



Dear Grange Families,

18th February 2022

So here we are at the end of the first half term of 2022 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 dealing with change, noisy disruptions from the demolition and wild weather! They are always there with a beaming smile!



This week we have focused on Random Acts of Kindness, helping the children to understand what a difference they can make through small actions and kind gestures. From something as simple as a smile, to helping someone up when they fall, the children have embraced kindness and we have been so impressed with the efforts they have made. The last couple of years has been so hard for us all with so much uncertainty, but hearing about all the 'random acts' has certainly brightened up our week!

We will be sharing with you some of the kind things that have happened this week at the end of this newsletter, so read on to find out!

May I wish you all a relaxing and fun half term break. We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 28th 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.

Miss Myers ☺

Drop off timings in the morning

Now that things are moving towards 'normal', we have made some changes to the timings of our assemblies in the morning. This also ensures we are using every minute of our curriculum and learning time. In this way, our drop-off window is now between **8.45am** and **8.55am** to make sure that the children are in school and ready for assembly at 9am. We have noticed that lates have increased and whilst we understand that the children are very tired after a long half term, it is important they are in school on time so that every minute of learning counts! The gates on our playground will shut promptly at **9am**.



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: Starlings with 97.4%

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.



Regular school attendance is an important part of giving children the best possible flying start in life!

Make every minute count.



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

Despite wild weather, the children in Key Stage 1 enjoyed their trip to the Millennium Bridge. Thank you for your patience; we were determined they were going to get there even if they did get a little damp and windswept!.



Safer Internet Day 2022



As you are aware Safer Internet Day 2022 was celebrated on 8th February with the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'. Mrs Cave led an assembly to raise awareness and posted her assembly slides on Class Dojo.

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 been made aware of a game on Roblox 'The Squid Game', based on the Netflix TV programme of the same name. The Squid Game Netflix show has a 15 rating, covering very grown-up topics. The TV series may be based on children's games but contains extreme violence. There is a Roblox version of The Squid Game, references to the show are appearing in many TikTok videos and some youtubers are talking about it and showing clips of the Netflix show in their videos. The minimum age to use TikTok is 13 years of age.

Please click on the link below for more information:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/wakeupwednesday/squid-game-trending-across-platforms-what-parents-need-to-know>

More recently, we have heard children on the playground acting out the role of '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 now available as soft toys which will appeal to young children who may not be aware of the darker side of these toys.

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.

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

<https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2021/12/03/poppy-playtime-online-safety-review/>



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.

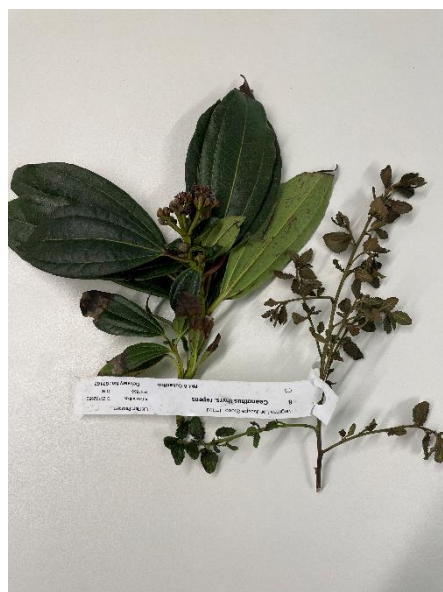
Thank you!

Taking care of the new Junior Site

It has been so exciting to watch the demolition phase of the Junior build and the children have loved watching the huge diggers rip apart the old school. We have been amazed at how quickly the work has been completed and the final phase will soon be starting.

For those of you who access the Infants via the Junior School and Grange Lane, please can we ask that you take extra care as you walk past the newly planted borders. Sadly, many of the brand new plants have been trampled upon and squashed by buggies, bikes and scooters with many being destroyed.

There are many accessible bins on the site too, so please make sure all rubbish and coffee cups are disposed of carefully.



Tuesday 29th March: Year R trip to Longdown Dairy Farm

Week beginning **28th March:** Parents progress meetings

Friday 8th April: School closes for the Easter break at 1.30pm

Monday 25th April: Summer term starts

Friday 27th May: School closes for the half term break at 3.15p

Monday 6th June: Summer 2 starts#=-

Friday 8th July: Scholl closed for INSET Transition planning

Thursday 21st July: School closes at 1.30pm for the summer break



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: 11

Magpie: 9

Seagull: 9

Woodpigeon: 5

Blackbird: 5

Carrion crow: 5

Goldfinch: 3

Great tit: 3

Robin: 3

Collared dove: 2

Wagtail: 2

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/>



Big
Garden
Birdwatch
28-30 January 2022



Wow Writers and Proud Pot this week:

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.

A big congratulations to the following children who have excelled this week and been the very best they can be!

Congratulations!

Wow and Proud

Starlings

Wow writer goes to Melody for writing a brilliant sentence 😊

Proud Pot goes to Teddline for moving to red books. Well done!

Sparrows

Wow writer goes to Peter for writing a phrase during his morning job time!

We are proud of Logan for reading CVC words and drawing the picture to match! He even recognised 'sh' digraph.

Woodpeckers

Wow writer goes to Michael for writing 2 sentences 😊

Proud pot goes to Imogen for recognising patterns in maths 😊

Chaffinches

Wow writer goes to Jim for working so hard on his 'WANTED' poster about the Ginger Bread Man.

Proud pot goes to Ronni for her super description writing 😊

Robins

Wow writer goes to Mason for writing words independently! Well done Mason.

Proud pot goes to Shania for her excellent 'WANTED' poster 😊

Wagtails

Wow writer goes to Leo for his dragon 'WANTED' poster!

Proud pot goes to Jaxon for his 'measuring' in maths this week.

Blackbirds

Wow writer goes to Sammy for her story called 'The story of Snow White and the bad fairy'.

Proud pot goes to Devangi for having an amazing week! 😊

Owls

Wow write goes to Darcy.T for her fantastic 'WANTED' poster.

Proud pot goes to Elijah for his brilliant 'WANTED' poster too! 😊



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.

We know this has been a worrying time for all of our families and want to reassure you that we are continuing to implement effective hygiene measures. We will inform classes where there are new positive cases, so that you can carry out daily testing and look out for symptoms.

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_C9QIVS7DtChOiiAkHEAAYAiAAEgJEKPD_BwE

Update: Friday 4th February Confirmed positive cases

Year R: 1

Year 1: 0

Year 2: 0

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



Yesterday, 17th February, was Random Acts of Kindness day 2022. The children enjoyed Mrs Poate's assembly on Monday and were certainly inspired to do something kind!

Amongst the impressive number of kind acts, I want to make a special mention for Emilia-Rose in the Chaffinches. Many of you will have seen the amazing job Emilia-Rose has been doing, litter picking on her daily journey to school. The amount of rubbish she has collected over the last few weeks has been astounding and has really helped to raise awareness of the importance of looking after our planet, with everyone having a role to play no matter how small. Any act of kindness has a huge impact and what Emilia-Rose has achieved has not only made a huge impact on the local area, but has also impressed everyone here at Grange Infants. Thank you Emilia-Rose for being our very own 'Eco-Warrior'! It is children like you who will lead the way in protecting our planet and making this world a greener place to live for future generations. You are truly one of our superheroes!



A huge thank you to the following children and staff who were nominated for their 'Random Acts of Kindness' this week:

Peter from the Owls for his daily cleaning of the office and clearing up the mess Miss Myers has made!

Emily-Rae from the Wagtails for always being so kind and helpful

Mr Urry for helping Mrs Garwood carry a big box and for making stamps for Year R

Thea and Josh from the Owls for making thank you cards and always helping to tidy the classroom

Poppy and Josh in the Owls for always smiling

Amelia G in the Owls for giving good hugs

Jaden and Owen in the Owls for holding the door open for others

Liam from the Robins for getting pencils for everyone on his table

Violet in the Robins for being a brilliant bin buddy, talking to Ella on the way to school and cheering her friends up

Isabelle P in the Robins for making the adults on the school trip laugh

Ely in the Robins for cheering up his friend Spencer when he was feeling a bit down

Chloe in the Robins for being a lovely lunch time friend

Mrs Graham for helping Miss Hibberd on a Thursday afternoon

Bobby in the Blackbirds for always saying "Good morning" to Mrs Collinson

Charlie in the Blackbirds for helping Mrs Graham

Devangi in the Blackbirds for being a helpful tidier in her group

Courtney in the Blackbirds for filing for Mrs Johnston

Scarlett from the Chaffinches for sharpening all the pencils ready for writing

Isabelle and Hudson in the Chaffinches for taking care of each other on the wet and windy bridge trip

Poppy B from the Chaffinches for always thinking of Mac and making sure he has his lunch band

Esmail from the Chaffinches for giving the best hugs

Mac from the Chaffinches for thinking about our planet and planting seeds

Ellie and Amethyst in the Starlings for always putting away the books, pencils and other resources after their group has finished their work

Miss Clark and Miss Brimecome for clearing out the stinky shed and sorting all the role play resources into labelled boxes

Alfie from the Woodpeckers for writing a letter to a poorly friend

Jotsaroop in the Woodpeckers for noticing Michael was playing on his own so asked him to play



Jade and Imogen from the Woodpeckers for always helping to get the resources out in maths and literacy

Avaya and Ivy from the Sparrows for always opening the door for Miss Brimecome

Danny from the Sparrows for giving Bethany a Valentine's card

Jaea in the Sparrows for giving Chloe a big hug when she was feeling down

Marcus for welcoming back his poorly friends and telling them how much he'd missed them when they weren't at school



A huge thank you to each and every one of you from all of us at Grange Infants!

Homework Incentive

Thank you for your continued support of our weekly home learning. It has been great to see those points adding up and how much the children have enjoyed extending their learning at home.

Points are allocated each time homework is added to the portfolio and then these are reviewed to see who will win a reward each half term.

This half term's winners were drawn this week and they are:

Robins: Alfie

Wagtails: Sophia

Chaffinches: Amelia L

Owls: Owen

Blackbirds: Maurice



Loving Home Learning over the half term break

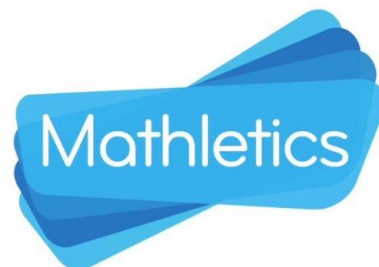
Don't forget that your child can continue to access Mathletics and Oxford Owl at home to help support the learning they are doing at school.

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. 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!



Mindfulness Moments

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

This week's mindfulness activity:

Draw a template for a five petal flower. Fill in each petal with 1 positive thing about yourself. Once you have done this, trace the flower and inhale, hold your breath and focus on the positive thing you have written, and then exhale. Keep going until you have completed the whole flower. Keep this flower as a reminder to remind you how amazing and wonderful you are, even on those days when you may not feel it.

