



AUTUMN TERM

2nd Half-Term December 2015

Issue Number 8



We are one term down with two more to go, full of action again, as we prepare for the statutory assessments. Another term has seen an array of activities across the board to support our curriculum enrichment such as: a trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, working with other pupils at Oakfield and Holme Valley Primary Schools, workshops in French, various sporting events/competitions within the Local Authority and finally a real treat for Foundation Stage children to meet Santa at the Pink Pig!

We participated in the national Anti-bullying week agenda and offered workshops for parents on each site. Thank you to the three parents/family members who attended.

Parents meetings were held this term and although not every one attended, most of you did and we are grateful for this involvement with you.

I appreciate there are moments when we seem to engage in several national charity events which ask for donations. I am very much aware that we do have some families who may find it difficult to keep donating especially when there are multiple children to send donations with. **Please, please remember this is not a MUST and is a voluntarily contribution only.**

January welcomes new staff to the team:

1. Miss Sloan will be taking over the teaching of Year 4 (Miss Rands will be moving to Year 2)
2. Mrs Hill and Mrs Lawley – Lunchtime supervisors

We say goodbye to Miss Eade and thank her most sincerely for all her hard work and the support she has given to the school. We wish her all the best for the future ahead.

Thank you for all your donations towards supporting others. We raised the following:

1. Red, White and Blue Day - £233.26. *"Never, in the field of human conflict, was so much owed by so many to so few", said Winston Churchill.* In our school, we always do our bit to support national charities. Red, White and Blue Day is a national fundraising campaign for schools run annually by the three National Service charities. It's an opportunity for children to come to school dressed in Red, White and Blue and to donate just £1 to support the work of ABF The Soldiers' Charity, the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, and The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity.

2. Harvest for Safe Child Africa - £54.60 3. Children in Need - £229.34.

As we break-up to enjoy the festive season, may I conclude by offering you and your families very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year – I hope the holidays will give you the opportunity for some memorable times together. Thank you for your continued support – I know there is a lot out there and I am grateful for this. **Happy Christmas from Mrs Thorpe and all the staff and governors at The Grange Primary School.**


CONTENTS

- Class News
- E-safety
- Key Dates
- Art Work
- Sports News
- Diary Dates


Questionnaires

Thank you to all of you who returned the questionnaires. We will use the information received to address any concerns. On the whole, we were extremely pleased with the outcomes.

In summary:

1. Satisfied with the choice of school - 97% agree
2. Would recommend the school – 94% agree
3. Happy with the amalgamation – 96% agree 
4. Teaching and Learning; overall satisfaction – 99% agree
5. Wellbeing; overall satisfaction – 96% agree
6. The school and its ethos; overall – 97% agree .

BBC Look North

Following on from our letter of thanks and explanation of our recent television interview, we were extremely pleased of how we were portrayed. The backing received at a national level was very evident. ***This event did really showcase the school in a positive manner and catapulted our profile to a whole new level.*** 

Year 4

This half term, we have been learning to use the correct grammar and a range of spelling strategies. We have applied this in our writing, such as using noun phrases to describe the main character in our text, Rhodopis. This is linked to our topic: Ancient Egypt. We have also been completing weekly comprehension tasks; focusing on developing our Literal and Inference skills whilst reading a text.

During Mathematics, we have been focusing on subtraction. We have learnt about column subtraction, using the inverse method to check our answers, estimating numbers and counting backwards and forwards including negative numbers. These have been applied when solving word-problems.



For topic, we have learnt about Howard Carter; writing a diary entry from him. We have also been discussing why people thrived near the River Nile and writing comparisons between life in Ancient Egypt and Ancient Sumer.

Year 3

In Maths we have looked at written methods of calculation for addition and subtraction. We have learnt how to calculate the perimeter of regular shapes and identified horizontal, vertical, and diagonal lines. We have also solved problems by using and applying the skills we have acquired.

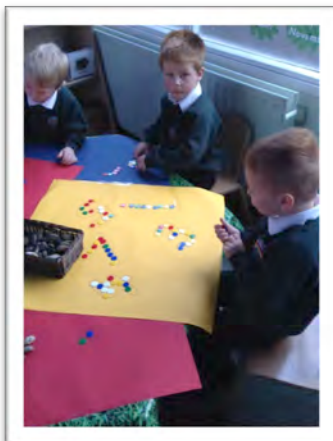


In English our genre has been narrative fiction. We have read 'Stone Age Boy' and written our own version of the story opening. We have included fronted adverbial questions to interest the reader and alternative openings to sentences to make our writing more exciting.

We have continued our topic of 'Scavengers and Settlers' and we have moved from the Stone Age into the Bronze and Iron Ages. We have made Bronze Age pots out of clay based on those made by the Beaker people of this time. We have also tasted food that would be typical of this era and improved on their flavours with ingredients used nowadays, as part of our DT investigation.

Foundation Stage 2

After half term the children were so excited to tell us all about their Halloween and Bonfire experiences. This inspired the children to



create their own firework pictures, bonfire paintings and we used all of our senses when exploring a Bonfire Night talking tub. We even got to taste cinder toffee and made our very own chocolate apples! This half term we have noticed a change in the weather and have loved getting messy in the mud kitchen and exploring colour and pattern in the rain. We have also enjoyed having fun with numbers and developing our



number recognition skills and finding one more and one less from a number. Last but not least a big thank you to all of the parents who continue to support their children at home with reading and activities using the goody bag. We really appreciate this.

E-safety/Safeguarding



We are asking for your support to ensure that our children only access age appropriate TV, DVDs and computer games. Similarly social networking sites should only be accessed if they are age appropriate. We are increasingly aware that children are being exposed to violent and other inappropriate material which is detrimental to their emotional development and undermines the ethos we have at The Grange Primary School. Thank you for working with us to ensure that our children enjoy the benefits of supervised access to appropriate content which can positively enhance their experiences helping them to flourish both inside and outside of school.

MARKHAM'S FISH BAR – THANK YOU!



Thank you to our local chip shop, Markham's Fish Bar who supplied the Nursery with some small tubs free of charge in which the children used to plant some cress seeds. They took these home to grow and look after. We are always thinking of ideas of how to engage the local community and this is a great example.

Foundation Stage 1

After the October holiday, the children in Foundation Stage 1 quickly settled back into the routines of the morning. We have been exploring different Halloween activities including listening to various stories, counting Halloween objects, decorating biscuits, making crafts including pumpkins along with many other experiences.

During our Literacy activities, we have been reading Traditional Tales including The Little Red Hen and The Three Little Pigs which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. We have introduced the 'Five Sentence Story' structure, which retells the story in five simple sentences and has encouraged the children to use lots of story language and role play. During Numeracy activities the children are now counting really well, counting objects, sorting and exploring shapes. The children experienced going on a shape hunt in the big playground and finding different shapes. We really enjoy singing number rhymes and our favourite rhyme is 'Five Little Speckled Frogs'.

We would like to thank Parents and Carers for their support in introducing the Chatter Packs and we have welcomed the comments and feedback about the packs so far. Also the staff and other children really look forward to finding out what Literacy Lion, Maths Monster and George Giraffe have been learning with you at home. Thank you!

Sports News

Thanks to Mrs Binch, we are engaging in local competitions more than we ever used to and the children are thoroughly enjoying these and the team spirit that they are building. Sometimes the groups have been delayed back to school. I would like to stress that this is something beyond our control as we are not the ones leading on the organisational elements and where it has been due to traffic, this is also out of our control. Parents are more than welcome to attend the events and then take their child home from there after consulting with the teacher in charge.



Parental Concerns



If you have a matter you wish to discuss with your child's class teacher, please endeavor to 'catch' them at the end of the day rather than at the start of the day. This is so that class teachers can dedicate time to you rather than rush through things with the aim of getting back into class to teach 30 pupils. There is more time at the day of the day to dedicate to you and offer you more privacy. You also have the services of the Pastoral Manager, Miss Baker, who may be able to assist you depending on your issue. Immediate concerns can be left with the main office staff on both sites.



DOGS on the school premises – Infant Site

Kindly adhere to the school notices – dogs are not allowed on our premises irrespective of their size or how they are brought onto the premises ***ie even if they are being carried they are still not allowed on our premises.***

I'm sure you will appreciate that this is in the best interest of your child/ren.

Art in School

A group of pupils worked with an Artist from Lincoln to create a beautiful piece of work to commemorate Remembrance Day. The importance of linking this to our locality is evident with the Scunthorpe War Memorial at the top. The idea of the flowing poppies was as a result of a visit to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park where pupils enjoyed viewing the exhibition, WAVE, by Paul Cummins (artist) and Tom Piper (designer). This piece of art will take pride of place in our new school building. Thank you to all the staff, governors, Mr Ealden (Artist) and all the pupils who took part in the trip and in this finished piece of art.



YEAR 5

Year 5 have created theatre masks in the style of Ancient Greece. The masks were used for their performance of the popular play, Odysseus and the Cyclops. We are currently writing our Greek Myths which we hope to compile as a book and share with the local community at the central library. The myths will also be published as e-books in January, available to access online. The children are working really hard to generate new and exciting ideas and polishing their work to ensure high standards. Year 5 have actively taken part in anti-bullying week. They have participated in activities such as role-play and creating anti-bullying posters and bunting. Christmas is approaching, in light of this festive month, Year 5 have been lucky to have a French Christmas workshop. The children thoroughly enjoyed participating in the activity. After the Christmas break, Mrs Islam will be moving Year groups and teaching Year 6. Miss Drury will be the full time class teacher for 5ID alongside Miss Mawson.



Internet Safeguarding

At one of my online safety presentations, a parent talked about her concerns regarding the Talking Tom and Friends (including Talking Angela) suite of apps. Her child was being asked lots of personal questions that were unsuitable for someone of her age. The app features a cute virtual animal that repeats anything that is spoken into a microphone, a video capture feature and also has a text-chat mode that asks for personal information and includes themes including "clothes swapping parties". It also promotes additional features that can be purchased. The animated characters in the popular app, which has had over 2.5 billion downloads are appealing to young children, but the app developers, Outfit7, state that, ***"the app is not intended for children under the age of 13"***. The app does have a child mode and this is very easy to turn off. As well as the app, there is a series of YouTube videos that have been created in partnership with Disney. ***My conclusion is that, Talking Tom and Friends, unhelpfully crosses a boundary as it has been designed in a way that clearly appeals to young children but has content that is unsuitable for under 13's. I hope this information assists you in managing your child/rens use of the internet safely. Mrs Bibby***

Diary Dates for Spring Term 2016

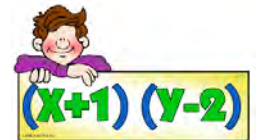
DATE	DAY	ACTIVITY	TIMES
JANUARY			
5 th	Tuesday	School Re-opens	Usual times
12 th	Tuesday	Year 1 Trip to Magna	All day
15 th	Friday	Boccia Competition Y1 – Sports (more information to follow)	tbc
18 th	Monday	Real History Alive – Spaceship Workshop – Y5	
19 th	Tuesday	Sam’s rainforest Workshop – Year 1	
20 th	Wednesday	Young Voices	From afternoon
21 st	Thursday	Primary KS1 Festival – Sports (more information to follow)	tbc
Week beginning 25 th		Roman Empire Day	
25 th	Monday	Y5/6 Dodgeball Tournament at The Pods – Sports (more information to follow)	tbc
26 th	Tuesday	Big Talk – Parents/Carers information session	6pm – Junior Hall
29 th	Friday	Boccia Competition Y5/6 – Sports (more information to follow)	tbc
FEBRUARY			
2 nd	Tuesday	Sign 2 Sing – more information to follow	
4 th	Thursday	Big Talk Education Workshops (more information to follow including Parental/Carers information session)	tbc
5 th	Friday	Big Talk Education Workshops (more information to follow including Parental/Carers information session)	tbc
8 th	Monday	Chinese New Year – activities throughout school	
9 th	Tuesday	Safer Internet Day – activities throughout school	
9 th	Tuesday	Bingo Night	tbc
11 th	Thursday	KS2 – Cross Country at Central Park (more information to follow)	tbc
Half-Term on Friday, 12th February 2016. Closing times: 3pm - Junior Site 3.15pm - Infant Site			
22nd	Monday	Children back to school	Usual times
MARCH			
1 st	Tuesday	Y4 Pedestrian Skills	
3 rd	Thursday	World Book Day – Wizard of Oz themed lunch	All day
4 th	Friday	Primary Quick Sticks Y5/6 – Sports (more information to follow)	tbc
8 th	Tuesday	Y4 Pedestrian Skills	
8 th to 15 th	Tuesday	SCHOLASTIC Book Fair	
10 th	Thursday	Big Sing – Baths Hall (more information to follow)	2pm to 7pm
Week beginning 14 th		British Science week (STEM) and Shakespeare week	
15 th	Tuesday	Dance Showcase (more information to follow)	10am to 12noon
18 th	Friday	Sports Relief (more information to follow)	
21 st	Monday	Easter Concert – Year 5	2pm
22 nd	Tuesday	Easter Concert – Year 1	9.30am
24 th	Thursday	Gifted and Talented in Sports Trip to Sheffield Institute for Sports	tbc
24th	Thursday	End of Term	Closing times: 2pm – Junior Site 2.15pm – Infant Site
Pupils back to school Tuesday, April 12th 2016, usual times.			

KEY DATES FOR THE REST OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2015 - 2016	
Friday – 18 th December	School closes for Christmas holidays
Tuesday – 5 th January	School re-opens for Spring Term
Friday – 12 th February	School closes for half-term
Monday – 22 nd February	School re-opens
Thursday – 24 th March	School closes for Easter holidays
Tuesday – 12 th April	School re-opens for Summer Term
Monday – 2 nd May	MAY DAY
Wednesday – 25th May	School closes for half-term <i>School closed for staff to move into the new school on Thursday 26th, Friday 27th May, Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th June 2015.</i> SCHOOL WILL NOT BE OPEN TO PUPILS ON THESE DATES.
Wednesday – 8th June	School re-opens
Wednesday – 20 th July	School ENDS for the year

2016 Key Stage 2 Year 6 SATs - 9th to 12th May

YEAR 6

This half term, the children in Year 6 have continued to work hard. In Maths, pupils have been challenged with algebra, using resources to represent missing numbers and having to apply their knowledge to solve these problems. In English, the children have been writing newspaper articles based on the robbery from Wallace and Gromit-The Wrong Trousers. This was great fun and the children worked really hard to edit, improve and redraft their writing.



After Christmas, Mrs Islam will be joining us in Y6 during the mornings to assist in our preparation for the SATs. Revision will start as soon as we return and children will be identified to attend booster classes after school. Your support with ensuring pupils attendance will be very much appreciated – we want every child to excel!

YEAR 2

During this term, Year Two have been travelling back in time and getting creative! We have learnt about famous people from the past including Florence Nightingale, Sir Edmund Hillary and a range of artists.



In English, we have written diaries and non-chronological reports about Sir Edmund Hillary and his expedition to Mount Everest. We have created artwork in the style of Wassily Kandinsky, Vincent Van Gogh and Piet Mondrian for our up and coming Art Exhibition. In Maths we have been learning the value of three-digit numbers and using these for addition and subtraction. We have been enjoying using our new challenge boxes to develop our reasoning and problem solving skills.

Pastoral News – Miss Baker

Anti bullying information sessions for parents were held this term - one at the Junior Site and one at the Infant Site. Only three parents/family members attended – thank you for your engagement.

Please join me at our after school homework drop in session on a Monday held at the Infant Site this term – **all year groups are welcome**. The session will give you the opportunity to support your child with any homework they need to complete and you will have access to school resources and help from staff. I look forward to seeing you here.

SEND

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended their child's SEND review meeting. 57% were attended this term. New SEND Passports for support were discussed and agreed. If you were unable to attend but would like an appointment with Miss Thomas, please contact the school office and a meeting will be arranged for you.

BIKES / SCOOTERS

We kindly request that **no bikes or scooters** are left on either site due to safety and security. Only children in Y6 who have passed their cycling proficiency test are able to cycle to school. Please be aware that any bicycles on the school premises are left at their own risk.



UNIFORM – NO HOODIES

Please follow the information outlined in the school brochure and on the school website. Every parent/carer is aware of our policy on school uniform. This is part of our identity and ethos.



PARENTS/CARERS INFORMATION SESSION – New Curriculum and Assessment without Levels

We would like to invite you all to an information session on the above on: Thursday, 14th January 2015 at 2.30pm in the main hall at the JUNIOR site.

YEAR 1

Wow! What an amazing Autumn term. Year 1 have travelled back in time to The Great Fire of London and have been busy learning all about such an important event in British history. We have worked on acrostic poems and setting descriptions to really bring the fire to life.

In our Maths lessons we have been really challenging our practice. Children are striving to solve complex Maths problems with enthusiasm and deep thinking. As always, a big thank you to all parents and carers for supporting your child's really noticing brilliant reading and this is due to this helping them to



learning at home. We are progress in every child's their reading at home and develop a love of reading.

Annual Christmas Card Competition for our MP – N Darkin



Congratulations to two of our pupils, Simran (Year 2) and Aeryn (Year 4), for coming runners-up in the above competition. Mr Darkin attended an assembly to present the prizes. Well done, girls!

Smoking and Litter



Please do help us maintain a clean environment. We have received reports of cigarette ends and litter on our premises.



Christmas Concerts and Exit Point Exhibitions

We have had a marathon of Christmas Concerts and celebration of work events this half-term. We are most appreciative of the record number of parents/family members who have attended. Comments praising staff and pupils fair of me to report that



number of parents/family members who received have all been very positive, for their hard work. I think it is you have all enjoyed these.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA and SELECTION BOXES

Foundation Stages 1 and 2 were treated to Breakfast with Santa at the Pink Pig.



The excitement was clearly evident as they came into class that morning. I'm pleased that all the children had a great time and were very well behaved. Lucky them, they were each presented with a gift! Thank you to the family members who supported the trip as well as all the



staff.

The rest of the school were presented with a selection box each. Here at The Grange Primary School, we try our best to make Christmas a very special occasion for our pupils.

Happy Christmas Children!

