal.
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**ASDA** Kids Free Hot Breakfast Between 8am-12pm every day during Half Term no purchase necessary.
- 
**Bella Italia** - Kids Eat for £1 with no purchase necessary until end of March 2023
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**Dunelm** - Kids Eat for Free at Dunelm when an adult spends £4 or more at Pausa Cafe.
- 
**YO Sushi** - Kids Under 10 Eat for Free at YO Sushi Between 13th - 24th Feb when an adult spends £10 or more.
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**Dobbies** -Kids Eat for Free at Dobbies Garden Centre Cafes when an adult purchases a main meal.
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**Sizzling** - Kids Eat for £1 at Sizzling Pub and Grill when an adult meal is purchased.
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**Hungry Horse** - Free Kids Breakfast at Hungry Horse Pubs when an adult spends at least £3.49.
- 
**Farmhouse Inns** - Kids Eat For £1 when you sign up to receive their email newsletter on their website.
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**IKEA** - Pasta with Tomato Sauce and a soft drink for 95p or any other Kids Meal for £1.50. Available every day from 11am in their restaurants.
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**Beefeater, Brewer's Fayre & Table Table** -Two kids under 16 eat breakfast for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased.

**INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF POSTING**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fun-at-the-fort-super-sleuths-tickets-483911742047>



Royal Armouries Fort Nelson

4 February at 11:03 · 🌐



Calling all young detectives!

Come and solve the mystery of the missing money this half term (February 11 - 19) at Fort Nelson - free activity.

Young visitors are being asked to investigate who stole the garrison's wages. They need to find the main suspects, work out if their alibis are true or false and find the culprit.

Book your free entry ticket in advance as numbers are limited <https://bit.ly/3l0aLWs>

#schoolholiday #halfterm #februaryhalfterm #free #fun #fort #portsmouth #fareham #hampshire #halftermfun



ROYALARMOURIES.ORG

**Super Sleuths - Feb Half-Term**

Victorian-themed detective challenge for children at Fort Nelson this Feb Half Term. Join costu...