



23rd September 2022

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 Infant 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 this lovely autumn sunshine will last. It will be so exciting to get the children out, enhancing their learning and nurturing their curiosity through first- hand experience.

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 ☺

In loving Memory of Queen Elizabeth II

It was with great sadness that the world heard the news that Queen Elizabeth II had died peacefully at Balmoral Castle on the 8th September.

The children in Year 1 and 2 joined in with an assembly celebrating her life and key events during her reign.

They have enjoyed a unit of learning based on the book 'The Queen's Hat' and we all agreed what a fitting tribute this was. They will be putting together a book of condolence that will be added to our 2022 time capsule.

Thank you to those of you who have sent in your hearts of remembrance. For those of you who have not done this yet but would like to, you can send these in next week.

Do you have any photographs of yourself or a family member with the Queen? We would love to share them with our school community! Please send them in and we can copy them here so that you can have the precious originals back.

Thank you.



PE days: A reminder

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.

It is always good practice to name all items of clothing too!

Starlings, Sparrows and Woodpeckers: Wednesdays

Chaffinches and Robins: Thursdays

Wagtails, Owls and Blackbirds: Mondays (trainers only) Fridays (full PE kit)

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.



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Class Dojo

Class Dojo is such a great way to stay in touch and find out what's happening at school. We have embraced the messaging function and agree that this is a quick way to ask your child's class teacher a question or raise a query, directly.

We would like to remind you that this messaging service is only for the day to day aspects of school life such as PE days or curriculum questions. Please can you make sure that absence is still reported to the school office and not via Class Dojo.

Can we also ask for your understanding that all staff will have 'quiet hours' on Class Dojo during which they are not expected to respond to messages. This will be outside of the normal school hours, so please be patient or contact the office if you don't get an immediate response.

Flu Vaccine

The children's nasal spray flu vaccine is safe and effective. It's offered every year to children to help protect them against flu.

Flu is caused by the influenza virus. It can be a very unpleasant illness for children. It can also lead to serious problems, such as bronchitis and pneumonia.

It is now usual practice for children to have their flu vaccine in school. This is done using a nasal spray that the school nursing team will carry out on **Monday 5th December**.

Please look out for a consent letter that must be returned to school to ensure that your child gets this vaccine.



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 Blackbirds with 97%

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.



On Friday 30th September, we will be hosting a Macmillan coffee morning and would like to extend our invitation for you to join us!

Tea, coffee and of course cake and treats will be available to buy, with all money going to this fantastic charity.

On the day itself, children can wear anything green or an outfit of their choice.

In return, we are asking for donations of cake, biscuits or treats which will be available on the day with tea or coffee. The children will have the chance to buy a cake or one of our school biscuits later in the day, especially made for the event by our lovely kitchen staff! Any donation will be much appreciated.

Look forward to seeing you!

Time and place: 8.45am on the main playground outside the Aviary.



Harvest Assembly: Time to raid your cupboards!

The staff and children will be celebrating the Harvest festival Monday 3rd October.

We are asking for food donations, tins and packets, which will be passed on to the Salvation Army for their food parcels. We understand that life at the moment is difficult for everyone with the impact of the significant rise in the cost of living.

Any donation will be gratefully received. You can send items into school from now onwards.



Whilst we try to do our best to donate what we can to local charities, we do understand that many of our families, need the support of local food banks too. You can speak to any of the staff confidentially, for further support and advice around food parcels and signposting to local food banks. We are always here for you.

Meet the Teacher Meetings for Year 1 and Year 2

We will be offering meet the teacher meetings to all parents in Year 1 and Year 2 during next week.

Dates have been organised separately for each class, and appointments have been booked on the schedules which have been at the classroom doors.

If you are unsure of your appointment time, please contact your child's teacher directly, where possible by Dojo message.

Thank you, we look forward to seeing you!

Year R meetings will be after half term





Year 1 and Year 2 Local Area Walk

Year 1 and Year 2 will be exploring the local area next week on a walk.

Please can we ask that they wear comfortable footwear and bring a jacket as the weather has been quite unpredictable!

The timetable is as follows:

Monday 26th September:
Wagtails 9am, Owls 11am

Tuesday 27th September:
Blackbirds 9am

Wednesday 28th September:
Robins 9am

Thursday 29th September:
Chaffinches 9am



Things to look forward to!

Week beginning Monday 26th September: Meet the teacher for KS1. *Sign up outside the classrooms*

Week beginning Monday 26th September: Year 1 and Year 2 local area walks

Friday 30th September: Macmillan coffee morning

Monday 3rd October: Harvest Assembly for children and staff

Week beginning 3rd October: after school clubs start for Year 1 and Year 2

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

Monday 31st October: School re-opens for Autumn 2

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 21st October: Staff training

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

Friday 7th July: Transition planning

After School Clubs for Year 1 and Year 2

After school clubs will start the week beginning 3rd October for children in Year 1 and Year 2. Letters went out this week with the list of clubs available. Places are limited, so please understand if we are unable to offer your child their first choice. We will try hard to give everyone a club but should we be unable to meet numbers, your child will be placed on a waiting list. *Confirmation of places will be sent out on Monday 26th September.*

Monday: Sports Club, Cooking Club or Games on the Computer

Tuesday: Football

Wednesday: Ukulele and Art



Every Friday, we have a whole school celebration assembly where we find out about the amazing things the children have been up to. Each class will put forward one child for their 'wow writing' and one child who has done something that they are really proud of. For now, this assembly is virtual via Google Classroom but the hope is that we will be together again very soon! A big congratulations to the following children who have excelled this week and been the very best they can be!

Wow and Proud Congratulations



Blackbirds

Wow Writer goes to **Doug** for his brilliant writing describing a corgi!

Proud Pot goes to **Daniel** for really super concentration!

Owls

Wow Writer goes to **Aakangshya** for brilliant use of adjectives!

Proud Pot goes to **Mac** for excellent weed picking!



Wagtails

Wow Writer goes to **Scarlet** for her beautiful writing about the Queen!

Proud Pot goes to **Spencer** for fabulous subtraction even though he wasn't feeling 100%!



Chaffinches

Wow Writer goes to **Alex** for brilliant writing about the Queen's hat!

Proud Pot goes to **Imogen** for her super Queen's hat writing!

Robins

Wow Writer goes to **Hannah** for excellent writing about the Queen's things!

Proud Pot goes to **Eliza** for her brilliant writing about who lives here!



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!



A Final Farewell

I wanted to share with you the letter we received from Balmoral Castle
the day after Queen Elizabeth died.

I think you will agree it is a beautiful and fitting tribute.

