



To Our Lovely Grange Families,

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

We are finally here at the end of a busy, jam-packed and successful autumn term! The weeks have flown by and it seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming the children in, ready to join their new classes and year groups. It has been wonderful to watch them blossom and grow into confident, kind and caring individuals, making huge leaps in progress and embracing new learning with excitement and resilience. We really are so proud of them all.

You will, no doubt, have watched our Christmas performances on Class Dojo. The children were true stars, performing like professionals and enjoying every minute! We are so glad we could share with you these precious moments which will become memories that you can look back on. Although, we were disappointed we couldn't have a live audience and invite you all in to watch, these clips are definitely the next best thing and even better, you can watch them over and over again! A huge thank you must go to Mrs Poate for filming the performances and then working her magic on the editing and putting together of the final product. Thank you also to all of the staff for the time and energy invested in practising the songs and perfecting the dance moves. Lastly, a special thank you to all of the children for being so patient, so polite and for putting their hearts into the performances.

You are all AMAZING!



Our Christmas passes were again a great success this year and well supported by our families. It was so lovely seeing the beaming, happy faces at the Christmas party and disco yesterday. I'm sure the children slept very well after such an exciting day. Thank you to Mrs Fairs and Miss Allison for being the driving force behind the whole Christmas week and preparing everything for the Secret Santa gifts, the activities and the Christmas biscuit and drink. The children had a ball! It is also down to their hard work and effort that we were again able to hold such a brilliant chocolate raffle. Well done to all of the winners!



The last couple of weeks have been a testing time for us all with rising cases both locally and nationally, so I would like to thank all of our families for your patience and support at this time. Hopefully, this two week break ahead of us will bring a welcome rest, time to refresh ready for the new year and the new term ahead.

I would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and a wonderful New Year. As a school, we are so lucky to have such supportive and caring families. I look forward to welcoming you all back in 2022!

Miss Myers ☺



## The Grange Infant School Christmas Raffle

Wow! What can I say? The photo below says it all! What an amazing amount of chocolate was donated on our Christmas Jumper day! Thank you everybody for making this raffle such a brilliant one with so many prizes. Congratulations to all of our winners!

A big thank you to our wonderful School Council for drawing the winning tickets.

The festive pass week and raffle raised a grand total of: **£1,720.90**





### **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: OWLS 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!



### Mrs Bramble's Table Top Sale

The Department for Education has recently asked schools to make sure all families have access to good quality second hand uniform. Thank you to the kind donations from our families in the past, we now have a large collection of clothing that is available. The lovely Mrs Bramble is often outside on the playground in the morning and would love to see you. She has lots of offer and has been known to source other items that families might need, so please ask!



### 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 in the new year to support worthwhile causes.

Thank you!



### 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



### 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 classes as 'late' and may affect the allocation of the school.

Please use this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/applicationprocess/yearandyear3>



**Spring term starts:** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 8.45am

**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



### COVID Update



With recent news of a new variant, and rising cases nationally, we will be sending out a weekly update for Grange Infants. I wanted to reassure our families that our daily routines and procedures have not changed and we will continue to follow all Government and Council guidance into the new year.

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 and **this has been confirmed by PCR**, we are advising all family members to take an LFD test. A PCR will be needed to confirm all positive LFDs. Some families are choosing to test everyone in the household who is a close contact with a PCR; this is your personal choice. Children who test negative should attend school as normal.

To order LFD test kits please use this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

**Update: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December      Positive cases confirmed by PCR:**

**Year R: 1**

**Year 1: 2**

**Year 2: 1**

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

Please let Miss Myers know if anyone in your family tests positive during the Christmas break:  
[s.myers@grange-inf.hants.sch.uk](mailto:s.myers@grange-inf.hants.sch.uk)



## Wow and Proud

This week Wow and Proud go to....

**Starlings**—Wow writer goes to Austin for his 'this is me' picture.

Proud Pot goes to Amy for her star role in the nativity and the whole of the starlings for such an amazing performance!

**Sparrows**- Wow writer goes to Alex for writing his name beautifully 😊

Proud pot goes to Ivy for her brilliant performance in the nativity. Playing not 1 but 2 roles!!

**Woodpeckers**- Wow writer goes to Hazel for her improving drawing 😊

Proud pot goes to the whole of the woodpeckers for their performance in their first school nativity!

**Robins**- Wow writer goes to Violet for her writing about the Nutcracker and using the word 'because'. 😊

Proud pot goes to Amelia.B for her Christmas block graph in maths. Well done!

**Wagtails**- Wow writer goes to Sophia-Rose for her fantastic Nutcracker story!

Proud pot goes to Emily-Rae and all the Wagtails for being fabulous this term!!!

**Chaffinches**-.Wow writer goes to Daniel for his lovely Christmas card message.

Proud pot goes to Violet for her Christmas block graph in maths 😊

**Blackbirds**- Wow writer goes to Devangi for her amazing Florence Nightingale report.

Proud pot goes to Charlie.W for great singing in the nativity play 😊

**Owls**- Wow writer goes to Harry for his super Christmas story.

Proud pot goes to Clarke for his beautiful calendar in Art 😊

## Well done!



### **The News Nativity Special**

The News runs a Nativity special each Christmas and this was our entry this year. Thank you to the children for posing for this lovely photo!



### **Goodbye and Good luck Miss Davis!**

We sadly say goodbye to Miss Davis from the Owls class today who has been a teaching assistant with us for many years in. We are so sorry to see Miss Davis go but wish her every success in her new career.

Please stay in touch Miss Davis- we will all miss you so much.



### Mindfulness Moments

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

This week's mindfulness activity:



It is almost Christmas! Draw a star shape and decorate it however you like. Once you have finished, trace the star shape and exhale and inhale at the different points. Focus on your breathing and reflect on how calm you are feeling. Here is an example to help you!



From all of us at Grange Infant School!