



8th April 2022

Happy Holidays Grange Families,

And in the blink of an eye, that's another term finished! It always amazes me how quickly time flies by and I can't believe that we are two thirds of the way through this year already. It has been another busy term and one where, yet again, the children have embraced new learning and shown us all how resilient and curious they are. We are all so proud of the progress they have made and the successes they have had. I can't thank the Grange staff enough for the job they have done in caring for the children and giving them an outstanding curriculum, as well as memorable experiences. We feel confident that through trips such as the Millenium Bridge, Longdown Dairy Farm and the visit from local bee keepers, we have topped up the children's 'cultural capital', giving them those experiences that will help them develop into the confident, successful and responsible young people of the future.

Despite facing the challenges of COVID as well as chicken pox this term, the children as always have bounced back and shown strength in the face of adversity. It's times like these that remind me why working with children really is the best job in the world!

As we start a much needed and well-deserved break, it goes without saying, that I wish you all a safe and happy Easter break with family and friends. We can't wait to welcome you back for an exciting and fun-filled summer term.

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 ☺

### PE days for the Summer 1

Please check which day your child will need to come to school in their PE kit as these have changed for the new term. Please can we ask that PE kit consists of plain trackies in black or blue (or dark coloured shorts in warmer weather), a white t-shirt and either the school jumper or a dark coloured sweatshirt. Earrings and jewellery must be removed before the start of the day.

**Owls and Blackbirds: Monday**

**Wagtails, Robins and Chaffinches: Tuesday**

**Starlings, Sparrows and Woodpeckers: Wednesday**



### 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.**



### Starting School: Year R admissions for September 2023

The application window has now closed for Year R places for September this year and parents will be notified on 19<sup>th</sup> April.

Many of our families may already be aware that there has been a local authority consultation to reduce Grange Infant School's PAN (Published Admission Number) from 75 places in Year R to 60.

This has now been finalised and from **September 2023** (not this coming September!), our PAN will be 60.

This means that we will be offering 60 Year R places and our number of classes in Year R will reduce to 2 from September 2023.



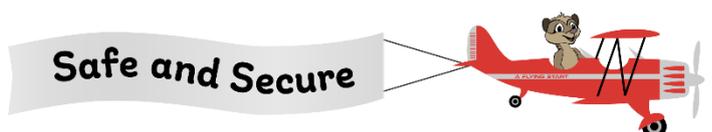
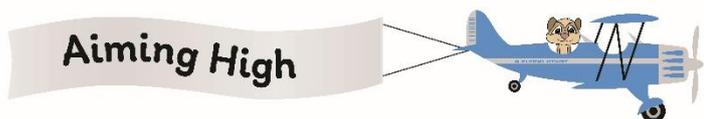
## Learning Behaviours at Grange Infants

Has your child come home and told you about some new animal characters?

The characters have been designed to help our children think about their learning behaviours and skills. Each character is linked with our school values. Each learning skill is taught through a story and a variety of activities. The vocabulary is used by the teacher throughout the day to help the children understand what that learning behaviour or skill means.

The Friendly Meerkats	Curious Monkey	Ambitious Spider	Focused Squirrel	Resilient Elephant
				
The Grange Values they represents are <b>Polite and Respectful &amp; Nurture and care</b>	The Grange Value he represents is <b>Loving Learning</b>	The Grange Value she represents is <b>Aiming High</b>	The Grange Value she represents is <b>Effort from within</b>	The Grange Value he represents is <b>Safe and Secure</b>
They are good at <b>collaborating</b> and <b>listening</b>	He is good at <b>questioning</b> , <b>noticing</b> and <b>making links</b>	She is good at <b>revising</b> ( making changes) , <b>imitating</b> and <b>capitalising</b> (using things to help you)	She is good at <b>managing</b> (ignoring) <b>distractions</b> , <b>being absorbed</b> , <b>planning</b> and <b>imagining</b>	He is good at <b>persevering</b> , <b>remembering</b> and <b>learning from mistakes</b>

Year R have begun thinking about these characters by learning about **collaboration** , **questioning** , **capitalising** , **managing distractions** and **persevering**.



## This week's COVID Update



From 1<sup>st</sup> April, free testing came to an end for most people. We are all very aware that COVID is still out there and although our number of cases has dropped this week, we are still maintaining hygiene vigilance to keep everyone safe.

We would ask that you continue to report all positive cases if you still have LFTs that you can use to test. We do understand that getting hold of tests is going to be difficult now, so would ask that you follow the normal routines for any illness and let us know if your child is unwell. NHS advice can be found using this link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

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.

### Updated Government Guidance:

[https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIyq\\_6vM\\_C9QIVS7DtCh0iiAkHEAAYAiAAEgJEKPD\\_BwE](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIyq_6vM_C9QIVS7DtCh0iiAkHEAAYAiAAEgJEKPD_BwE)

**Update: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April    Confirmed positive cases**

**Year R: 2**

**Year 1: 4**

**Year 2: 1**

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





**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April:** Summer term starts

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May:** School Closed for Bank Holiday Monday

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May:** School closed for Polling Day

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May:** Jubilee Family Picnic and celebration on the field at 1.30pm

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May:** School closes for the half term break at 3.15pm

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June:** Summer 2 starts

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July:** Transition session 1 for the children (Year 2 children will be visiting the Juniors)

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July:** School closed for INSET Transition planning

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July:** Transition session 2 for the children

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July:** Whole school sports afternoon from 1.30pm

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July:** School closes at 1.30pm for the summer break



### Parking Plea and Cycle Safety

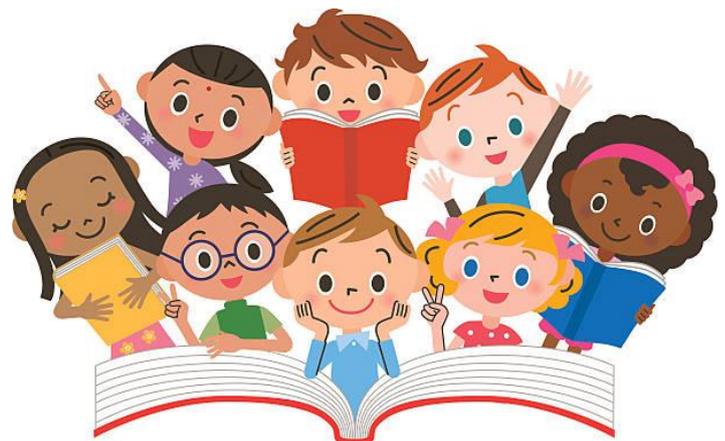
Please can we ask that any families who need to make their journey to school by car, do so with great care. We have been made aware that cars are still being parked on the grassed area outside the main gates despite new trees being planted there. Can we also ask that anyone driving onto the school site keeps to our speed limit. Cars should only be accessing the car park with permission from senior leadership. Can we also ask that bikes are dismounted when on school grounds for infants and juniors as we have had a recently had a near miss.

Thank you!



Our library offers such a wealth of resources for all of the children and we value books as the key to future success and engaging children's curiosity and love of learning.

Many of our families can access books packs for the Easter holidays which have been given to us on loan. These will be coming home this week and we hope the children enjoy reading these books!





**Thank you for supporting our Easter Celebration and hat parade!**

We had such a lovely afternoon celebrating Easter and Spring and taking part in our whole school Easter Hat Parade. Thank you for all the creativity and effort that was put into the amazing array of hats and bonnets. It was fantastic to see how much the children enjoyed taking part in the parade (despite the weather!) and how much they loved having such a captive audience.

As many of you said, this is the first time in years that families have been able to attend a school event, and it really was wonderful to have you back and joining us to celebrate this fun time of year.

A huge thank you to our school council for selecting the winning hats.

It was a tough decision and in our eyes, everyone was a winner!

Here are our winners from each class:





# Wow and Proud



## Wagtails

Wow Writer goes to Algernon for his writing about the life cycle of a butterfly!

Proud Pot goes to Leon, he should be very proud of his writing this week!

## Woodpeckers

Wow Writer goes to Ruby-Rai for super farm writing!

Proud Pot goes to Olivia, for being very independent in phonics this week!

## Chaffinches

Wow Writer goes to Kian for huge progress in writing!

Proud Pot goes to Heavenly for her independent writing!

## Starlings

Wow Writer goes to Livi for her super farm writing!

Proud Pot goes to Ellie for very good progress in Maths this half term!

## Robins

Wow Writer goes to Evie for her independent writing and confidence to keep going!

Proud Pot goes to Adam for making HUGE 3D shapes!

## Sparrows

Wow Writer goes to Chloe for listening to the sounds she could hear when writing!

Proud Pot goes to Natalia for solving addition & subtraction using a range of resources

## Owls

Wow Writer goes to Alfie for being very productive when writing!

Proud Pot goes to Charlie, for completing an extra Maths challenge using shapes!

## Blackbirds

Wow Writer goes to James, he should be very proud of how neatly he can write now!

Proud Pot goes to Samantha for her wonderful bee collage in Art!



## Mindfulness Moments

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

This week's mindfulness activity:

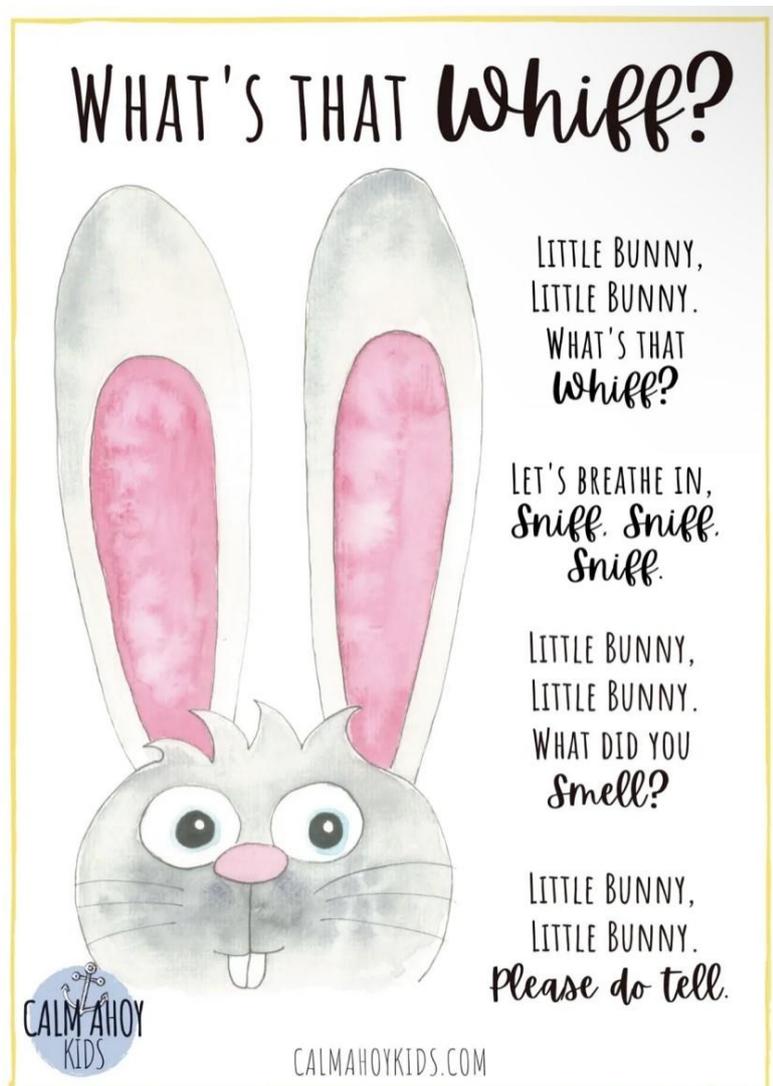
Happy end of term! This week we have a game for you to play at home:

### **Floppy bunny and crunchy carrot game**

Firstly imagine that you are straight, crunchy carrots. Tense all of your muscles.

Then imagine you are soft, fluffy, floppy bunnies and relax all of your muscles.

Make this into a game, similar to musical statues and become crunchy carrots when the music stops and floppy bunnies when the music was playing. You could try different types of music, slow or quick, loud or quiet. How does it make your body feel?



This session is being run by the Primary Behaviour Service and may be of interest to those of you who are concerned about online safeguarding:



For Fortnite's  
Sake, not again!

Come and join us on a quest to support  
your child using technology appropriately  
and safely



Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 12:30pm

Join Virtually via Microsoft Teams

Overview:

- Why do children use technology?
- What are the benefits of using technology?
- What are the concerns and dangers of using technology?
- How to implement boundaries around technology
- What to do when it goes wrong...
- How to support alternative to technology (play-based activity ideas)

A follow-up session will also be held, date to be confirmed.

To book a place please call Martina Mackett on 01329 281890



GAMES

