



Happy New Year to our lovely Grange Families,

7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year, enjoying quality moments with family and friends and taking time to relax and reflect upon 2021. What a year it was! Can you believe that this time last year, we were in another lockdown, balancing in-school and at-home learning whilst striving to keep everyone safe and well. Fast forward 12 months and here we are, welcoming everyone back into school, ready to start a new and exciting spring term.

It has been lovely to hear all the news from the children and to see how excited they have been to catch up with friends and the adults in their classes. It sounds like everyone had a great Christmas! As I've walked around school this week, I have enjoyed listening to the children embracing new learning and being motivated by new topics and units of work. The classrooms as always, look bright and welcoming and I know the staff have put in a lot of effort to set up ready for the children's return. We certainly have an exciting term ahead of us, so look out for upcoming events and always check in with Class Dojo, Facebook and our website to find out what we are up to!

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.

I would like to wish you all a wonderful New Year and extend my wishes for a positive and happy 2022. Miss Myers ☺

### PE Days for the Spring Term 2022

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: Monday

Wagtails, Robins and Chaffinches: Wednesday

Owls and Blackbirds: Tuesday



## Staying in touch and keeping up to date at Grange Infants

We always try our very best to keep you updated about what's happening at the school including events, trips and learning themes. In the last two years, we have moved away from paper-based communication and instead communicate with our families electronically via email, Class Dojo (our learning platform), our website and Facebook. All information can be found on these, so we strongly advise all of our families to engage with these and to check them regularly for updates.

This is how we usually use these methods of communication:



We will use email to send out letters, forms and newsletters. Texts are usually sent for reminders or quick updates and attendance messages.



### ClassDojo

We use Class Dojo for class messages, homework and using individual portfolios for uploading and sharing work and photographs of your child's learning. You can also message your child's class teacher using this platform



We use Facebook as a fast way of updating you on events, news and requests.



Our website is full of useful information such as policies, school structure and staffing, curriculum overviews, a calendar and useful links.

### Year 1 and Year 2 trip to Gosport's Millennium Bridge

A reminder that Year 1 and Year 2 will be visiting the Millennium Bridge as part of their current bridges topic. You will have received a letter with details. Don't forget a warm coat and sensible shoes.

Classes will be going on the following days:

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January AM: Robins and Chaffinches

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January PM: Wagtails

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January AM: Owls and Blackbirds



## 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: Sparrows with 96.8%**

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 if there is no one 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!



### **Any unwanted gifts or left overs?!**

We are always looking to support local charities and have been able to offer support to many of our families this Christmas through Caring Hands, Family Church and the charity Acts of Kindness.

If you have any unwanted items or non-perishable food, we will be delivering donations next week to support worthwhile causes.

Thank you!



### **Applying for School Places**

If you have a child who is due to start in either Year R or Year 3 in September 2022, please make sure you have completed the application within the window.

**This window closes 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022** and any applications made after this will be classed as 'late' and may affect the allocation of the school.

Please use this link:

[s://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandleg/admissions/applicationprocess/yearrandyear3](https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandleg/admissions/applicationprocess/yearrandyear3)

### **Bikes and Scooters**

As part of a healthy lifestyle, we do promote bikes and scooters being ridden to and from school but ask that children dismount at either entrance to the school site and then walk to the storage areas/ lock up at the front of the school.

Thank you!

**Please ensure that bikes and scooters are not ridden on school property.**



### **Join us as a reading or library volunteer!**

Do you have any spare time during the week? Would you like to help promote a love of reading at our school? Then come and join us as a reading or library volunteer!

We are looking for volunteers to support reading with individual children during the afternoon. We value the positive impact that volunteers have on the children and the progress they make. If you would like to become a volunteer or you are interested in supporting our library, please get in touch with your child's class teacher or Miss Myers.



**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January:** key stage 1 trip to the Millennium Bridge

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February:** School closes at 3.15pm for the half term break

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

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February:** Common closure day for Gosport and Fareham schools

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July:** Transition planning



### **This week's COVID Update**



Here is this week's COVID update. Our daily routines and procedures have not changed and we will continue to follow all Government and Council guidance into this new term.

If you need to visit the school, please can you wear a face covering unless exempt and try to keep any face to face meetings or conversations to a minimum. In school, tables and high-touch areas are cleaned and sanitised regularly. Staff may choose to wear a face covering and we limit any mixing of year group bubbles. All our teaching spaces are well ventilated and hand washing is standard for all staff and children.

Should someone in your household test positive for COVID, we are advising all family members to take an LFD test in line with Government guidance if they are deemed to be a close contact. New guidance is now stating that, following a positive LFD, you no longer need to confirm this with a PCR but will still isolate for the number of days stated. Children who test negative should attend school as normal.

#### **Updated Government Guidance:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/confirmatory-pcr-tests-to-be-temporarily-suspended-for-positive-lateral-flow-test-results>

**Update: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January    Confirmed positive cases**

**Year R: 1**

**Year 1: 0**

**Year 2: 2**

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

# Congratulations!



Wow and Proud



This week Wow and Proud go to....

**Starlings**—Wow writer goes to Amy for her creative writing about what she would take to the moon 😊

Proud Pot goes to Finley for his brilliant Gruffalo sounds and words!

**Sparrows**- Wow writer goes to Avaya for working really hard on her sounds during busy bee time.

Proud pot goes to Florence for her beautiful writing about what she would take to the moon!

**Woodpeckers**- Wow writer goes to Julia for her fantastic writing about what she would take to the moon too. Well done Julia 😊

**Robins**- Wow writer goes to Adam for his amazing rhyming words this week!!

Proud pot goes to Charlotte for working really hard on her tens and units in maths. Well done Charlotte!

**Wagtails**- Wow writer goes to Ibrahim for his super rhyming words 😊

Proud pot goes to Olly. C for his fantastic work on his tens and units in maths 😊

**Chaffinches**-Wow writer goes to Poppy for her beautiful rhyming words.

Proud pot goes to Heavenly for her super work in maths this week 😊 well done!

**Blackbirds**- Wow writer goes to Evie for her lovely handwriting and effort put into her fairy tale story.

Proud pot goes to Riley for reciting a poem!!

**Owls**- Wow writer goes to Flynn for his amazing work in Geography on human and physical features.

Proud pot goes to Shannon for her brilliant work in maths, focusing on number lines and adding 😊



## Mindfulness Moments

Our weekly slot with Miss Reed: Take time out for a moment of mindfulness

This week's mindfulness activity:

Happy New Year! Wow we are now in a brand new year with lots of exciting opportunities. It is now 2022! Draw the number '2022' in bubble writing and draw 4 things that you are going to try to do this year. It could be to read more, to make a new friend, or to take up a new hobby.

